



Town of Berwick

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

May 10, 2011

Date of Notice: May 3, 2011

A Public Meeting will be held as follows:

Date: May 10, 2011
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, Penny Crappell, Troy Lombardo, Damon Robison, Edgar Thomas

Minutes from last meeting: April 12, 2011

Treasurer's Report

Guests:

Police Report

Fire Report

Public Works Report

Consulting Engineers Report

Committee Reports

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Public Hearing – Ordinance No. 622 - Sales and construction contract with Acme Mausoleum LLC**
- 2. Consider Adoption of Ordinance No. 622 - Sales and construction contract with Acme Mausoleum LLC**
- 3. Appointment to Berwick Development District – Jacob Marcel**
- 4. Consider Introduction of Ordinance No. 623 - Amending M-1 zoning district to include: heavy lifting, hydrostatic testing and nitrogen testing.**
- 5. Consider adoption Resolution No. 09-11 State action on the Long-Allen Bridge**
- 6. Consider adoption of Resolution No. 10-11 change boundaries of Recreation District No. 3**
- 7. Proclamation No. 04-11 – Proclaim May as Older Americans Month – Council on Aging**
- 8. Resolution No. 11-11 – Southern Equestrian Stables Grant of Servitudes (See attachment)**
- 9. Consider Introduction of Ordinance No. 624 - Changes and amendments to Chapter 4, Animals, Section 4-1 through 4-4**
- 10. Declare State of Emergency**

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**

May 10, 2011

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, May 10, 2011, at seven (7:00) o'clock p.m.

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

Absent: None

Also present were representatives of The Daily Review and KWBJ.

Councilwoman Penny Crappell led the prayer.

Councilman 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 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 Penny Crappell.

Guests attending the meeting were St. Mary Parish Councilmen Gary Duhon and Logan Fromenthal and St. Mary Levee District Director Allen Kelly.

Police Chief James Richard presented the police report for the month of April, 2011. Chief Richard stated that the speeding tickets issued for April, 2011 were about double the amount written in April, 2010. Chief Richard also stated that arrests for April, 2011 were also about the same as April, 2010. After no further comments from the council or audience, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, the Fire Department report.

Fire Chief Mike Touchet was present and stated that there was one fire call for the month, at Bob's Heating and Air Conditioning. After no further comments, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, the Public Works report.

Town Superintendent Allen Benoit presented the Public Works report. Mr. Benoit stated that preparations for the high water levels on the Atchafalaya River were ongoing. All gates on the seawall will be closed by Saturday, May 14 at noon. The last gate to be closed will be Texas Street. Sand and sand bags will be available for residents. After no further comments, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, committee reports.

Planning and Zoning Director Gary Beadle stated that the Planning and Zoning Board met on May 4 and recommended that the Council approve Minor Subdivision Southern Equestrian Stables, Phase IV of Renwick Subdivision, amending zoning map to change property along Highway 182 from R-1(single family housing) to B-1(highway business), amend M-1(light industry) zoning regulation to include heavy lifting, hydrostatic testing and nitrogen testing. Town Attorney Allen McElroy stated that the town would take action on the Planning and Zoning recommendations in new business later in the meeting. Councilwoman Crappell stated that baseball and softball seasons have begun and are progressing well. 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. 622 – Sales and construction contract with Acme Mausoleum, LLC. After no comments from the audience or council, Mayor Ratcliff closed the public hearing.

Item #2 on the agenda – Consider adoption of Ordinance No. 622 – Sales and construction contract with Acme Mausoleum, LLC. Upon motion by Crappell and seconded by Damon Robison, the ordinance was approved unanimously.

Item #3 on the agenda – Appoint Jacob Marcel to Berwick Development District Board. Mayor Ratcliff recommended Jacob Marcel to fill the seat previously occupied by Cliff Watson and upon motion by Damon Robison and seconded by Troy Lombardo, the appointment was approved unanimously.

Item #4 on the agenda – Consider Introduction of Ordinance No. 623 – Amending M-1 zoning district to include: heavy lifting, hydrostatic testing and nitrogen testing. Upon motion by Damon Robison and seconded by Duval Arthur, the ordinance was introduced unanimously.

Item #5 on the agenda – Consider adoption of Resolution No. 09-11 – State action on the Long-Allen Bridge. In 2009, the mayor and council passed a resolution asking the State of Louisiana make the necessary repairs and that the state abandon thoughts to close the bridge. Since that time, the state has done neither. The resolution is again requesting the state to maintain the bridge and keep it open to traffic because it is a vital link over the Atchafalaya River. Town Attorney requested that copies of the resolution be forwarded to Representative Sam Jones and Senator Butch Gautreaux and asking them to introduce legislation to require action by the Department of Transportation. Upon motion by Penny Crappell and seconded by Duval Arthur, the resolution was adopted unanimously.

Item #6 on the agenda – Consider adoption of Resolution No. 10-11 – Change boundaries of Recreation District No. 3 to exclude portions of the Town of Berwick. The Town of Berwick expanded its boundaries years ago to areas that were included in the boundaries of the Recreation District. This resolution is requesting the parish council re-draw the boundaries to exclude the Town of Berwick. Upon motion by Penny Crappell and seconded by Troy Lombardo, the resolution was adopted unanimously.

Item #7 on the agenda – Proclamation No. 04-11 – Proclaim May, 2011 as Older Americans Month. Upon motion by Duval Arthur and seconded by Penny Crappell, the proclamation was approved unanimously.

Item #8 on the agenda – Resolution No. 11-11 – Southern Equestrian Stables Grant of Servitudes. Town Attorney stated that the town has 100 foot right of way that was granted by Berwick Land Company and the property was sold to Southern Equestrian Stables. The right of way from Berwick Land Company was documented using an aerial photo and was not officially dedicated because of the cost involved of hiring a surveyor. Southern Equestrian Stables has performed a survey clearing marking the right of way. This resolution authorizes Mayor Ratcliff to accept the right of way from Southern Equestrian Stables. Upon motion by Penny Crappell and seconded by Duval Arthur, the resolution was approved unanimously.

Item #9 on the agenda Consider Introduction of Ordinance No. 624 – Changes and amendments to Chapter 4, Animals, Sections 4-1 through 4-4. Current ordinances prohibit the keeping of animals and this ordinance will allow residents, under certain circumstances, to keep animals. A permitting process will also be established. Upon motion by Penny Crappell and seconded by Duval Arthur, the ordinance was introduced unanimously. A public hearing for this ordinance will be held on June 14, 2011 at 7:15 PM.

Item #10 on the agenda – Declare State of Emergency – Upon motion by Penny Crappell and seconded by Damon Robison, the State of Emergency was declared unanimously. This declaration will allow Mayor Ratcliff, without further council approval, to take all actions required to obtain state and federal assistance needed during the upcoming flood event.

Item #11 on the agenda – Final Approval of Phase IV of Renwick Subdivision. Upon motion by Damon Robison and seconded by Duval Arthur, the council voted unanimously to expand the agenda to

take action on the approval of Renwick Subdivision Phase IV. Upon motion by Damon Robison and seconded by Penny Crappell, Renwick Subdivision Phase IV was approved unanimously.

Item #12 on the agenda – Amend Zoning Map from R-1, Single family housing, to B-1, Highway business. Upon motion by Penny Crappell and seconded by Duval Arthur, the council voted unanimously to expand the agenda to take action to amend the zoning map and call a public hearing on June 14, 2011 to hear input from the public. Upon motion by Damon Robison and seconded by Penny Crappell, the council voted unanimously to approve the zoning changes and to call a public hearing.

Item #13 on the agenda –Minor subdivision extension. Upon motion by Troy Lombardo and seconded by Penny Crappell, the council voted unanimously to expand the agenda to take action to approve the minor subdivision extension and call a public hearing on June 14, 2011 to hear input from the public. Upon motion by Penny Crappell and seconded by Duval Arthur, the council voted unanimously to approve the minor subdivision extension and to call a public hearing.

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

Louis Ratcliff – Mayor

ATTEST:

Newell W. Slaughter - CAO/Town Clerk