



**Town of Berwick**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**

**April 9, 2013**

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

**Prayer**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call: Duval Arthur, Troy Lombardo, Damon Robison, Greg Roussel, Edgar Thomas**

**Minutes from last meeting: March 12, 2013**

**Treasurer's Report**

**The Beacon Shines on... VJ Bella**

**Guests: Jacki Ackel – to discuss the Berwick Beacon**

**Police Report**

**Fire Report**

**Public Works Report**

**Consulting Engineers Report**

**Committee Reports**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1. Introduce Ordinance No. 643 – Set Millage Rates for 2013**
- 2. Introduce Ordinance No. 644 – Set Drainage Fee for 2013**
- 3. Proclamation No. 02-13 – Fair Housing Month**
- 4. Declare Surplus Property:**
  - a. 1999 Champion 21' Bay Boat – V/N TSB29510H899**
  - b. 1999 Champion Tandem Boat Trailer – V/N BB2232TD3**
  - c. 1999 Yamaha 225 HP Outboard Motor – V/N 62JX103071**
- 5. St. Mary Parish Veterans – New Van**
- 6. Introduce Ordinance No. 645 – Amend Water & Gas Meter Repairs Cost**

**Adjournment**

**Newell 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 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**

**April 9, 2013**

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 9, 2013, at seven (7:00) o'clock p.m.

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

Absent: None

Also present were representatives of KWBJ, and The Daily-Review.

Councilman Damon Robison led the prayer.

Councilman 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 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 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 Troy Lombardo.

The Beacon Shines on VJ Bella for April, 2013. Mr. Bella is a past Berwick Fire Chief, State Representative, State Fire Marshall, Scout Master and many other positions in the state and locals jurisdictions. Mr. Bella was presented by Councilman Edgar Thomas.

Guests: Jacki Ackel addressed the mayor and council and urged everyone to sign up for the Berwick Beacon. The Beacon will be available on-line and urged all citizens to go to the Town's website and register. Clarence Robison presented a check to the Town from the Berwick Housing Authority for 2013 Pilot Tax.

Police Chief James Richard presented the police report for the month of March, 2013. Chief Richard stated that the speeding tickets issued for March, 2013, were about the same amount written in March 2012. Chief Richard also stated that arrests for February, 2013, were also about the same amount written in March, 2012. Chief Richard also stated that tickets and arrests for 2013 were about the same as previous years. He also reported that the new radar trailer has been stationed at various locations around town with good results. After no further comments from the council or audience, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, the fire report.

Chief Allen Rink presented the fire report for March. He reported 13 calls for the month. The department responded to 7 medical assists, 3 fire calls and 3 automobile accidents. After no further comments, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, the Public Works report.

Town Superintendent Allen Benoit presented the Public Works report. Town crews are working on clearing drainage canals, ditches and completing other projects. After no further comments, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, committee reports.

Town Engineer Reid Miller stated the contractor is working on a drainage problem on two lots on Riverside Drive. He stated that Cleco is currently installing their electrical conduit and transformers. When the electrical equipment has been installed, his crews will begin marking the lot corners. He feels all will be completed in May. Planning and Zoning Director Gary Beadle stated that the Berwick Development District Board met and set the price for the new lots in Phase V at \$4.15 per square foot. They also set May 30, 2013 as the date for lots sales to commence.

Councilman Lombardo stated that the Recreation Committee met and selected Bliss Products as the vendor to provide new playground equipment for the Civic Center. Bliss provided a low bid of \$40,688.27. Mayor Ratcliff recommended that the council take the matter under advisement and that it be put on the agenda for the May 14, 2013 council meeting. After no further comments, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, new business.

Item #1 on the agenda – Introduce Ordinance No. 643 – Set Millage Rates for 2013. Upon motion by Damon Robison and seconded by Duval Arthur, the ordinance was introduced unanimously.

Item #2 on the agenda – Introduce Ordinance No. 644 – Set Drainage Fee for 2013. Upon motion by Troy Lombardo and seconded by Edgar Thomas, the ordinance was introduced unanimously.

Item #3 on the agenda – Proclamation No. 02-13 – Fair Housing Month. Upon motion by Duval Arthur and seconded by Damon Robison, the proclamation was approved unanimously.

Item #4 on the agenda – Declare surplus property:

- a. 1999 Champion Bay Boat – V/N TSB29510H899
- b. 1999 Champion Tandem Boat Trailer – V/N BB2232TD3
- c. 1999 Yamaha 225 HP Outboard Motor – V/N 62JX103071

Item #5 on the agenda – St. Mary Parish Veterans – Duval Arthur. Mayor Pro-Tem Duval Arthur stated that he had received a letter from Commander Joe Keller with the Joseph Brown American Legion Post No. 532 stating that they were seeking funds from each municipality in the parish to help defer the cost of purchasing a new van. The post was trying to purchase a van at a cost of \$24,164.75. They received a grant for \$15,000. Mr. Arthur requested that the town provide a \$1,500 grant to the post. Upon motion by Duval Arthur and seconded by Damon Robison, the grant was approved unanimously.

Item #6 on the agenda – Introduce Ordinance No. 645 – Amend water and gas meter repair cost. Upon motion by Troy Lombardo and seconded by Greg Roussel, the ordinance was introduced unanimously.

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

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Louis Ratcliff – Mayor

ATTEST:

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Newell W. Slaughter - CAO/Town Clerk