

**TOWN OF BERWICK
AGENDA
COUNCIL MEETING
December 9, 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. **School Zone - Flashing Lights**
2. **Resolution of Appreciation - Mr. Ray Rasberry**
3. **Payment Request #1 - Police Station Addition - \$ 10,620.00**
4. **Payment Request #2 - South Pathway Extension - \$ 18,699.25**
5. **Liquor License Applications**
 - a) **Atchafalaya Seafood Rest. - Nicki Gnatzy**
 - b) **Craw Dads & Crabs, Inc. - Richard Francis**
 - c) **The Corner Store - Raymond Marcel**
 - d) **Country Club Express - Barbara Kimble**
 - e) **Ganaway's #4 - Lee Cat, Inc.**
 - f) **Berwick Mini Mart - Abdulsalam K. Mused**
 - g) **Lighthouse Lounge - Billy Skipper**
 - h) **Ms. Lil's - Lillian Kiffe**
 - i) **My Place - Betty Jackson**
 - j) **Peppers - Rodney Booty**
 - k) **St. Mary Golf & Country Club - Jerry Simmons**
 - l) **Sunshine Supermarket - James Davis, Jr.**
 - m) **To's Food Mart - Hoa T. Tran**
 - n) **Stix Sports Bar - Lucas Doiron**
 - o) **Berwick Civic Complex**

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

December 9, 2003

The Mayor Pro-tem 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, December 9, 2003 at seven (7:00) o'clock p.m.

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

Absent: Mayor Emmett Hardaway.

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

Mayor Pro-tem Louis Ratcliff led the prayer.

Bill Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Mayor Pro-tem and Council of the Town of Berwick, State of Louisiana were duly convened as the governing authority of said Town, by Louis Ratcliff, Mayor Pro-tem who then stated that, the Mayor Pro-tem 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. Thomas.

Chief Duval Arthur presented the police report, a copy of which was included in each of the Councilmen's packets, for the month of November 2003. Assistant Chief Richard reported that traffic citations had tripled from last year in November with fines doubling. Chief Arthur reported that the traffic light at Pattie Drive and Hwy. 182 would be operational at 10:00 AM tomorrow, December 10, 2003. There will also be hand lights that will allow the children to cross with safety.

Fire Chief Garrett Guillot stated there was one call in November 2003, a vehicle accident, with the fire department standing by for extrication. Chief Guillot reported that the BVFD started their seal drive was on going and he wished to thank the citizens for their contributions.

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 praised Allen Benoit and his crew for a job well done on the installation of culverts at Pattie Drive and Fairview Drive. He also praised Allen and his crew for the Christmas Decorations.

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 was paved last week. Application for payment #2 in the amount of \$18,699.25 is item #4 on tonight's agenda. Payment #2 was unanimously approved upon motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Ms. Cantrell. Mr. Guillot asked if there were plans to add dusk to dawn lights on this section of the walkway. Mr. Benoit stated that an order for those lights had been sent to Cleco. (2) State Capital Outlay 2002, the police department building addition was included in the 2002 State Capital Outlay Bill. Bonneval Construction of Patterson is the contractor; the Contract price is \$252,000.00. State Capital Outlay funds are \$200,000.00. The Town of Berwick's share is thus \$52,000.00. Construction has started. Application for Payment #1 in the amount of \$10,620.00 is item #3 on tonight's agenda. Payment #1 was unanimously approved upon motion by Ms. Cantrell and second by Mr. Thomas. (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 #1 on the agenda - School zone flashing lights. Representative Jack Smith stated that new legislation reduced the speed limit on Hwy. 182 due to the schools in the area and commended the Mayor and Council for their efforts in getting this done. Representative Smith asked that the town submit three resolutions to DOTD with a cover letter concerning three problems that need to be resolved. City Attorney Allen McElroy, Jr. said that he would draw up the Resolutions as approved at this meeting and send them along with a cover letter to the attention of Mr. Bill Fontenot, Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development with a copy being sent to Representative Jack Smith. The first Resolution requests the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development to pay for and install traffic control advisory warning devices or other appropriate warning signals concerning traffic control lights in effect at location of Hwy. 182 and Pattie Drive. The Resolution was unanimously approved upon motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Ms. Cantrell. The second Resolution requests the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development to perform a study and to install amber warning devices or other appropriate traffic warning devices on Highway 90 bridge across the Atchafalaya River between Morgan City and Berwick. After the study is completed the appropriate warning signs or other traffic control devices should be installed and maintained on the bridge. The Resolution was unanimously approved upon motion by Mr. Rasberry and second by Mr. Johnson. The third Resolutions requests the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development to install and maintain on La. Hwy. 182 near Berwick Junior High School appropriate school zone advisory warning signs showing the reduction of speed of traffic on the highway during appropriate school hours. The Town of Berwick requests the La. DOTD to pay for the installation and maintenance of these warning signs, but if necessary the Town of Berwick in conjunction with the St. Mary Parish School Board would agree to pay the costs of installation of the school advisory signs with the La. DOTD agreeing to maintain the signs pursuant to an approved intergovernmental agreement. The Resolution was unanimously approved upon motion by Ms. Cantrell and second by Mr. Thomas. Mr. Ratcliff thanked Representative Jack Smith for all his help in the past in seeing that projects were approved and completed.

Item #2 on the agenda - A Resolution of Appreciation for Mr. Ray Rasberry for his service to the Berwick Volunteer Fire Dept. Approved and given to Mr. Rasberry on November 14, 2003.

Item #5 on the agenda - Annual liquor license renewal applications. The following liquor license applications were approved upon motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Rasberry: Atchafalaya Seafood Restaurant, Craw Dads & Crabs, Inc., The Corner Store, Country Club Express, Ganaway's #4, Berwick Mini Mart, Lighthouse Lounge, Ms. Lil's, My Place, St. Mary Golf and Country Club, Sunshine Supermarket, To's Food Mart, Stix Sports Bar and the Berwick Civic Complex. Pepper's liquor license was conditionally approved upon motion by Mr. Thomas and second by Ms. Cantrell. Board of Health clearance is needed before the license will be issued.

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