

**TOWN OF BERWICK
AGENDA
COUNCIL MEETING
August 10, 2004**

CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 P.M.

PRAYER:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL:

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

TREASURER'S REPORT:

POLICE REPORT:

FIRE REPORT:

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CONSULTING ENGINEERS REPORT:

1. **7:15 Public Hearing - Ord. #534 - Amend 2003-2004 Budget**
2. **Consider for adoption - Ord. #534 - Amend 2003-2004 Budget**
3. **Budget Message**
4. **Introduce 2004-2005 Budget and Budget Ordinance #535**
5. **Resolution - Garbage Rate Increase**
6. **Appoint Mark Fremin to Recreation Board**
7. **Appoint James Richard Police Chief**
8. **Waste Management - Trash Pick-up**
9. **Surplus Property**
10. **Advertise for Bids - Excavator**
11. **Resolution Adopting a Residential Anti-displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan**

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

August 10, 2004

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 10, 2004 at seven (7:00) o'clock p.m.

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

Absent: Elaine Cantrell

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

Mayor Hardaway led the prayer.

Louis Ratcliff 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 Honorable 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, was approved without reading upon motion by Mr. Rasberry and seconded by Mr. Johnson.

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

Chief James Richard presented the police report, a copy of which was included in each of the Councilmen's packets, for the month of July 2004. Everything is set up for the start of school. Crossing guards are lined up and the town crews have painted the crosswalks.

Chief Garrett Guillot presented the fire report, a copy of which was included in each of the Councilmen's packets for the month of July 2004. There were four calls for the month of July 2004: One vehicle accident (extrication & clear roadway), lightning strike at rooftop, structure fire (due to a lightning strike) and a smoke smell investigation. The 29th annual BVFD Gumbo will be held Saturday, September 4th.

The Public Works report was the next item on the agenda. A copy of this report was included in the packet each Councilman received prior to the meeting. Fields are being readied for flag football. Bridges are being installed on the walking trail. The walking trail will be closed for the installation of only one of the bridges.

Gary Beadle appeared before the Mayor and Council with two recommendations from the Planning and Zoning Committee. The first is an application from Mr. John Manning to shift lot line, no new lots created, to create .326 acres to be used for a residential purpose for a driveway. The second is an application to subdivide property for the development of the Hollywood Truck Stop & Casino from Mr. Joe Penn, Jr. Upon motion by Mr. Rasberry, second by Mr. Ratcliff, both recommendations were approved. Mr. Beadle stated that there would be a public hearing of the Planning & Zoning Committee on the subdivision of 18 lots on the pipeline in Country Club Estates on September 7, 2004.

Hattie Lawton gave the Recreation Committee report. Recreation Committee meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month @ 6:00 P.M. Location to be announced. There is an immediate need for a game field that is fenced and lighted. There were 18 teams in the girl's softball league. A flag football league has been started for 7, 8, and 9 year olds. There are five teams so far. Insurance to begin August 25th. Hattie asked that the meetings be posted on the website for the Town.

The Mayor called for a public hearing on Ordinance #534, to amend the 2003-2004 Budget. There being no comments the public hearing was closed. Ordinance #534 was approved upon motion by Mr. Rasberry and second by Mr. Johnson.

Gulf South Engineers' monthly report was included in the packet, which each Councilman received prior to the meeting. There were four items as follows: (1) Downtown Redevelopment Master Plan – An application was made to the Atchafalaya Basin Program. The seawall pathway portion of the redevelopment plan is being submitted to the Louisiana Dept. of Transportation and Development for consideration under the Transportation Enhancement Program. (2) Police Station Addition – This project is substantially complete. However, punch list items and fire marshal items are being worked on prior to final payment and acceptance of the project. (3) State Capital Outlay - 2004 – A public works shed was approved in the final version of the State Capital Outlay Bill. \$78,000 was approved for the project. (4) Transportation Enhancement Program – Two applications were submitted for July 31. One is for the seawall pathway as part of the downtown redevelopment plan and the other is for lights along the LA 182 path. A final change order (\$0) extending the deadline on the police station addition was approved upon motion by Mr. Ratcliff and second by Mr. Thomas. Payment request #8 in the amount of \$10,425.00 was approved upon motion by Mr. Thomas and second by Mr. Rasberry. A \$25,000.00 retainer is being held until all punch list items are complete.

Item #3 on the agenda – Budget Message – A copy of this message was included in the packet each Councilman received prior to the meeting.

Item #4 on the agenda – To introduce the 2004-2005 Budget and Budget Ordinance. Both were approved and introduced upon motion by Mr. Rasberry and second by Mr. Johnson.

Item #5 on the agenda – A Resolution of the Mayor and Council to increase the monthly service charge for the collection and disposal of garbage and trash to \$11.00. Upon motion by Mr. Ratcliff and second by Mr. Rasberry the Resolution was approved.

Item #6 on the agenda – The Mayor recommended that Mark Fremin be appointed to the Recreation Committee. Mr. Fremin was appointed upon motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Ratcliff.

Item #7 on the agenda – Mayor Hardaway recommends that James Richard be appointed to the permanent position of Police Chief, Town of Berwick, retroactive to August 1, 2004. Upon motion by Mr. Ratcliff and second by Mr. Thomas, James Richard was appointed to the position of Police Chief.

Item #8 on the agenda – Concerning the problems arising with trash pick up by Waste Management. The Mayor and staff are working diligently to try to correct some of these problems.

Item #9 on the agenda – Upon motion by Mr. Rasberry, second by Mr. Johnson and unanimous approval the following items were declared surplus property: (1) 1989 Chevy S10 truck, (2) 1981 Chevy dump truck (3) 1995 Ford Crown Victoria, (4) 1993 Chevy Caprice, (5) 1988 GMC Sierra truck and (6) 1991 Dodge Dakota truck.

Item #10 on the agenda - Approval was given to advertise for bids on a 2005 hydraulically operated track mounted excavator for the 2004-2005 budget year.

Item #11 on the agenda – A Resolution adopting a Residential Anti-displacement and Relocation Assistance plan for the LCDBG Program was approved upon motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Ratcliff.

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

Emmett Hardaway, Mayor

ATTEST: _____

Cathy T. Guidry, Town Clerk