

**Minutes
Public Meeting
Town of Iowa
115 N. Thomson
February 10, 2020
Iowa, La
7:00 p.m.**

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

Present: Mayor Paul Hesse; Council Members: Gerald Guidry, Julie Fontenot, Joe Becnel, and Vernessa Guillory; Town Clerk Cynthia Mallett; Chief of Police Keith Vincent; Fire Chief Lewis; Town Attorney Eugene Bouquet; and about 5 citizens. Absent: Council Member Daniel Hennigan;

Invocation by Council Member Joe Becnel; followed by Pledge.

Mayor Hesse announced a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

It was **moved by** Julie Fontenot, **seconded by** Vernessa Guillory to adopt the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

It was **moved by** Julie Fontenot, **seconded by** Vernessa Guillory, to approve January 13, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes as written not read. The motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Engineer Walt Jeseen gave report on updates of projects. He said the drainage project on N. Lightner Street just began and The Water Plant Manifold Project Pre-Construction meeting will be held tomorrow.

Guest Mark Herbert, representative of Calcasieu Parish Census 2020, came before the Council to explain the importance of 2020 Census.

Mayor Hesse read the following Resolution. It was **moved by** Joe Becnel, **seconded by** Julie Fontenot to approve Resolution 2020-01, A resolution in support of the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury Complete Count Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION 2020-01

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the United States of America requires that a census be taken every 10 years, with the first census having taken place in 1790, and the next census to take place in 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Iowa is committed to ensuring that every resident is counted; and

WHEREAS, federal and state funding is allocated to communities and decisions are made on matters of national and local importance based, in part, on census data; and

WHEREAS, census data helps determine how many seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives and is necessary for the accurate and fair redistricting of state legislative seats, local seats, and voting districts; and

WHEREAS, information from the 2020 Census and American Community Survey are vital tools for economic development and increased employment; and

WHEREAS, the information collected by the census is confidential and protected by law; and

WHEREAS, Kevin White, President of the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury, has appointed a Complete Count Committee and has designated a Chairperson and Liaison to work with the community and the U.S. Census Bureau to ensure a complete and accurate count of all persons within Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Iowa is a municipality within the Parish of Calcasieu and hereby declare support of the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury Complete Count Committee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF TOWN OF IOWA, LOUISIANA, convened in Regular Session on the 10th day of February, 2020, that it does hereby support the goals and ideals of the 2020 Census, pledges support of the U.S. Census Bureau's efforts to disseminate 2020 Census information, and encourage all people in Calcasieu Parish to participate in events and initiatives that will raise awareness of the 2020 Census and increase participation among populations.

THUS PASSED AND ADOPTED on the date above inscribed.

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Paul Hesse, Mayor

ATTEST:

Cynthia Mallett, MMC

Discussion was had for a request by Mr. Glen Mayeaux, Project Manager for Conterra Networks for a Right of Entry agreement between the Town of Iowa and Conterra Networks for the purpose of a fiber optic line to benefit FulAir, an internet provider. There was discussion of internet provider, FulAir and providing space on the water tower for a monthly fee, before granting approval of Right of Entry to Conterra Networks.

Mayor Hesse requested the council to consider contracting a company to provide basic maintenance instead of hiring or using employees. Bids were provided with an estimated cost of an employee. It was **moved by Julie Fontenot seconded by Vernessa Guillory** to accept proposal with Landscape Management services, Inc. for basic maintenance for Town Hall/Park Complex and authorize the Mayor to execute agreement contingent upon Mr. Bouquet, Town Attorney, review and approval of agreement. Motion passed unanimously.

James Hardy, Water/Sewer Superintendent, reported updates and January activity.

Clayton Aymond, Street Superintendent, reported updates and January activity.

Fire Chief Lewis came forward and reported Fire Department January activity.

Chief of Police Keith Vincent came forward and reported Police Department January activity.

Mayor Hesse gave the financial report.

Open for Mayor and Council comments-Mayor Hesse announced that a Greet and Meet with elected State representatives on February 20, 2010 at the Community Center.

It was **moved by** Julie Fontenot, **seconded by** Gerald Guidry to adjourn meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 8:07 pm.

ATTEST:

Paul Hesse, Mayor

Cynthia Mallett, MMC