



**Town of Berwick**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**

**September 8, 2015**

**Date of Notice: September 1, 2015**

**A Public Hearing will be held as follows:**

**Date: September 8, 2015**  
**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: Jacki Ackel, Duval Arthur, Troy Lombardo, Damon Robison, Greg Roussel**

**Minutes from last meeting: August 11, 2015**

**Treasurer's Report**

**The Beacon Shines on...**

**Guests: Beverly Domengeaux – St. Mary Council on Aging**

**Police Report**

**Fire Report**

**Public Works Report**

**Consulting Engineers Report**

**Committee Reports**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS @ 7:15**

- 1. Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 667 – Amend 2014-15 Consolidated Budget**
- 2. Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 668 – 2015-16 Consolidated Budget**

**ORDINANCES – INTRODUCE/ADOPT**

- 1. Adopt Ordinance No. 667 – Amend 2014-15 Consolidated Budget**
- 2. Adopt Ordinance No. 668 – 2015-16 Consolidated Budget**
- 3. Introduce Ordinance No. 669 – Amend Garbage Pickup rates**

**RESOLUTIONS/PROCLAMATIONS**

- 1. Proclamation No. 02-15 – Revise Berwick Celebration proclamation**

**New Business:**

- 1. Double Trouble Bridge Run – November 7, 2015 at 8:00 A.M. – Dee Hymel**
- 2. Declare 2008 Ford Police Cruiser as surplus property – V/N 2FAFP71V68X133194**
- 3. Parade Permit – Berwick Junior Class – September 17, 2015 @ 4:00 P.M. – Kim Vasquez**

**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**

**September 8, 2015**

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, September 8, 2015, at seven (7:00) o'clock p.m.

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

Absent: None

Also present was a representatives 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 Damon Robison and seconded by Jacki Ackel.

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

The Beacon did not shine on anyone for September, 2015.

The guests for September, 2015 were Beverly Domengeaux, and Jacki Price. Mrs. Domengeaux gave a brief annual report and invited the mayor and council to attend the 4f event in Franklin. Fit, Fun and Fabulous in Franklin will be held on October 1, 2015 at The Lamp Post and the Teche Theater. There will be a Men's Health Program and a Women's Health Program and other events for all ages to experience. Mrs. Domengeaux stated that the Council on Aging served 7,250 home-delivered meals to seniors in Berwick. Mrs. Price addressed the mayor and council and thanked them for helping them stage the B.E.A.R.S Ham Radio event in Berwick. She stated that they had 30 contacts. Of the 30 contacts, 3 were foreign countries and 16 states.

Police Chief James Richard presented the police report for the month of August, 2015. Chief Richard stated that the tickets issued for August, 2015, were about three times the amount written in August, 2014. Chief Richard stated that school has started and his department is working the school zones. National Night Out Against Crime will be held on October 6, beginning with a parade from Berwick Town Hall to the Housing Authority. The parade will begin at 5 P.M. After no further comments from the council or audience, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, the fire report. Chief Richard also stated that on Monday, September 14, 2015, the Town will be co-hosting a Day of Prayer for Law Enforcement with the East Ministerial Alliance at the Civic Center at 12:00 Noon. This is in conjunction with Governor Bobby Jindal's proclamation of a statewide Day of Prayer for Law Enforcement.

Chief Rink presented the fire report and stated that they had 36 calls for August, 2015. There were 28 medical assist calls, 3 vehicle accident, 3 good intention calls, and 2 fire calls. One of the fires was at the landfill and the other was a trash fire. After no further comments, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, the Public Works report.

CAO Newell Slaughter presented the Public Works report for August, 2015. Town crews are working on many projects at this time. Crews are repairing streets and sidewalks, repairing water leaks, cutting grass on the highways and other projects. Construction on the final phase of the Berwick Walking Trail is approximately 50% complete. This section will begin at the point on Fairview Drive where the trail descends the levee and intersects with Fairview Drive and ends at

Renwick Boulevard. After no further comments, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, committee reports.

Town Engineer Reid Miller was present and stated that the design of the proposed sewer project on Highway 182 and Old Spanish Trail is complete. He is also working on Right of Ways for Berwick Land Company and Southern Equestrian Stables, and our permit for Corp of Engineers is nearing approval. He stated that the Corp of Engineers had reported to him that the new sewer project would have 9.2 acres of mitigation. He is still working on plans for the subdivision being developed by Privat Construction Company. After no further committee reports, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, committee reports.

Economic Development, Public Safety, Anti-Litter, Planning and Zoning, and Wharf Committees had nothing to report. Troy Lombardo, Chairman of the Recreation Committee, stated that the new playground equipment for Willie Steward Park has been installed. Mayor Ratcliff stated that we plan to use the B.P. settlement monies to pay for the new playground equipment. After no further committee reports, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, Public Hearings.

Item #1 under Public Hearings – Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 667 – Amend 2014-15 Consolidated Budget. After no comments from the audience or the council, Mayor Ratcliff closed the public hearing.

Item #2 under Public Hearings – 2015-16 Consolidated Budget. After no comments from the audience or the council, Mayor Ratcliff closed the public hearing.

Item #1 under Ordinances – Introduce/Adopt – Adopt Ordinance No. 667 – Amend 2014-15 Consolidated Budget. Upon motion by Greg Roussel and seconded by Damon Robison, the ordinance was adopted by unanimous voice vote.

Item #2 under Ordinances – Introduce/Adopt – Adopt Ordinance No. 668 – 2015-16 Consolidated Budget. Upon motion by Troy Lombardo and seconded by Greg Roussel, the ordinance was adopted by unanimous voice vote.

Item #3 under Ordinances – Introduce/Adopt – Introduce Ordinance No. 669 – Amend Garbage Pickup Rates. Upon motion by Troy Lombardo and seconded by Greg Roussel, the ordinance was introduced unanimously.

Item #1 under new business – Double Trouble Bridge Run. The Tri-City Track Club, represented by Brian Landrieu, addressed the mayor and council seeking permission to stage a 5K and a 1.5 mile fun run on November 7, 2015. Upon motion by Jacki Ackel and seconded by Troy Lombardo, the event was approved unanimously.

Item #2 under new business – Declare 2008 Ford Police Cruiser as surplus property. Upon motion by Jacki Ackel and seconded by Duval Arthur, the property was declared surplus unanimously.

Item #3 under new business – Parade permit for Berwick Junior Class for September 17, 2015. The Junior Class President addressed the mayor and council and asked permission to hold a Homecoming Parade on September 17, 2015. Upon motion by Duval Arthur and seconded by Greg Roussel, the permit was approved unanimously.

Councilman Greg Roussel made a motion to expand the agenda to discuss the Recreation District No. 3 property that is levied to some Berwick residents and business. Troy Lombardo seconded the motion. Mr. Roussel stated that the recreation district was levying an 8.78 mil property on residents on Old Spanish Trail and businesses on Highway 182 and Highway 90. He felt that it was unfair and was seeking ideas to remedy the problem. After much discussion it was decided to seek help from the parish council. After no further comments, Mayor Ratcliff returned to the agenda.

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

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Louis Ratcliff – Mayor

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Newell W. Slaughter - CAO/Town Clerk