



Town of Berwick

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

June 9, 2009

Date of Notice: June 2, 2009

A Public Meeting will be held as follows:

**Date:** June 9, 2009  
**Time:** 7:15 P.M.  
**Place:** Council Meeting Room  
3225 Third Street  
Berwick, LA 70342

### 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: May 12, 2009

Treasurer's Report

Guests:

Police Report

Fire Report

Public Works Report

Consulting Engineers Report

Committee Reports

### NEW BUSINESS:

1. 7:15 P.M. – Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 603 – Allen's TV Cable Franchise Agreement
2. Adopt Ordinance No. 603 – Allen's TV Cable Franchise Agreement
3. Tim Lecompte – Would like for the Town of Berwick to consider establishing a historical district
4. Robert Williams – Wants to open a bar at the site of the Old Peppers Lounge
5. Introduce Ordinance No. 604 – Set Milage Rates for 2009
6. Introduce Ordinance No. 605 – Set Drainage Fee for 2009
7. Tri-City Track Club – Lisa Parsiola – Road Race on July 10 beginning at Lighthouse Park
8. Name The Daily-Review as official journal
9. Adopt Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire
10. Approve Pre-Event Disaster Recovery Contractor and authorize Mayor Ratcliff to negotiate contract
11. Declare surplus property:
  - a. 1994 Land Pride triple deck mower – S/N L101455
  - b. 1974 Kenworth Dump Truck – S/N 135474
  - c. 1989 Chevy Astro Van – S/N 1GNM15ZB224767

### 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**

**June 9, 2009**

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, June 9, 2009 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 was a representative of The Daily Review.

Councilman Damon Robison 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, 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 Penny Crappell.

Parish Councilman Logan Fromenthal was a visitor for the meeting.

Chief James Richard presented the police report, a copy of which was included in each of the Councilmen's packets, for the month of May, 2009. Chief Richard stated that the speeding tickets issued for May 2009 were higher than 2008. Chief Richard also stated that arrests for May 2009 were higher than May 2008. Chief Richard attributed this to having another full time officer on the road. Councilwoman Penny Crappell complimented the Chief on the professionalism and for their help with the two parish bomb threats that were received during the last week of the school year. After no further comments from the council or audience, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, Fire Department report.

The fire report was included in the packet for the Mayor and Council. Chief Wayne LaCoste presented the report. There were seven calls for May. There were three extrication assistance calls, three false alarms and one grass fire call. After no further comments, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, the Public Works report.

A copy of the Public Works Report was included in the packet for each Councilman. Town Superintendent Allen Benoit was available for comment. Curb repair is approximately 85% complete. Repairs crews should start on the final phase of curb repair in Renwick Subdivision in the next two weeks. Atchafalaya River stage predictions look good for the town in the upcoming weeks. Further gate closures are not anticipated. The paving project on Belleview/Front Street is complete. Mr. Benoit gave a brief report from the committee that selected the contractor for the Pre-Event Disaster Recovery project. He stated that after reviewing all of the contractors and looking at their qualifications, the committee felt that Drewery Construction Company was the best candidate for the Town of Berwick. Mayor Ratcliff thanked the committee and the naming of the contractor would be handled by Item #10 on the agenda. After no further comments, the Mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, committee reports.

Gary Beadle, Planning and Zoning Director, stated that the board met on June 3, 2009, and discussed finalizing changes to zoning ordinances and are preparing to call public hearings. Councilman Damon Robison gave a brief report on the Blighted Property Committee. He stated that the committee has its first meeting. Town Attorney gave the committee an overview of the existing ordinances. Karl Kramer, Morgan City Planning and Zoning Director, gave the committee an overview of how their

community handles blighted property. The committee asked Gary Beadle to proceed with serving notice to the owner of the car wash on Bowman Street that action will be taken to condemn the building on that site. Councilman Robison stated that the new website for the Town of Berwick had been launched and information on the website would be updated at a later date. Mayor Ratcliff stated that during emergencies, such as hurricanes, updates would be available on the new website. Councilwoman Crappell stated that the Anti-litter Committee was looking into starting a website. Rhonda Burtner stated that Town Engineer Glen Miller would attend the next meeting of the Recreation Committee to brief them on ideas for developing the newly acquired acreage behind the Civic Center. After no further comments, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, new business.

Item #1 on the agenda – Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 603 – Allen’s TV Cable Franchise Agreement. After no comments from the audience or council, Mayor Ratcliff closed the public hearing.

Item #2 on the agenda – Adopt Ordinance No. 603 – Allen’s TV Cable Franchise Agreement. Upon motion by Penny Crappell and seconded by Troy Lombardo, the ordinance was adopted unanimously.

Item #3 on the agenda – Tim LeCompte – Consider establishing a historical district. Mr. LeCompte did not attend the council meeting. No action was taken.

Item #4 on the agenda – Robert Williams – Mr. William wants to open a bar at the site of the old Peppers Lounge. Robert Williams of 809 Hickory Street in Morgan City addressed the Mayor and Council about his plans to open and operate a bar at the site of the old Peppers Lounge which is located at 4811 Highway 182. His business partner Daniel Dreyer of 409 Main Street in Patterson also addressed the Mayor and Council. It is their intent to renovate and bring up to code approximately 4,500 square feet of the existing building. They stated that their reason for attending the meeting was to let the council know their plans and to get approval for their project. Mayor Ratcliff stated that it would be taken under advisement and a decision would be made as soon as possible. They were advised to apply for their state liquor permit and then come to the town for their local liquor permit and occupational license

Item #5 on the agenda – Introduce Ordinance No. 604 – Set Milage rates for 2009. Upon motion by Damon Robison and seconded by Duval Arthur, the ordinance was introduced unanimously.

Item #6 on the agenda – Introduce Ordinance No. 605 – Set Drainage Fee for 2009. Upon motion by Penny Crappell and seconded by Duval Arthur, the ordinance was introduced unanimously.

Item #7 on the agenda – Tri-City Track Club represented by Lisa Parsiola. The Tri-City Track Club plans to stage a road race on July 10 that will begin at Lighthouse Park on the Atchafalaya River and proceed down Belleview/Front Street to Pharr Park and return on the same route to Lighthouse Park. Upon motion by Duval Arthur and seconded by Penny Crappell, the parade permit was approved unanimously.

Item #8 on the agenda – Name the Daily Review as official journal. Upon motion by Duval Arthur and seconded by Penny Crappell, Item #8 was approved unanimously.

Item #9 on the agenda – Adopt Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire. Upon motion by Penny Crappell and seconded by Edgar Thomas, the questionnaire was adopted unanimously.

Item #10 on the agenda – Approve Pre-Event Disaster Recovery Contractor and authorize Mayor Ratcliff to negotiate a contract with the contractor. Upon motion by Troy Lombardo and seconded by Penny Crappell, Item #10 was approved unanimously.

Item #11 on the agenda – Declare surplus property:

- a. 1994 Land Pride triple deck mower – S/N L101455
- b. 1974 Kenworth Dump Truck – S/N 135474
- c. 1989 Chevrolet Astro Van – S/N 1GNDM15ZB224767

Upon motion by Troy Lombardo and seconded by Duval Arthur, the items were declared surplus unanimously.

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

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Louis Ratcliff - Mayor

ATTEST:

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Newell W. Slaughter - CAO/Town Clerk