



Town of Berwick

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

March 13, 2007

AGENDA:

Call to Order: 7:00 P.M.
Prayer
Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call: Edgar Thomas, Damon Robison, Duval Arthur, Penny Crappell, Troy Lombardo
Minutes from last meeting: February 27, 2006
Treasurer's Report
Police Report
Fire Report
Public Works Report
Committee Reports
Consulting Engineers Report

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Introduce Ordinance No. 564 - Lease Parcels 14, 15 and 16 to R & R Engine Services.**
- 2. Resolution – Cable Franchise**
- 3. Resolution – National Inhalants and Poisons Awareness Week**
- 4. Recreation Committee Appointments – Lisa Carpenter and Ashley Boudreaux**

Adjournment

Newell W. Slaughter, Town Clerk
Town of Berwick
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(985) 384-8858

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

March 13, 2007

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, March 13, 2007 at seven (7:00) o'clock p.m.

There were present: Council members, Edgar Thomas, Damon Robison, Duval Arthur, Penny Crappell and Troy Lombardo.

Absent: None

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

Councilman Edgar Thomas led the prayer.

Troy Lombardo 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 Louis Ratcliff, 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 without reading upon motion by Duval Arthur and seconded by Troy Lombardo.

The Treasurer's report, having been reviewed, was approved without reading upon motion by Duval Arthur 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 February 2007. Chief Richard stated that the report for February 2007 was very similar to February 2006. Councilwoman Crappell commended Chief Richard and his department for following through on the commitment made by the anti-litter committee. Chief Richard's department issued 9 citations for littering or not covering their trash. He also wrote several other citations. Councilman Thomas asked what the cost of a litter citation was. Chief Richard stated that the cost was \$195. Mayor Pro-Tem Arthur also commended Chief Richard for his efforts. After no comments from the council or audience, the mayor moved on the next item on the agenda.

Fire Chief Francis Fromenthal presented the fire report for February. There was no fire calls for the month of February 2007. Chief Fromenthal stated that all fire trucks were operational. He also stated that some of his firemen had participated in training at LSU and other venues. After no further comments, the mayor moved to the next item on the agenda.

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. Town Superintendent Allen Benoit stated that sidewalks in Renwick were 50% complete. Councilman Robison asked if the problem at Baldwin Redi-Mix was an ongoing problem. Mr. Benoit stated that the problem was an old problem that he coordinating a solution with Baldwin Redi-Mix. Councilman Robison asked what procedure Baldwin Redi-Mix had for cleaning their trucks. Mr. Benoit stated that the driver should wash out his truck at the location or after returning to the plant. He also stated that the water plant aeration problem has been repaired and the plant is back to normal operations. Mr. Benoit stated that the River Road water tower would be closed this week for maintenance. Councilman Thomas asked if the town had begun clearing the debris from the burned out building on the river front. He stated that the process had not yet begun but that we have made contact with a contractor to remove the debris. After no further comments were made from the council or audience, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda.

The mayor then moved on to committee reports. The first report was from Planning and Zoning director Gary Beadle. He stated that he had received two applications for subdivisions. One being on Ralph Guidry's property. He stated that eight homes were being constructed in Renwick. He stated one

of the new homes would be under the new 2007 building codes. Next report was from Councilman Damon Robison and the Economic Development Committee. He stated that they had a meeting on March 12, 2007 and discussed the procedure for businesses inquiring about locating within Berwick. The proposed turning lane at Thorguson Road and Highway 90 was discussed. The plan is to write a letter to Mr. Bill Fontenot and the state legislator for help in securing the turning lane. Councilman Robison stated that he had met with representatives of Whitney Bank and expressed the Town's willingness to work with the bank in developing their property. The committee is also working on a packet to send to businesses that may have an interest in locating with Berwick. Next report was from Councilman Arthur and the recreation committee. He named Lisa Carpenter and Ashley Boudreaux to the Recreation Committee bringing their total members to 7. He stated that the Berwick Dixie Youth would be using the Pharr Park facility. Games should begin in late April.

Consulting Engineer Glen Miller stated that he did not have a report for February.

Mayor Ratcliff then moved to Item # 1 on the agenda – Introduce Ordinance No. 564 – Lease parcels 14, 15, and 16 to R & R Engine Services. Upon motion by Damon Robison and seconded by Duval Arthur, the ordinance was introduced unanimously.

Item # 2 on the agenda – Resolution – Cable Franchise Agreement. Upon motion by Penny Crappell and seconded by Troy Lombardo, the resolution as approved unanimously. Town Attorney asked that a copy of the resolution be forwarded to LMA. Mr. McElroy also stated that LMA had prepared a proposed franchise agreement that should be used by all municipalities in the state. In using this proposed franchise agreement, the town would use a standard contract when dealing with telephone, cable or any other type of service provider.

Item # 3 on the agenda – Resolution – National Inhalants and Poisons Awareness Week. Upon motion by Duval Arthur and seconded by Damon Robison, the resolution was approved unanimously.

Item # 4 on the agenda – Appoint to Recreation Committee – Lisa Carpenter and Ashley Boudreaux were appointed to the recreation committee by Councilman Duval Arthur.

Mayor Ratcliff stated that a motion picture would be shot in the Town of Berwick starting on March 27, 2007. The movie, The Yellow Handkerchief, starring William Hurt and Maria Bello would be shot in part on the river front near Crappell Fish Market and R & R Engine Services.

There being no further business to come before the Council, upon motion by Penny Crappell and seconded by Troy Lombardo, the meeting adjourned.

Louis Ratcliff - Mayor

ATTEST:

Newell W. Slaughter - CAO/Town Clerk