

**Regular Meeting
Town of Iowa
115 N. Thomson
September 11, 2017
7:00 PM**

Mayor and Council met in regular session this date in compliance with all requirements as to notice.

Present: Mayor Carol Ponthieux; Council Members: Julie Fontenot, Thomas Talbot, Larry Hardy, Gerald Guidry (quorum present)

Errol Marshall- Absent

Invocation given by Mayor Ponthieux, and then followed by Pledge.

Talbot motioned to approve the minutes of August 14, 2017 as written; Guidry seconded. Motion carried.

AGENDA

1. Resolution 2017 –12 Compliance Questionnaire – adopt for audit purposes - Talbot motioned to approve; Hardy seconded. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2017 - 12

A resolution to adopt the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire

BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire was received from the Office of the Legislative Auditor, State of Louisiana, and was properly completed by the Clerk of the Town of Iowa and presented to the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Iowa in the same as hereby approved and adopted.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of said Compliance Questionnaire be filed in the records of the Town of Iowa and further, that a completed copy of the Resolution be forwarded to McElroy, Quirk, & Burch, the auditing firm engaged by the Town of Iowa to test the accuracy of the answers to questionnaire and submit to the Town of Iowa and the Legislative Auditor their opinion and validity of the answers therein contained.

This Resolution is declared adopted on this 11th day of September 2017.

2. Condemnation Hearing for 308, 310 Hwy. 90 West – two structures - property owner Mrs. Hebert contacted the Mayor's office. Mrs. Hebert is dealing with damages from Hurricane Harvey and asked to have this item placed the October agenda. Talbot motioned to extend to October 9, 2017 meeting; Hardy seconded. Motion carried.

3. Larry Hoss, owner of Iowa Dogwood Subdivision – not present

4. Monroe Thompson to discuss enlarging RV Park to W. Miller – James Geishler addressed Council representing Monroe Thompson on the expansion of the RV Park. The proposed is a three-acre site on W. Miller to the south. Plans include 29 pull through sites/60 ft. and 17 smaller sites. This will be duplicated like the existing park including low lighting and fencing. Fontenot asked how high existing fence is. The answer was 6 ft. Thompson will make fence height to whatever Council requires. Guidry asked if the fencing would surround the perimeter. Response is yes. Guidry asked if retention pond is necessary. Jessen says yes. Geisler says he spoke with DOTD about drainage. Jessen said DOTD determines the drainage. Fontenot inquired about the water metering. Currently it is one commercial

meter.

Public comments: Lapearous commented in favor, as it will allow more sales tax revenue
Thompson says the RV Park should generate sales of about \$15,000.

5. IVFD – Chief Lewis to present fire department report, recommendations – Chief Lewis presented the stats for fire department. Training total for July was eight hours. Currently going through the EMS course (12 confirmed students). Staff assisted with filling 200+ sandbags and transporting them to multiple citizens' homes and assisted with placing them around the residence, IFD team deployed to Texas to assist with water rescues. Total rescues were 155. Worked well as a joint team in making sure citizens were assisted. Mayor and Council thank the Fire Dept. for their efforts. Chief Lewis thanked the following agencies for IVFD: LeBleu FD, Jeff Davis Dist. 3 FD, Ward 2 FD, Louisiana National Guard, CPSO and Calcasieu Office of Emergency Preparedness.

6. David Brossett – discuss Town projects, park updates on projects, recommendations – Recommend \$24849.00 payment to Gunter Construction for park restroom project. Project is 90% completed. Talbot motioned to approve payment; Hardy seconded. Motion carried.

Public Comment: Lapearous – what is estimated cost. Response: project bid cost

- a. approval of architect contract for Town Hall upgrade – working on design phase. This is for formal authorization of approving architect – Talbot motioned to approve Mayor to sign the contract; Guidry seconded. Motion carried.

Public Comments: Lapearous inquired about bulletproof glass.

The Veteran Memorial and walkway projects begins advertising for bids starting tomorrow.

7. Engineer – updates, reports, recommendations on Town projects - Lat. 14 Channel improvement project has begun. Entered into contracts for sewer syphon and water line replacement. Contracts executed as approved by Council. Guidry stated the drainage from N. Lightner pipe is set up on the bottom. We need to address this issue before the lining is put in place. Jessen says the energy for drainage into the lateral is water to water. Guidry says he wanted Jessen's opinion on this matter. Residents are saying water backs up into their drain. When the lateral backs up or overflows this is going to happen. Fontenot asked how far this project is going. Jessen says he believes no further upstream than what it shows. It was suggested to contact the drainage board for this information.

Public comment: C. Caesar asked about Lateral 14. Drainage Board would answer this. Mayor states Town Meeting, Sept. 20th at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center.

Lapearous: asked about Town's contribution to drainage project: \$300,000 of a 1.3 million grant.

8. Discuss amended wording for Chp. 41-33 of Iowa Code to draft as Ord. 2017-11 – Mr. Bouquet presented to Council how it the wording should be drafted. He does not want what is already in code to be changed or removed. Actually anyone planting on right of way is going on property controlled by the Town and will be required to pay for removal or any expense to it. Mayor asked Bouquet to submit in Ordinance form and this will be placed on the October agenda for introduction.

Public comment: C. Caesar asked would this apply upon adoption for enforcement. Bouquet said he would look at this and address. Caesar asked about right-of-way recordation. Reply: most recorded at Clerk of Court.

9. Ordinance 2017-10 – Clerk's salary adjustment – Mayor read the ordinance.

- a. Public Hearing- regular meeting adjourned at 7:45p.m. to hold a public hearing. Mayor read the ordinance aloud.

Comments: Jerry Lapearous – asked if this was an adjustment

P. Hesse – stated he would like to see a 5% for all employees.

C. Caesar – asked about employee’s benefits – Bouquet addressed his question. Clerk does the statutory and Mayor’s recommendation is to increase for additional duties. Caesar asked for duties and would obtain a copy later.

b. Action/vote – regular meeting resumed at 7:55 p.m. Guidry motioned to approve ordinance; Hardy seconded. Motion carried with 3 yeas [Guidry, Hardy, Talbot] 1 abstain [Fontenot].

ORDINANCE 2017-10

An ordinance amending Chapter 2, Article III Administration, of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Iowa, Louisiana; providing for the fixing of the salary of Clerk.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and the Town Council of the Town of Iowa, Louisiana, that the salary of the Municipal Clerk be increased by \$1.00 per hour to a rate of \$22.00 per hour.

The effective date of this ordinance shall be September 1, 2017 and shall be effective immediately upon signing by the Mayor.

The above and foregoing addition to the Code of Ordinances, Town of Iowa, Louisiana, has been read and adopted and is only intended as an addition to said Ordinances and the remaining Ordinances and the past enacted Ordinances are still in full force and effect.

The foregoing ordinance was read and considered as a whole. A vote thereon was called for, with the following results:

YEAS: Guidry, Hardy, Talbot
NAYS: none
ABSTAIN: Fontenot
ABSENT: Marshall

WHEREUPON, the Ordinance was declared adopted on the 11th day of September, 2017.

10. Ordinance 2017-12 – amending FY16/17 – Mayor read the ordinance. Regular meeting adjourns at 7:57 p.m. to hold a public hearing.

a. Public Hearing- J. Lapearous asked why revenues changed on Enterprise Fund. Change was due to commercial metered water revenue has not yet begun. Hesse explained it was budgeted for commercial meter reading to be in place, which has not yet been implemented. Close to being ready.

b. Action/vote – regular meeting resumed. Talbot motioned to approve amended budget ordinance; Hardy seconded. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE 2017-12

**AN ORDINANCE
AMENDING THE FY 2016/17 BUDGET FOR THE
TOWN OF IOWA LOUISIANA**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Iowa, Louisiana that:

The following is an amended statement of the FY16/17 Budget

SECTION 1: The following is an amended statement of the probable receipts and disbursements of the Town of Iowa, Louisiana for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2016 and ending June 30th, 2017 and the same is hereby declared to be and is designated the adopted amended budget for the Town of Iowa, Louisiana for FY2016-17.

Amended Changes

General Fund

Changes:

Expenditures: changes from \$1,895,525.00 to \$1,998,951.00

Iowa Enterprise Fund [Iowa Water Works]

Changes:

Revenues: changes from \$1,183,750.00 to \$1,084,348.00

SECTION 2: This section shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

Said Ordinance having been introduced on August 14, 2017, the title having been read with public hearing set on September 11, 2017.

The above ordinance was adopted at a duly convened meeting on motion of Talbot and seconded by Hardy. Motion carried upon a vote taken as follows:

YEAS: Talbot, Hardy, Fontenot, Guidry

NAYS: none

ABSENT: Marshall

ABSTAIN: none

THUS ADOPTED AND APPROVED during regular session at Iowa, Louisiana on this 11th day of September 2017.

11. Adopt AUP Town of Iowa Basic Operating Policy & Procedures – this is part of the new auditing process and written policies were required to be written. Though this is a day-to-day operation, auditors felt it best for Council to approve. Talbot motioned to approve Basic Operating P & P; Hardy seconded. Motion carried.

12. Police Department – Updates, Reminder, Reports, Recommendations – Lt. Thomas presented the stats for the IPD for the previous month.

a. hosting PD annual Sports Camp Saturday, September 16th at IHS 8 a.m. to noon – reminds everyone to attend this free event. Hot dogs and chips.

b. transfer of Kathy Mallett from PT temporary Dispatcher to FT Dispatcher 8/24/17 – Talbot motioned to approve; Hardy seconded. Motion carried.

c. approval of transferring older police units #13, #14 to Richwood Police Department – 2010 Crown Vics. Richwood is in north Louisiana and a smaller P.D. Talbot motioned to approve; Hardy seconded. Motion carried.

Talbot recognized the IPD for their outstanding performance during the Hurricane Harvey situation.

There being no further business, Talbot motioned to adjourn at 8:05 p.m.; Hardy seconded. Motion seconded.

Sign checks: Fontenot

ATTEST:

Sandra Turley, CMC

Carol Ponthieux, Mayor