

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OF THE TOWN OF BERWICK, STATE OF LOUISIANA
TAKEN AT A REGULAR MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY

April 8, 2003

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 8th, 2003 at seven (7:00) o'clock p.m.

There were present: Mayor Emmett Hardaway, and Councilmen, Louis Ratcliff, Bill Johnson, Ray Rasberry, Edgar Thomas, Jr. and Elaine Cantrell.

Absent: None

Also present were representatives of the Daily Review, KQKI and Channel 39.

Mayor Hardaway led with a prayer.

Edgar Thomas, Jr. 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 Hon. Emmett Hardaway, 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 on motion by Mr. Rasberry and seconded by Mr. Ratcliff.

The Treasurer's report, having been reviewed, was approved without reading upon motion by Mr. Johnson and seconded by Ms. Cantrell.

Chief Duval Arthur presented the police report, a copy of which was included in each of the Councilmen's packets, for the month of March 2003. Chief Arthur stated that the citations and fines had doubled since last year and this was with two less officers. He commended his men for doing a good job. The Mayor stated that he had a copy of the bill that Rep. Jack Smith was introducing into legislation to lower the speed limit on Hwy.182 through Berwick to 45 MPH and 35 MPH in the school zone. Rep. Smith said that there should be no opposition to this bill.

Fire Chief Ray Rasberry stated that there were four fire calls for the month of March 2003.

The Public Works report was presented by Mr. Allen Benoit, a copy of which was included in the packet each Councilman received prior to the meeting.

Gulf South Engineers' monthly report was included in the packet, which each Councilman received prior to the meeting. There were five items as follows: (1) On the North LA 182 Pathway Extension project: Gray Brothers has completed the paving of the pathway. Smoothing dirt and planting grass will complete the project. (2) South LA 182 Pathway Extension: LA DOTD has the project scheduled to receive bids in May. (3) The police department building addition was included in the 2002 State Capital Outlay Bill. GSE is preparing plans and should have the project ready for bidding shortly. (4) State Capital Outlay 2003: Applications were made on three projects; (a) Public Works storage building, (b) Reroofing Town Hall (in case not funded in 2002) and (c) Pattie Drive Extension. (5) Assisting Leesa Foreman with Downtown Redevelopment Master Plan. Regular monthly public meetings have been held at Town Hall. Carl Jakobs asked that the Council approve the Mayor's signing of the pay slip for the 3rd payment on the North Pathway Extension of the walking trail. Approval was given upon motion by Mr. Ratcliff and second by Mr. Thomas.

Item #1 on the agenda - Susan Adams Furr appeared before the Mayor and Council to inform the public that a new non-profit organization is in place called "Smart", St. Mary Aid & Recovery Team. "Smart" is a coalition related to faith-based organizations, partnered with allied agencies which promotes networking to St. Mary Parish communities by offering volunteer, financial, spiritual, physical and/or

psychological support for people whose lives have been ravaged by disaster. Ms. Furr stated that they would be looking to the area Mayor's for support and information. The Mayor and Council stated that they would be happy to work with "Smart".

Item #2 on the agenda - Accept year end (9/30/02) Audit Report. The 2002 Audit Report was accepted upon motion by Mr. Rasberry and second by Mr. Johnson.

Item #3 on the agenda - Upon motion by Mr. Ratcliff, second by Ms. Cantrell and unanimous vote, the Council approved the taking of a half-page ad in the Daily Review Profile Edition.

Item #4 on the agenda - A proclamation declaring April 21-27, 2003 Community Development Block Grant week was approved.

Item #5 on the agenda - A Resolution of Appreciation and Recognition for National Community Development Week 2003 was approved upon motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Ratcliff and unanimous vote.

Item #6 on the agenda - Danny Andorf appeared before the Mayor and Council to protest the Vicious Dog Ordinance. He is the owner of Staffordshire Terriers, which are in the Pit Bull family. The Mayor and Council thanked him for coming and informed him he would have to abide by the ordinance.

There being no further business to come before the Council, upon motion duly made and seconded, meeting adjourned.

Emmett Hardaway, Mayor

ATTEST:

Cathy T. Guidry, Town Clerk