



Town of Berwick

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

July 8, 2014

Date of Notice: July 1, 2014

A Public Hearing will be held as follows:

Date: July 8, 2014
Time: 7:15 P.M.
Place: Council Meeting Room
3225 Third Street
Berwick, LA 70342

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: June 10, 2014

Treasurer's Report

The Beacon Shines on...

Guests: Greg Aucoin – Candidate for Judge

Police Report

Fire Report

Public Works Report

Consulting Engineers Report

Committee Reports

PUBLIC HEARING @ 7:15

- 1. Public Hearing – Ordinance No. 658 – Sewer rate adjustment**
- 2. Public Hearing – Ordinance No. 659 – St. Mary Parish Levee District**

ORDINANCES – INTRODUCE/ADOPT

- 1. Adopt Ordinance No. 658 – Sewer rate adjustment**
- 2. Adopt Ordinance No. 659 – St. Mary Parish Levee District**

RESOLUTIONS

New Business:

- 1.**

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**

July 8, 2014

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, July 8, 2014, at seven (7:00) o'clock p.m.

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

Absent: None

Also present was a representative of KWBj and The Daily Review.

Councilman Troy Lombardo led the prayer.

Councilman Damon Robison 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 Greg Roussel.

The Beacon did not shine on anyone for July, 2014.

Guests: Greg Aucoin, candidate for Judge for the 16th Judicial District Court. He addressed the mayor and council stated his qualification and asked for their support. Beverly Domengeaux, director of the St. Mary Council on Aging, addressed rumors that the council was closing. She said it wasn't closing, but it is changing. The centers will become senior activity centers where seniors can participate in crafts, exercise, educational classes and hear civic affairs speeches. Homebound services are not affected. She also asked for voters to approve a state constitutional amendment on the November ballot changing the number of state departments from 20 to 21 to allow for a Department of Aging Services.

Police Chief James Richard presented the police report for the month of June, 2014. Chief Richard stated that the speeding tickets issued for June, 2014, were about half the amount written in June, 2013. Chief Richard also stated that arrests for June, 2014, were up from the amount made in June, 2013. After no further comments from the council or audience, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, the fire report.

Fire Chief Allen Rink presented the fire report and stated that they had 22 calls for June, 2014. There were 22 medical assist calls, 4 vehicle accidents, 3 good intention call, 4 small fires and 2 false alarm. After no further comments, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, the Public Works report.

Public Works Director Rafael Lopez was on vacation and the Public Works report was presented by CAO Newell Slaughter and Mayor Ratcliff. Town crews are working on many projects at this time. They finished the Atchafalaya River and Bottleneck Farms sections of the Berwick Walking Trail, installed a 15" drainage pipe from Jones Street to Highway 182 and installed a new gas meter at Cameron Iron Works. Crews are also cleaning and spraying vegetation in drainage ditches. After no further comments, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, committee reports.

Councilman Lombardo stated that the upgrade of the basketball court at Willie Steward Park has begun and weather permitting, it should be completed within the next month. Planning & Zoning and Economic Development had nothing to report. Keep St. Mary Beautiful representative Jacki Ackel said they hope to approach businesses in Berwick to sponsor the Berwick boat launch

similar to the adoption of the Marcel Boat Landing in Amelia by Conrad Industries. The company takes care of cleanup, safety issues, painting and beautification as needed. Town Engineer Reid Miller was present, and stated that he had done some preliminary work on the proposed sewer project on Highway 182 and Old Spanish Trail. He is waiting for the state to approve the engineering contract between his firm and the town. After no further committee reports, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, new business.

Item #1 on the agenda under Public Hearings was a public hearing for Ordinance No. 658 – Sewer rate adjustment. After no comments from the council or audience, Mayor Ratcliff closed the public hearing.

Item #2 on the agenda under Public Hearings was a public hearing for Ordinance No. 659 – St. Mary Parish Levee District. After no comments from the council or audience, Mayor Ratcliff closed the public hearing.

Item #1 on the agenda under Ordinances – Introduce/Adopt – Adopt Ordinance No. 658 to adjust sewer rates. Duval Arthur made a motion to amend the ordinance as introduced to adjust the sewer rate from \$2.56 to \$3.06 per 1,000 gallons. Troy Lombardo seconded the motion. Mr. Arthur then made a motion to adopt the ordinance. Mr. Lombardo seconded the motion. The amended ordinance was approved unanimous voice vote.

Item #2 on the agenda under Ordinances-Introduce/Adopt – Adopt Ordinance No. 659 – St. Mary Parish Levee District. Upon motion by Damon Robison and seconded by Duval Arthur, the ordinance passed by unanimous voice vote. The ordinance allows the St. Mary Levee District to act as the non-federal sponsor for levees in Berwick as recognized by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Mayor Ratcliff reminded the council of the two budget workshops that will be held on July 15th and 22nd, if needed.

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

Louis Ratcliff – Mayor

ATTEST:

Newell W. Slaughter - CAO/Town Clerk