



## **Town of Berwick**

### **NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**

**June 12, 2012**

**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: May 8, 2012**

**Treasurer's Report**

**Guests:**

**Police Report**

**Fire Report**

**Public Works Report**

**Consulting Engineers Report**

**Committee Reports**

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1. Introduce Ordinance No. 634 – Set Forth Adjusted Millage Rate for 2012**
- 2. Introduce Ordinance No. 635 – Set Forth Adjusted Millage Rate and Increased Millage Rate for 2012**
- 3. Introduce Ordinance No. 636 – Set Drainage Fee for 2012**
- 4. Name The Daily Review as Official Journal**
- 5. Becky Billiot – Crossing Place Church – Can Shake Fund Raiser**
- 6. Patterson Community Fair – Carl Butler**
- 7. Consider adoption of Resolution No. 13-12 – Authorizing partial release of servitude with Berwick LLC concerning property on Highway 182**
- 8. Consider Introduction of Ordinance No. 637 - Authorizing partial release of servitude with Berwick LLC concerning property on Highway 182**
- 9. Cornel Keeler - Redistricting**
- 10. Set budget workshop for July 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM**

#### **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**

**June 12, 2012**

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, June 8, 2012, at seven (7:00) o'clock p.m.

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

Absent: None

Also present were representatives of KWBJ and The Daily-Review.

Mayor Pro-Tem Duval Arthur led the prayer.

Councilwoman Penny Crappell 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 Damon Robison.

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

Guest: Beverly Demengeaux with St. Mary Council on Aging.

Police Chief James Richard presented the police report for the month of May, 2012. Chief Richard stated that the speeding tickets issued for May, 2012, were much higher than the amount written in May 2011 because the town had participated in a state seatbelt program. Chief Richard also stated that arrests for May, 2012, were about the same as the amount written in May, 2011. After no further comments from the council or audience, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, the fire report.

Assistant Chief Jody Acosta presented the fire report for May, 2012. There were nine calls for the month; two were residential false fire alarms, two were extrication rescue, one good intent, two lightning calls and two medical calls. 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 work to relocate the water line at Snead and Jones was complete. After no further comments, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, committee reports.

Planning and Zoning Director Gary Beadle reported that the Planning and Zoning Board met and recommended that the council approve the minor subdivision and map for the Dollar General property on Highway 182. Upon motion by Duval Arthur and seconded by Penny Crappell, the council approved the minor subdivision unanimously. There were no other committee reports for May, and after no further comments, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, new business.

Item # 1 on the agenda – Introduce Ordinance No. 634 – Set Forth Millage Rates for 2012. Upon motion by Damon Robison and seconded by Troy Lombardo, the ordinance was introduced unanimously.

Item #2 on the agenda – Introduce Ordinance No. 635 – Set Forth Adjusted Millage Rate and Increased Millage Rate for 2012. Upon motion by Duval Arthur and seconded by Troy Lombardo, the ordinance was introduced unanimously.

Item #3 on the agenda – Introduce Ordinance No. 636 – Set Forth Drainage Fee 2012. Upon motion by Damon Robison and seconded by Edgar Thomas, the ordinance was introduced unanimously.

Item #4 on the agenda – Name the Daily Review as Official Journal. Upon motion by Duval Arthur and seconded by Damon Robison, it was approved unanimously.

Item #5 on the agenda – Becky Billiot – Crossing Place Church – Can Shake Fund Raiser. Ms. Billiot did not attend the meeting.

Item #6 on the agenda – Patterson Community Fair – Carl Butler. Mr. Butler attended the meeting and invited all to attend the 1<sup>st</sup> annual Patterson Community Fair. It will be held on June 21-24, 2012.

Item #7 on the agenda – Consider Adoption of Resolution No. 13-12 – Authorizing partial release of servitude with Berwick LLC concerning property on Highway 182. Upon motion by Penny Crappell and seconded by Duval Arthur, the resolution was approved unanimously. There will be a Dollar General store constructed on the property.

Item #8 on the agenda – Consider introduction of Ordinance No. 637 – Authorizing partial release of servitude with Berwick LLC concerning property on Highway 182. Upon motion by Penny Crappell and seconded by Duval Arthur, the ordinance was introduced unanimously.

Item #9 on the agenda – Cornell Keeler – Redistricting. Mr. Keeler attended the meeting stating that he had been contacted by some residents of the Town of Berwick and that they were asking him to assist them in redistricting the town into single member districts. Mr. Keeler also stated that the current system of electing all at-large council members was illegal. The citizens that contacted Mr. Keeler felt like they would be better represented if they could elect a council member from their area of town. Town Attorney Allen McElroy stated that the current system was approved by the federal government and was legal. Mayor Ratcliff stated that the town is governed by a home rule charter and any changes to the charter would have to be approved by the people. After much discussion, Mr. McElroy stated that he had been in contact with demographer Joe Hefner and the he would ask him to attend the July 10, 2012, council meeting to explain the demographics of the Town of Berwick.

Item # 10 on the agenda – Set budget workshop for July 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P.M. Mayor Ratcliff stated the first budget workshop for department leaders would be held at Town Hall on July 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P.M.

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

---

Louis Ratcliff – Mayor

ATTEST:

---

Newell W. Slaughter - CAO/Town Clerk