



**Town of Berwick**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**

**April 12, 2016**

**Call to Order: 7:00 P.M.**

**Prayer**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call: Jacki Ackel, Duval Arthur, Troy Lombardo, Damon Robison, Greg Roussel**

**Minutes from last meeting: March 8, 2016**

**Treasurer's Report**

**The Beacon Shines on - Katherine Theriot**

**Guests: New Generation - Berwick High School**

**Police Report**

**Fire Report**

**Public Works Report**

**Consulting Engineers Report**

**Committee Reports**

**PUBLIC HEARING @ 7:15**

**1.**

**ORDINANCES – INTRODUCE/ADOPT**

- 1. Introduce Ordinance No. 672 – Millage Rates Rolled Forward Reassessment for 2016**
- 2. Introduce Ordinance No. 673 – Adjusted Millage Reassessment for 2016**
- 3. Introduce Ordinance No. 674 – Set Drainage Fee for 2016**
- 4. Introduce Ordinance No. 675 – Zoning Ordinance Changes**

**RESOLUTIONS/PROCLAMATIONS**

**1.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1. Appoint Janie Brashear to Berwick Housing Authority Board – Term will expire on December 31, 2016**
- 2. Housing Authority – Pilot Tax**
- 3. Approve 1 year extension and rate of wharf lease to Three Brothers**
- 4. Discuss Wharf Leases renewals**
- 5. Call for public hearing to consider animal keeping permit**

**Adjournment**

**Newell Slaughter, Town Clerk**

**Town of Berwick**

**P.O. Box 486**

**Berwick, Louisiana 70342**

**(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**

**April 12, 2016**

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, April 12, 2016, at seven (7:00) o'clock p.m.

There were present: Council members Jacki Ackel, Duval Arthur, Troy Lombardo, Damon Robison, and Greg Roussel.

Absent: None

Also present was representatives of The Daily Review and KWBJ.

Mayor Pro-Tem Jacki Ackel led the prayer.

Councilman Duval Arthur 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 the 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 were approved without reading upon motion by Jacki Ackel and seconded by Damon Robison.

The Treasurer's report, having been reviewed, was approved without reading upon motion by Duval Arthur and seconded by Troy Lombardo.

The Beacon Shines on Katherine Theriot, a student at Berwick High School. Mayor Pro-Tem Jacki Ackel presented her with a certificate for Outstanding Achievement from the Town of Berwick for her participation in the MIT INSPIRE national research competition. Miss Theriot's topic was an analysis of the treatment and prevention of Alzheimer's in accordance with the perceptions and misconceptions of the disease.

Guest for the month of April, 2016 was New Generation, a group of students from Berwick High School whose goal is to cause more cross generation interaction. Kim Vasquez, the group's sponsor, stated that the Rotary Club is sponsoring the group. Mayor Ratcliff stated that the town will help in any way possible. St. Mary Council on Aging Director Beverly Domengeaux stated that this is the best idea she had ever heard and would be a great benefit to the elderly in St. Mary Parish.

Police Chief James Richard presented the police report for the month of March, 2016. Chief Richard stated that the tickets issued for March, 2016, were about two times the amount written in March, 2015. He stated that although the amount of tickets issued was greater than 2015, accidents worked were way down. After no further comments, the mayor moved on the next item on the agenda, Fire report.

Chief Allen Rink presented the fire report and stated that they had 20 calls for March, 2016. There was 13 medical calls, 4 auto wrecks, 1 false alarms, 1 small fires and 1 good intent call. After no further comments, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, the Public Works report.

Rafael Lopez presented the Public Works report for February, 2016. Town crews are working on many projects at this time. Crews are repairing streets and sidewalks, repairing water leaks, and cutting grass on the highways. The final leg of the walking trail on Fairview Drive is 98% complete. After no further comments, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, committee reports.

Town Engineer Reid Miller was not present. After no further committee reports, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, committee reports.

Economic Development, Recreation, Public Safety, Litter, Planning and Zoning Committees had nothing to report. The Wharf Committee met and decided to not increase the rates for 2016. Mayor Pro-Tem Jacki Ackel said the Keep St. Mary Beautiful Committee received a best in class

award. After no further committee reports, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, Ordinances.

Item #1 under Ordinances – Approve/Adopt – Introduce Ordinance No. 672 – Millage Rates Rolled Forward Reassessment for 2016. Upon motion by Troy Lombardo and seconded by Jacki Ackel, the ordinance was introduced unanimously.

Item #2 under Ordinances – Approve/Adopt – Introduce Ordinance No. 673 – Adjusted Millage Reassessment for 2016. Upon motion Damon Robison and seconded by Duval Arthur, the ordinance was introduced unanimously.

Item #3 under Ordinances – Introduce/Adopt – Introduce Ordinance No. 674 - Set Drainage Fee for 2016. Upon motion by Duval Arthur and seconded by Damon Robison, the ordinance was introduced unanimously.

Item #4 under Ordinances – Introduce/Adopt – Introduce Ordinance No. 675 – Zoning Ordinance Changes. Councilman Robison addressed the mayor and council on some issues that he had with the Berwick Zoning ordinances. He would like to reclassify certain items pertaining to outside storage, including junk, from B-2. After much discussion, Councilman Robison made a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 675. Mayor Pro-Tem Jacki Ackel seconded the motion. The motion to introduce failed on vote of 2 ayes (Robison, Ackel) for introduction and 3 nays (Lombardo, Roussel, Arthur) against introduction.

Item #1 under new business – Appoint Janie Brashear to the Berwick Housing Authority Board – Term will expire on December 31, 2016. Upon motion by Greg Roussel and seconded by Jacki Ackel, the appointment was approved unanimously.

Item #2 under new business – Housing Authority, Pilot Tax. Housing Authority Director Clarence Robinson presented the town with a check in the amount of \$31,426.36.

Item #3 under new business – Approve 1 year extension and rate for wharf lease to Three Brothers. Upon motion by Duval Arthur and seconded by Greg Roussel, the motion was approved by unanimous voice vote for Town Attorney Allen McElroy to prepare lease for Mayor Ratcliff's signature.

Item #4 under new business – Discuss Wharf Lease renewals. Upon motion Damon Robison and seconded by Troy Lombardo, the motion was approved by unanimous voice vote. Town attorney Allen McElroy stated that the wharf lease committee met and recommended not raising the lease rate for the upcoming year. Upon motion by Damon Robison and seconded by Troy Lombardo, the motion was approved by unanimous voice vote. Mr. McElroy stated that he will prepare the leases for Mayor Ratcliff's signature.

Item #5 under new business – Call for public hearing to consider animal keeping permit. Upon motion by Jacki Ackel and seconded by Troy Lombardo, the motion to call for a public hearing was approved unanimously.

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

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Louis Ratcliff – Mayor

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Newell W. Slaughter - CAO/Town Clerk