

**TOWN OF BERWICK
AGENDA
COUNCIL MEETING
November 11, 2003**

**CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 P.M.
PRAYER:
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:
ROLL CALL:
MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:
TREASURER'S REPORT:
POLICE REPORT:
FIRE REPORT:
PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:
COMMITTEE REPORTS:
CONSULTING ENGINEERS REPORT:**

1. 7:15 Public Hearing - Ord. #528 - Sexual Oriented Businesses
2. Consider for adoption - Ord. #528 - Sexual Oriented Businesses
3. Resolution - Systems Survey & Compliance Questionnaire
4. Berwick High School - Power Point Presentation - New Addition
5. Patterson Cypress Sawmill Festival Queens
6. Payment Request #1 - South and East Pathway Extension
7. Resolution of Respect - Mr. Raymond Nini

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OF THE TOWN OF BERWICK, STATE OF LOUISIANA
TAKEN AT A REGULAR MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY

November 11, 2003

The Mayor and Council of the Town of Berwick, State of Louisiana, met in regular session at their regular meeting place, the Town Hall, Berwick, Louisiana, Tuesday, November 11, 2003 at seven (7:00) o'clock p.m.

There were present: Mayor Emmett Hardaway, and Councilmen, Louis Ratcliff, Ray Rasberry, Edgar Thomas, Jr., Bill Johnson and Elaine Cantrell.

Absent: None.

Also present were representatives of the Daily Review, Radio Station KQKI and Channel 39.

Mayor Hardaway led the prayer.

Louis Ratcliff led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Mayor and Council of the Town of Berwick, State of Louisiana were duly convened as the governing authority of said Town, by Hon. Emmett Hardaway, Mayor who then stated that, the Mayor and Council were ready for the transaction of business.

The minutes of the previous meeting, having been reviewed, were approved on motion by Mr. Rasberry and seconded by Mr. Johnson.

The Treasurer's report, having been reviewed, was approved without reading upon motion by Ms. Cantrell and seconded by Mr. Ratcliff.

The Mayor proceeded to item #5 on the agenda - The Patterson Cypress Sawmill Festival Queens Christen Hebert and Jodi Thibodeaux appeared before the Mayor and Council to extend an invitation to the Idlewild Plantation Christmas Lighting at Kemper Williams Park at 5:00 P.M. on Sunday, November 30, 2003.

Assistant Chief James Richard presented the police report, a copy of which was included in each of the Councilmen's packets, for the month of October 2003. Assistant Chief Richard reported that traffic citations had tripled from last year in October with fines doubling. Mr. Ratcliff asked if there was a response to the letter sent to DOTD concerning the warning lights on the Hwy. 90 bridge. CAO, Mr. Slaughter informed him there has been no response. Mr. Ratcliff asked that the installation of flashing lights at the Hwy. 182-school zone be included on the December 9, 2003 agenda. Assistant Chief Richard informed the Council and the public that trustees under the guidance of Ms. Bridgette Exnicious, Animal Warden, had logged over 50 hours of picking up trash (over 100 bags) along Hwy. 182, Thorguson Drive and Fairview Drive.

Fire Chief Garrett Guillot stated there were two tire calls for the month of October 2003, resulting from two (2) vehicle accidents. Chief Guillot reported that the BVFD started their seal drive and in one month had collected over \$4,000.00.

The Public Works report was the next item on the agenda. A copy of this report was included in the packet each Councilman received prior to the meeting. Mr. Ratcliff asked if the crews were still spraying for mosquitoes. Mr. Benoit informed him that we were still continuing to spray, weather permitting.

The Mayor called for a public hearing at 7:15 PM on Ordinance #528, to adopt Chapter 21 of the Code of Ordinances and sections therein to regulate sexual oriented businesses. There were no changes to the ordinance as introduced at the October 14th Council Meeting. Town attorney, Allen McElroy, Jr., asked if Gary Beadle had performed the study requested at the last meeting. Mr. McElroy requested the determination of the study be included in the Minutes of this meeting. Mr. Beadle acknowledged that he

had performed the study and determined there were areas in the Town Corporate Limits that would be viable for such businesses to locate in. There being no further discussion the Mayor closed the public hearing. He then proceeded to item #2 on the agenda - To consider for adoption Ordinance #528. Upon motion by Mr. Rasberry, second by Mr. Ratcliff and unanimous approval, Ordinance #528 was adopted as written.

Gulf South Engineers' monthly report was included in the packet, which each Councilman received prior to the meeting. There were four items as follows: (1) South LA 182 Pathway Extension - Construction is underway. Application for payment #1 in the amount of \$22,224.75 is item #6 on tonight's agenda. Payment #1 was unanimously approved upon motion by Ms. Cantrell and second by Mr. Rasberry. (2) State Capital Outlay 2002, the police department building addition was included in the 2002 State Capital Outlay Bill. Bids were received on Thursday, August 21, 2003. Bonneval Construction of Patterson submitted the lowest bid in the amount of \$252,000.00. State Capital Outlay funds are \$200,000.00. The Town of Berwick's share is thus \$52,000.00. The construction contract was signed last week and construction will begin shortly. (3) Downtown Redevelopment Master Plan - A presentation will be made to the Atchafalaya Basin Initiative on Thursday, November 13, 2003. (4) State Capital Outlay - 2004 - Four applications were submitted for the November 1, 2003 deadline. The projects are: Pattie Drive extension, Renwick Blvd. Extension, Riverfront Dock (Downtown Plan) and Public Works Storage Building.

Item #3 on the agenda - A Resolution requiring a systems survey and compliance questionnaire to be completed by the Mayor and his staff as a required part of the audit of the Town of Berwick. The Resolution was adopted upon motion by Mr. Johnson, second by Mr. Rasberry and unanimous approval.

Item #7 on the agenda - A Resolution of Respect for Mr. Raymond "Croaker" Nini was approved upon motion by Mr. Ratcliff, second by Mr. Thomas and unanimous vote.

Item #4 on the agenda - Berwick High School Principal Buffy Fegenbush - Power Point Presentation - Addition of required Vocational Department. Ms. Fegenbush appeared before the Mayor and Council to present the reasoning and the information concerning the need for a vocational department at Berwick High School. She stated that she was not here to sway anyone's decision on this issue but just to provide the facts. After some discussion with the public, Ms. Fegenbush thanked the Mayor and Council for allowing her to make the presentation.

There being no further business to come before the Council, upon motion duly made and seconded the meeting adjourned.

Emmett Hardaway, Mayor

ATTEST:

Cathy T. Guidry, Town Clerk