



Town of Berwick

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

February 14, 2006

AGENDA:

Call to Order: 7:00 P.M.
Prayer
Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call: Edgar Thomas, Elaine Cantrell, Louis Ratcliff, Bill Johnson, Ray Rasberry
Minutes from last meeting: January 10, 2006
Treasurer's Report
Police Report
Fire Report
Public Works Report
Committee Reports
Consulting Engineers Report

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Introduce amendment to pipeline ordinance**
- 2. Pilot Tax – Berwick Housing Authority**
- 3. Evelyn Benoit – Complaint**
- 4. Resolution naming Newell W. Slaughter as contact person with FP&C**

Adjournment

Newell W. Slaughter, Town Clerk
Town of Berwick
P.O. Box 486
Berwick, Louisiana 70342
(985) 384-8858

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance, please contact Newell W. Slaughter at (985) 384-8858, describing the assistance that is necessary.

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

February 14, 2006

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, February 14, 2006 at seven (7:00) o'clock p.m.

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

Absent: None

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

Mayor Hardaway led the prayer.

Edgar Thomas 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 Honorable 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, was approved without reading upon motion by Ray Rasberry and seconded by Bill Johnson.

The Treasurer's report, having been reviewed, was approved without reading upon motion by Elaine Cantrell and seconded by Edgar Thomas.

Chief James Richard presented the police report, a copy of which was included in each of the Councilmen's packets, for the month of January, 2006. Chief Richard noted that there had been a decrease in arrests and citations for the same period in 2005, but an increase in fines.

Chief Ray Rasberry presented the fire report for the month of February, 2006. There were seven fire calls for the month.

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. After no comments were made from the council or audience, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda.

Gary Beadle, Planning and Zoning Director, presented a report on an application to subdivide property for the creation of a six (6) lot R-1 residential subdivision named Glenwild Subdivision Phase III addendum #1 to be used for single family dwellings. Upon motion by Louis Ratcliff and seconded by Bill Johnson, the subdivision was approved unanimously.

Clay Braud presented the consulting engineers report. Mr. Braud stated that the town is awaiting a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement that will need to be processed by the State prior to moving forward on the 12" water line project on Fairview Drive. Funds for the project have been allocated by the state. Application for Front Street improvements, Pattie Drive ditch enclosure, and Renwick Boulevard improvements have been submitted to the State. He stated that funding for these projects was unlikely at this time. Renwick Boulevard extension contract was awarded to Gray Construction on January 20, 2006. A preconstruction meeting was held on February 13, 2006. The scheduled start date for the project is March 13, 2006. The scheduled completion date is September 9, 2006. An application for funding was made to the Atchafalaya Basin Program for the Riverfront area.

Mayor then moved to Item # 1 on the agenda – Introduce ordinance number 554 – Adopt provisions in Berwick zoning ordinance and subdivision regulations to provide for building regulations within location of pipeline rights-of-ways. Upon motion by Louis Ratcliff and seconded by Edgar Thomas, the ordinance was introduced unanimously.

Item # 2 on the agenda – P.I.L.O.T. Tax – Berwick Housing Authority. Mayor Hardaway explained that in past years the town had allowed the Housing Authority to not pay the PILOT tax, so that

they could use the funds to do improvements to the facilities at the Housing Authority. The Town of Berwick's auditors, Darnell & Sikes, advised the mayor that it was unlawful to forgive the taxes, but that the Town of Berwick should receive the taxes and make a donation to the Housing Authority in the same amount. Upon motion by Elaine Cantrell and seconded by Edgar Thomas, the motion was approved unanimously.

Item # 3 on the agenda – Complaint by Eleven Benoit against her neighbor Carroll Leger. Mrs. Benoit made a complaint against Carroll Leger stating that the appearance of Mr. Leger's yard was driving down the property value of her residence. She stated that she wanted the Town of Berwick to instruct Mr. Leger to clean up his yard. Mayor Hardaway stated that he has inspected Mr. Leger residence and could not find any laws that Mr. Leger was breaking. After much discussion, Town Attorney Allen McElroy, told Mrs. Benoit that her only recourse was to file a civil suit against Mr. Leger.

Item # 4 on the agenda – Resolution naming Newell W. Slaughter as contact person with the Stating of Louisiana Facility Planning and Control. Upon motion by Bill Johnson and seconded by Ray Rasberry, the resolution was approved unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Council, upon motion by Elaine Cantrell and seconded by Ray Rasberry, the meeting adjourned.

Emmett Hardaway - Mayor

ATTEST:

Newell W. Slaughter - CAO/Town Clerk