



Town of Berwick

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

September 9, 2014

Date of Notice: September 2, 2014

A Public Hearing will be held as follows:

Date: September 9, 2014
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: Duval Arthur, Troy Lombardo, Damon Robison, Greg Roussel, Edgar Thomas

Minutes from last meeting: August 12, 2014

Treasurer's Report

The Beacon Shines on...

Guests:

Police Report

Fire Report

Public Works Report

Consulting Engineers Report

Committee Reports

PUBLIC HEARING @ 7:15

- 1. Ordinance No. 660 – Amend 2013-14 Consolidated Budget**
- 2. Ordinance No. 661 – 2014-15 Consolidated Budget**

ORDINANCES – INTRODUCE/ADOPT

- 1. Adopt Ordinance No. 660 – Amend 2013-14 Consolidated Budget**
- 2. Adopt Ordinance No. 661 – 2014-15 Consolidated Budget**
- 3. Consider Introduction of Ordinance No. 662 – To amend, delete and reenact articles and code sections on solicitations, peddlers, itinerant vendors, etc.**

RESOLUTIONS

- 1. Resolution No. 21-14 – St. Mary Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan**

New Business:

- 1. Approve Holiday Schedule for 2014-15**
- 2. Parade Permit for Berwick High Homecoming Parade – Kim Vasquez - September 25, 2014 @ 4:00 PM**
- 3. Beverly Domengeaux – St. Mary Council on Aging**
- 4. Parade Permit – Night Out Against Crime – October 7, 2014**
- 5. Approve funding request to Chez Hope**
- 6. Take action on Planning and Zoning recommendations**
- 7. Jackie Price – BEARS Ham Radio Club**

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 9, 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, September 9, 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 Greg Roussel led the prayer.

Mayor Pro-Tem Duval Arthur 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 Greg Roussel.

The Beacon did not shine on anyone for September, 2014.

Guests: Mayor Ratcliff welcomed Boy Scout Troop 102 to the meeting. The Scouts are trying to earn a Merit Badge for Citizenship in the community.

Police Chief James Richard presented the police report for the month of August, 2014. Chief Richard stated that the speeding tickets issued for August, 2014, were about half the amount written in August, 2013. Chief Richard also stated that arrests for August, 2014, were up from the amount made in August, 2013. Chief Richard stated that his department was preparing for the start of the Berwick High football season. After no further comments from the council or audience, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, the fire report.

BVFD President Hugo Taylor presented the fire report and stated that they had 36 calls for August, 2014. There were 23 medical assist calls, 9 vehicle accidents, 3 good intention calls and 1 small fire. 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 the Public Works report for August. Town crews are working on many projects at this time. Crews are also cleaning and spraying vegetation in drainage ditches, completing fencing at Willie Steward Park and finishing placing rocks around the new dock. After no further comments, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, committee reports.

See Item #5 for Planning & Zoning Director Gary Beadle's report. Economic Development and Keep St. Mary Beautiful had nothing to report. Town Engineer Reid Miller was present, and stated that his firm had started the design phase on the proposed sewer project on Highway 182 and Old Spanish Trail. CAO Newell Slaughter gave a report on the upcoming Tour du Teche that will be held on October 5 at the Berwick Lighthouse Park. So far over thirty people have applied for booth space for food and arts and crafts, a car show is planned, and an obstacle course will be available for children and the band Gone Pecan will be playing music from 9 AM to 5 PM. Iris Berry gave a brief report on the upcoming Celebration of Life Festival that will be held on the Saturday, October 25, in Berwick. After no further committee reports, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, new business.

Item #1 on the agenda under Public Hearings was a public hearing for Ordinance No. 660 – Amend 2013-14 Consolidated Budget. After no comments from the council or audience, Mayor Ratcliff closed the public hearing.

Item #2 on the agenda under Public Hearings was a public hearing for Ordinance No. 661 – Adopt 2014-15 Consolidated Budget. After no comments from the council or audience, Mayor Ratcliff closed the public hearing.

Item #1 on the agenda under Ordinances – Introduce/Adopt – Adopt Ordinance No. 660 to amend 2013-14 Consolidated Budget. Troy Lombardo made a motion to adopt the ordinance. Damon Robison seconded the motion. The amended ordinance was approved unanimous voice vote.

Item #2 on the agenda under Ordinances-Introduce/Adopt – Adopt Ordinance No. 661 – Adopt 2014-15 Consolidated Budget. Upon motion by Damon Robison and seconded by Duval Arthur, the ordinance passed by unanimous voice vote.

Item #1 under Resolutions – Resolution No. 21-14 – St. Mary Hazard Mitigation Plan. Upon motion by Duval Arthur and seconded by Greg Roussel, the resolution to support the St. Mary Hazard Mitigation Plan was approved unanimously.

Item #1 under New Business – Approve Holiday Schedule for 2014-15. Upon motion by Troy Lombardo and seconded by Greg Roussel, the schedule was approved unanimously.

Item #2 under New Business – Parade permit for Berwick High Homecoming Parade, Kim Vasquez, September 25, 2014. Upon motion by Duval Arthur and seconded by Edgar Thomas, the permit was approved unanimously.

Item #3 under New Business – Beverly Domengeaux – St. Mary Council on Aging. Mrs. Domengeaux addressed the mayor and council to present the annual report for the Council on Aging. She stated that 9.4% of Berwick's population is over the age of 65 and that they had served 6,670 home delivered meals and made 240 homemaker visits. She also asked for support to pass Amendment #11 for the state constitution that would allow for the formation of a Department on Aging. She also invited everyone to their 41st Annual Meeting which be held on September 19, 2014.

Item #4 under New Business – Parade Permit for Night Out Against Crime on October 7, 2014. Chief Richard and Jacki Ackel, both members of the Berwick Housing Authority Board, on behalf of the Berwick Housing Authority and asked for a permit for a parade for the Night Out Against Crime. They also invited all to attend the event. Upon motion by Duval Arthur and seconded by Greg Roussel, the permit was approved unanimously.

Item #5 under New Business – Approve funding for Chez Hope. Upon motion by Duval Arthur and seconded by Troy Lombardo and \$1,500 contribution to the repair was approved unanimously. The funds will help prepare the roof of the facility which helps battered women and children.

Item #6 under New Business – Take action on Planning and Zoning Board recommendations. Planning & Zoning Director Gary Beadle stated that the Planning and Zoning Board met and recommended that the mayor and council call for a public hearing to hear comments concerning a planned 16.2 acre for single family homes near Renwick Subdivision. Upon motion by Damon Robison and seconded by Troy Lombardo, a public hearing has been set for October 15, 2014, at 7:15 P.M.

Item #7 under New Business – Jackie Price, BEARS Ham Radio Club. Mrs. Price addressed the mayor and council and thanked them for the town's support in staging the International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend. She stated that there were 41 contacts made, which included 7 lighthouses and the countries of Spain, Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico and Brazil. The date for the 2015 weekend is October 15 and 16.

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

Newell W. Slaughter - CAO/Town Clerk