



Town of Berwick

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

July 14, 2009

Date of Notice: July 7, 2009

A Public Meeting will be held as follows:

Date: July 14, 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: Duval Arthur, Penny Crappell, Troy Lombardo, Damon Robison, Edgar Thomas
Minutes from last meeting: June 9, 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. 604 – Set Millage Rates for 2009
2. 7:15 P.M. – Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 605 – Set Drainage Fee for 2009
3. Adopt Ordinance No. 604 – Set Millage Rates for 2009
4. Adopt Ordinance No. 605 – Set Drainage Fee for 2009
5. Set budget workshop for July 22, 2009 at 6:00 P.M.
6. Proclamation No. 8/09 – National Night Out Against Crime 2009
7. Parade Permit – August 4 - National Night Out Against Crime – Keith Fontenot
8. Robert Williams – Discuss opening of bar at old Peppers Site
9. Introduce Ordinance No. 606 – Amend Chapter 3, Section 3-11 and Section 3-12 clarify distance measurement
10. Resolution No. 16-09 – Granting Preliminary, Engineering and Final approval – Glenwild Sub. Phase 1

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**

July 14, 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, July 14, 2009 at seven (7:00) o'clock p.m.

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

Absent: None

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

Mayor Louis Ratcliff led the prayer.

Councilwoman Penny Crappell 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, amended to state that Councilman Robison abstained from voting on the selection of a contractor for Pre-Event Storm debris removal, were approved without reading upon motion by Duval Arthur and seconded by Penny Crappell.

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

Assistant Chief David Leonard presented the police report, a copy of which was included in each of the Councilmen's packets, for the month of June, 2009. Assistant Chief Leonard stated that the speeding tickets issued for June 2009 were higher than June 2008. Assistant Chief Leonard also stated that arrests for June 2009 were lower than June 2008. He also stated that the DARE Garage Sale was a success, raising approximately \$2,000 for the DARE program. 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 two calls for June. September 5, 2009, has been set as the date for annual Shrimp Gumbo fund raiser. 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. Sewer repair for the year has been completed. With the addition of this year's repair, the town has approximately one mile of repaired sewer lines. With the completion of these repairs, portions of Utah, Texas, Third, Fifth and Fourth Streets are ready for overlay. The remaining sewer work to be completed in future years is in areas where the depth of the lines does not require the digging up of the streets. Councilwoman Crappell complimented Mr. Benoit on the appearance of the newly refurbished walking trail. Mayor Pro-Tem Duval Arthur made Mr. Benoit aware of a gas odor at the corner of Todd and Pharr Streets. He also complimented Mr. Benoit on the safety meeting held on June 17, 2009. Mayor Ratcliff noted the completion of the extension of the walking trail from Berwick High School to Fairview Drive. Mayor Ratcliff also stated that the town would not receive a grant this year to extend the trail from Pattie Drive to Renwick Boulevard. An application would be made next year. 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 July 1, 2009, and gave preliminary, engineering and final approval for Phase 1 of Glenwild Subdivision. They also discussed the final changes to the zoning ordinances and consultant Foreman & Associates should have the packets

ready for review by next week. After review by the mayor and council, the changes should be put on the agenda and a public hearing should be set. Councilman Damon Robison stated that he has attended a meeting in Baton Rouge concerning the development of property for industrial and residential use. He also met with Frank Fink to insure that the Town of Berwick would be included in the plan that the parish is developing for economic development. Councilman Robison also stated that is waiting on Town Attorney Allen McElroy to complete the proposed blighted property ordinance before the blighted property committee meets again. Councilwoman Crappell stated that she did not have an Anti-litter Committee report. 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. 604 – Set Millage rates for 2009. After no comments from the audience or council, Mayor Ratcliff closed the public hearing.

Item #2 on the agenda – Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 605 – Set Drainage Fee for 2009.

After no comments from the audience or council, Mayor Ratcliff closed the public hearing.

Item #3 on the agenda – Adopt Ordinance No. 604 – Set Millage rates for 2009. Upon motion by Damon Robison and seconded by Duval Arthur, the ordinance was adopted unanimously.

Item #4 on the agenda – Adopt Ordinance No. 605 – Set Drainage Fee for 2009. Upon motion by Penny Crappell and seconded by Troy Lombardo, the ordinance was adopted unanimously.

Item #5 on the agenda – Set budget workshop for July 22, 2009. Mayor set the budget workshop for the 2009-10 budget for July 22, 2009 at 6:00 P.M.

Item #6 on the agenda – Proclamation No. 8/09 – National Night Out Against Crime. Mayor Ratcliff proclaimed August 4, 2009 as National Night Out Against Crime in the Town of Berwick.

Item #7 on the agenda – Parade permit for National Night Out Against Crime. The Berwick Housing Authority, represented by Keith Fontenot, requested a parade permit for their parade on August 4, 2009. Upon motion by Penny Crappell and seconded by Duval Arthur, the parade permit was approved unanimously.

Item #8 on the agenda – Robert Williams – Discuss opening of a lounge at the site of the old Peppers Lounge. Mr. Williams did not attend the council meeting.

Item #9 on the agenda – Introduce Ordinance No. 606 – Amend Chapter 3, Section 3-11 and Section 3-12 to clarify distance measurement. Mayor Pro-Tem Duval Arthur asked Town Attorney Allen McElroy if a lounge or bar closed would there be a time limit on the re-opening of the lounge or bar. Mr. McElroy stated that if the establishment was closed for more than 6 months it would fall under the new provisions of the proposed ordinance. All existing lounges/bars would not be affected by the new ordinance unless they ceased operations for more than six months. After no further comments, upon motion by Duval Arthur and seconded by Troy Lombardo, the ordinance was introduced unanimously.

Item #10 on the agenda – Resolution No. 16-09 – Granting Preliminary, Engineering and Final approval to Phase 1 of Glenwild Subdivision. The proposed development on Old Spanish Trail consists of approximately five acres which will be developed into four lots. Utility services which will be installed to town's specifications by the developers will become the property of the Town of Berwick. The utility services to be provided by the developer would consist of sewer grinder pumps which feed the sewer discharge into an existing two inch force main. Town Superintendent Allen Benoit stated that the town will have to consider hiring a qualified engineering firm to develop a plan to expand the sewer service in future years to accommodate the growing demand. Upon motion by Penny Crappell and seconded by Duval Arthur, the resolution was approved unanimously.

Mayor Pro-Tem Duval Arthur presented Councilwoman Penny Crappell a plaque signed by Parish President Paul Naquin for her help during the mock disaster drill held at the St. Mary Parish Office of Homeland Security.

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

Louis Ratcliff - Mayor

ATTEST:

Newell W. Slaughter - CAO/Town Clerk