

Minutes
Regular Meeting
Town of Iowa
115 N. Thomson
January 14, 2019
Iowa, La
7:00 p.m.

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

Present: Paul Hesse, Mayor; Council Members: Julie Fontenot, Joe Becnel, Vernessa Guillory, Daniel Hennigan, Gerald Guidry [quorum present]

Invocation by Mayor Hesse; followed by Pledge.

Approval of Minutes

- a. December 10, 2018 Fontenot motioned to approve as written; Guidry seconded. Motion carried.
- b. December 19, 2018 Fontenot motioned to approve as written; Guidry seconded. Motion carried.

Agenda Items

- 1. Open bids for water meter project – Jessen states two bids received. Bids were opened and read aloud. Bid bonds were attached and license number provided.

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Base Bid Amount</u>
Asphalt & Assoc.	\$566,380.00
R. Cloud Construction	\$711,100.00

Bid Bonds attached and license number provided. Engineer will review bids. Fontenot motioned to take bids under advisement and not to make a decision at this time; Becnel seconded. Motion carried.

Public comments: C. Caesar

- 2. Mayor’s appointments for the four year term of January 1, 2019 thru December 31, 2022
 - a. Town Clerk – Cynthia Mallett - Fontenot motioned to accept recommendation of C. Mallett as Town Clerk; Hennigan seconded. Motion carried.
 - b. Town Attorney – Eugene Bouquet – Fontenot motioned to accept; Guillory seconded. Motion carried.
 - c. Town Magistrate – Lydia Lee – Fontenot motioned to accept; Guidry seconded. Motion carried.
 - d. Mayor Pro Tempore – Council discussed with Guidry motions to accept Julie Fontenot as Mayor Pro Tempore; Becnel seconded. Motion carried.
 - e. Alternate Mayor Pro Tempore – Fontenot motioned to appoint Joe Becnel as alternate; Hennigan seconded. Motion carried.
 - f. Town Engineer –Town agrees to keep agreement in place with Jessen & Associate - Fontenot motioned to continue with Walt Jessen as engineer; Guidry seconded. Motion carried.
- 3. Thaddeus Dugas – Request to move trailer into corporate limits – Fontenot said she spoke with him regarding his trailer. Dugas says rehabbed trailer is Wind Zone II and the other two were not but the trailer no longer has proof of being Wind Zone II rated. Fontenot asked him to contact the manufacturer to see if he could get some type of documentation certifying it as Wind Zone II. It is currently in his grandmother’s yard. Bouquet commented on length of time for response. This item deferred because Mr. Dugas is not present. Comments made as to adding a date for which permit is good. Place an expiration date on permits. Add to February agenda.

4. Fire Dept. – report/updates – Chief Lewis presented fire report.
5. Engineer – reports on current projects/updates, recommendations
 - a. recommend for payment PPEst#1 Proj. I-2018-151 street reconstruction to R.C. Paving, Inc. for \$94,686.16 and engineer’s Est.#1 to Jessen and Assoc. for \$6,312.41- this is primarily for Ash –Fontenot motioned to accept recommendation to pay both invoices; Becnel seconded. Motion carried. Walt explains about full patch on Ash Blvd. Additional cost of \$8,382 provided by R.C. Paving, Inc. Fontenot asked about patching. Jessen says a change order can be prepared if Council so desires to approve tonight. Guidry motioned to approve change order; Fontenot seconded. Motion carried. Guidry motioned to authorize Mayor to sign change order when prepared; Fontenot seconded. Motion carried.
 - b. recommend for payment I-2018-156 – Pipe bursting to Horseshoe Construction, Inc. PPEst.#1 for \$57,593.81 and engineer’s Est.#1 to Jessen & Assoc. for \$3,839.59 – primarily work on Second Street. Fontenot motioned to pay; Guillory seconded. Motion carried.

Jessen stated his office continues to work on bid docs for drainage project on Lightner and on the water plant maintenance. Hope to have bid packages by spring.

6. Discuss service improvement hours of operation- Mayor wants to increase operations time in order to allow additional time for customers. Looking at extending office hours from 7:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. and half a day on Fridays. Four ten hour days. Need to make sure it is practical and can be done. Also looking at sewer and water working Sunday to Sunday. Just looking at these changes and availability. This is just a preliminary of what is being considered and will need to establish funding availability. Metering is what Mayor feels will justify costs of operating hours. Fontenot asked about when implementing hours. Mayor has said front office would be immediately. Mayor’s goal is to provide as much information as possible.
7. Financial summary activity by Mayor Hesse – as Cindy moves over to Municipal Clerk Town is searching for accountant and more detailed financials is the goal. Mayor reviews what he foresees as potential income. Mayor says next month he will have a forecast of what the trend is regarding financial status. Mayor Hesse informed Council Fire Dept. had \$36,000 damage to fire truck but recovered majority back from insurance. Police department may have some additional expenses due to accidents. Stated he reviewing salaries and will go back and make adjustments in line with what employee is actually doing. Our expenses may be slightly above budget.
Public comments: C. Caesar
8. Discuss potential Grants - potential grant opportunities – Mayor wants to look for any opportunities for grants such as an \$8,000 Beautification grant. Looking at potential of starting summer youth programs in the park and upgrading tennis courts.
9. Police Department – recommendations, reports and updates – Chief Vincent presented report on police department. One officer involved in traffic accident and totaled one unit. Bought a used vehicle to supplement the replacement. Another unit was damaged from a suspect hitting it twice and we’re awaiting police report. Chief reviewed how department handles keeping units available. Going to piggyback on the CPSO’s contract.
 - a. transfer Ralph Picard from part-time to full time (effective 1/4/19) – Fontenot motions to accept; Guidry seconded. Motion carried.

Mayor Hesse recognized Sandra Turley for twenty-one years of service.

Council Comments:

Public Comments: Lorena Ceasar, Entergy Representative for Town of Iowa states she is here to be a service to the citizens.

Guidry motioned to adjourn at 8:09 p.m.; Fontenot seconded. Motion carried.

Financials provided.
Sign checks – Fontenot

ATTEST:

Sandra Turley, CMC

Paul Hesse, Mayor