



**Town of Berwick**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**

**August 12, 2014**

**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: July 8, 2014**

**Treasurer's Report**

**The Beacon Shines on... The Ray Rasberry Family & The Everett S. Berry Family**

**Guests: Anthony Thibodeaux – Candidate for Judge - Division A**

**Police Report**

**Fire Report**

**Public Works Report**

**Consulting Engineers Report**

**Committee Reports**

**PUBLIC HEARING @ 7:15**

**1.**

**ORDINANCES – INTRODUCE/ADOPT**

**1. Introduce Ordinance No. 660 – Amend 2013-14 Consolidated Budget**

**2. Introduce Ordinance No. 661 – Introduce 2014-15 Consolidated Budget**

**3.**

**RESOLUTIONS**

**1.**

**New Business:**

**1. 2013-14 Litter Index – Jacki Ackel**

**2.**

**Adjournment**

**Newell Slaughter, Town Clerk**

**Town of Berwick**

**P.O. Box 486**

**Berwick, Louisiana 70342**

**(985) 384-8858**

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

**August 12, 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, August 12, 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 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 Edgar Thomas.

The Beacon shined on the Ray Rasberry Family and the Everett S. Berry family for August, 2014. Former Councilwoman Jacki Ackel presented a framed plaque to the Berry family thanking them for their father's efforts in establishing the Everett S. Berry Lighthouse Park. She also reminded everyone of the 1<sup>st</sup> annual Lighthouse Festival this weekend here in Berwick being sponsored by the BEARS, a local ham radio club, and the Town of Berwick. Mrs. Jackie Price of the BEARS stated that the event is being dedicated to Ray Rasberry. Mr. Rasberry was an active member of the club and helped establish the present radio room. He also served as a Town Councilman and Fire Chief for the Town of Berwick. BEARS presented a plaque to the Rasberry Family. Mayor Ratcliff named a Lighthouse Committee to research the possibility of retrieving the Ship Shoal Lighthouse and re-installing it at the Everett Berry Lighthouse Park. Those appointed to the committee were: Mrs. Iris Berry, Mrs. Jacki Ackel, Mr. Allen McElroy, Councilman Troy Lombardo and CAO Newell Slaughter.

Guests: Anthony Thibodeaux, candidate for Judge for the 16<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court. He addressed the mayor and council and stated his qualifications and asked for their support. Beverly Domengeaux, director of the St. Mary Council on Aging, was present but did not address the mayor and council.

Police Chief James Richard presented the police report for the month of July, 2014. Chief Richard stated that the speeding tickets issued for July, 2014, were about half the amount written in July, 2013. Chief Richard also stated that arrests for July, 2014, were up from the amount made in July, 2013. Chief Richard stated that the opening of the local schools went well with no issues. 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 36 calls for July, 2014. There were 19 medical assist calls, 5 vehicle accidents, 3 good intention calls, 4 small fires and 5 false alarm. Chief Rink stated that the annual Shrimp Gumbo Fund Raiser will be held on August 30. This will be the 39<sup>th</sup> year for the gumbo. After no further comments, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, the Public Works report.

Public Works Director Rafael Lopez presented Public Works report. Town crews are working on many projects at this time. 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 been completed, with the exception of fencing. The fencing will be installed in the next two weeks. Planning & Zoning and Economic Development had nothing to report. Keep St. Mary Beautiful representative Jacki Ackel reported that Berwick had received a 1, the highest rating on the Litter Index, from the Keep St. Mary Parish Beautiful Committee. The committee rated all areas of the parish according to the amount of litter and their weaknesses and strengths. Chitimachia was the only other area in the parish to receive a score of 1. 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. The town has received permission to proceed with the design phase of the project. Economic Development Chairman Damon Robison stated Ferdinand Privat of Privat General Contractors in Lafayette is awaiting permission to subdivide an 18 acre addition to Renwick Subdivision. The proposed 57 lot subdivision is planned for the Western side of Renwick. The subdivision of the property will be addressed at the September 3 town Planning and Zoning meeting. Robison stated that Privat will develop the property using the same concept as the existing Renwick lots. After no further committee reports, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, new business.

Item #1 on the agenda under Ordinances – Introduce/Adopt – Introduce Ordinance No. 660 to amend the 2013-14 Consolidated Budget. Upon motion by Troy Lombardo and seconded by Damon Robison the ordinance was introduced unanimously.

Item #2 on the agenda under Ordinances-Introduce/Adopt – Introduce Ordinance No. 661 – 2014-15 Consolidated Budget. Upon motion by Damon Robison and seconded by Edgar Thomas, the ordinance was introduced unanimously.

Item No. 1 under New Business – 2013-14 Litter Index. This item was covered under committee reports.

Under new business, Mayor Pro-Tem Duval Arthur made a motion to expand the agenda to consider an engineering contract between the Town of Berwick and Miller Engineers. This contract will allow Mayor Ratcliff to sign the contract for the design of the proposed sewer collection system on Highway 182 and Old Spanish Trail. Troy Lombardo seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote. Mr. Arthur then made a motion to allow Mayor Ratcliff to sign the engineering contract. Damon Robison seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote. Mayor Ratcliff stated that the town had received a \$1.2 million grant to construct the sewer system in the 2014 legislative session.

Mayor Ratcliff reminded the council and audience that the Shrimp & Petroleum Festival will be held on August 28, 29, 30, 31 and September 1 and invited all to attend. Mayor Ratcliff also stated that he had sent a letter to the Department of Transportation and Development asking them to clean the U.S. 90 Bridge in preparation for Shrimp & Petroleum Festival.

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