



Town of Berwick

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

September 11, 2007

Date of Notice: September 4, 2007

A Public Meeting will be held as follows:

Date: September 11, 2007
Time: 7:15 P.M.
Place: Council Meeting Room
3225 Third Street
Berwick, LA 70342

AGENDA:

Call to Order: 7:00 P.M.
Prayer
Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call: Edgar Thomas, Damon Robison, Duval Arthur, Penny Crappell, Troy Lombardo
Minutes from last meeting: August 14, 2007
Treasurer's Report
Guests:
Wayne Breaux
Albert Foulcard
Police Report
Fire Report
Public Works Report
Consulting Engineers Report
Committee Reports

NEW BUSINESS:

1. 7:15 Public Hearing Ordinance No. 568 – Amend 2006-07 Budget
2. 7:15 Public Hearing Ordinance No. 569 – 2007-08 Budget
3. 7:15 Public Hearing Ordinance No. 570 – Enact new sub-section Chapter 5 ICC
4. Adopt Ordinance No. 568 – Amend 2006-07 Budget
5. Adopt Ordinance No. 569 – 2007-08 Budget
6. Adopt Ordinance No. 570 – Enact new sub-section Chapter 5 ICC
7. Proclamation – National Alcohol & Drug Addiction Recovery Month
8. Preliminary approval – Phase III Renwick Subdivision
9. Expropriation of Cemetery Property
10. Appoint Jackie Ackel to Berwick Housing Authority Board

Adjournment

Newell W. 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 W. 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 11, 2007

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 11, 2007 at seven (7:00) o'clock p.m.

There were present: Council members, Edgar Thomas, Damon Robison, Duval Arthur, Penny Crappell and Troy Lombardo.

Absent: None

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

Councilman Edgar Thomas led the prayer.

Troy Lombardo 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, having been reviewed, 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.

Mayor Ratcliff welcomed Wayne Breaux, Mayor of Baldwin, and current candidate for St. Parish Parish Assessor. Mayor Breaux gave his qualifications for the job and expressed his desire for the support of the Mayor and Town Council and the citizens of Berwick.

Chief James Richard presented the police report, a copy of which was included in each of the Councilmen's packets, for the month of August 2007. Chief Richard stated that the report for August 2007 was very similar to August 2006. He summarized the accidents and citations that were issued in the month. Councilwoman Crappell asked if a crossing guard could be stationed at Pattie Drive and Highway 182. Chief Richard stated Mr. Tommy Bourgeois had met with the school board about the intersection and that one of the recommendations made was a crossing guard. Chief Richard will look in to the matter and report back to the council. After no further comments from the council or audience, the mayor moved on the next item on the agenda, Fire Department report.

Fire Chief Francis Fromenthal presented the fire report for August. There were 9 calls for the month: three vehicle accidents, one mutual aid call from Franklin, one good intent call, one electrical fire, one lightning strike, one grass fire and one motor vessel fire. After no further comments, the mayor moved to the next item on the agenda, the Public Works report.

A copy of the Public Works Report was included in the packet each Councilman received prior to the meeting. Town Superintendent Allen Benoit was available for comment. The water main that is being installed on the west end of town is 100% complete. A gas line will be installed along side of the water line at a later date. The engineering and design for the sewer rehabilitation project along Third and Fourths streets has been completed, bids have been received and opened and the contract has been awarded to Insituform Technologies. The project should be finished before the end of the year. Bids will be received on the new sewer truck on September 12, 2007. Delivery should be sometime in the first part of 2008. New odorant station for River Road has been ordered and should arrive in November, 2007. He expects the new system to last 14-15 years. New 12 yard International Dump Truck has been received and is ready for use. The curbing project for the town has been started and should be finished with the next week. Only curbing in the driveway areas of town is to be repaired. J in C Concrete is the contractor for the curbing repair. Further repair to the curbing in town will be accomplished in the next budget year. After no further comments, the Mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, committee reports.

The first committee report was from Planning and Zoning director Gary Beadle. He stated that the Planning and Zoning Board met and recommends that the Council grant preliminary approval for Phase III of Renwick subdivision. A public hearing to amend B1 has been scheduled for October 2, 2007. Councilman Arthur asked Mr. Beadle to discuss the restrictions for storage buildings. Mr. Beadle stated that they must comply with wind codes restrictions and they must have a construction permit. Councilwoman Penny Crappell stated that the Anti-Litter committee did not have a report for August, but did say that the Centennial Committee had started their preparation for the town picnic that will be held on October 13 from 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. Councilwoman Crappell thanked Ms. Janice Ratcliff for her efforts in preparing for the October Family Day. Next report was from the Economic Development Committee. Damon Robison stated that he met with Frank Finks with the St. Mary Parish Economic Development office and gave him an overview on what was scheduled for the Town of Berwick and what we hoped to achieve. They also discussed grant possibilities. Duval Arthur held a Recreation Committee meeting on August 21, 2007 with an attendance of 19 citizens. They discussed the three items that they would like to see accomplished: hire a full time recreation director, repair and upgrade Pharr Park and purchase the 10 acres behind the Berwick Center. Mr. Arthur contacted LSU and they have agreed to send a representative to Berwick and evaluate our recreation program and make recommendations to the Mayor and Council. The next meeting is scheduled for September 18, 2007. West End Ditch Committee reported they received a report from Miller Engineers, but are waiting on some minor adjustments to the report. After no further comments, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, new business.

Item # 1 on the agenda – Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 568 – Amend 2006-07 Budget. After no comments from the council or audience, Mayor Ratcliff closed the public hearing for Ordinance No. 568.

Item # 2 on the agenda – Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 569. Adopt 2007-08 Budget. After no comments from the council or audience, Mayor Ratcliff closed the public hearing for Ordinance No. 569.

Item # 3 on the agenda – Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 570 – Enact new sub-section Chapter 5 ICC. After no comments from the council or audience, Mayor Ratcliff closed the public hearing for Ordinance No. 570.

Item # 4 on the agenda – Adopt Ordinance No. 568 – Amend 2006-07 Budget. Upon motion by Duval Arthur and seconded by Penny Crappell, the ordinance was adopted unanimously.

Item # 5 on the agenda – Adopt Ordinance No. 569 – Adopt 2007-08 Budget. Upon motion by Penny Crappell and seconded by Troy Lombardo, the ordinance was adopted unanimously.

Item # 6 on the agenda – Adopt Ordinance No. 570 – Enact new sub-section Chapter 5 ICC. Upon motion by Damon Robison and seconded by Edgar Thomas, the ordinance was adopted unanimously.

Item #7 on the agenda – Proclamation – National Alcohol & Drug Addiction Recovery Month. Mayor Ratcliff proclaimed the month of September 2007 as National Alcohol & Drug Addiction Recovery Month.

Item # 8 on the agenda – Preliminary approval for Phase III of Renwick Subdivision. Upon motion by Damon Robison and seconded by Duval Arthur, preliminary was granted unanimously.

Item # 9 on the agenda – Expropriation of property for Berwick Cemetery. Upon motion by Penny Crappell and seconded by Troy Lombardo, permission was granted for Town Attorney Allen McElroy to hire an appraiser and an attorney to begin the expropriation process.

Item # 10 on the agenda – Appoint Jackie Ackel to the Berwick Housing Authority Board. Upon motion by Penny Crappell and seconded by Damon Robison, the appointment was approved unanimously.

Item # 11 on the agenda – Expand agenda to declare surplus property and enter into an intergovernmental agreement. Upon motion by Troy Lombardo and seconded by Duval Arthur, the motion to expand the agenda was approved unanimously.

Item # 12 on the agenda – Declare 1975 Ford C752F Fire Truck as surplus property and enter into an intergovernmental agreement. Upon motion by Duval Arthur and seconded by Edgar Thomas, the motion was approved unanimously.

Item # 13 on the agenda – Introduce Ordinance No. 571 – declare 1975 Ford C752F Fire Truck as surplus property and enter into an intergovernmental agreement with Reagan Wells Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department. Upon motion by Duval Arthur and seconded by Edgar Thomas, the ordinance was introduced unanimously.

Councilwoman Crappell wanted to thank the Volunteer Fire Department for the great gumbo and their hard work, and Mr. Steve Shirley, with the Daily Review, for the outstanding article relating to Berwick’s Centennial.

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

Louis Ratcliff - Mayor

ATTEST:

Newell W. Slaughter - CAO/Town Clerk