

Minutes
Regular Meeting
Town of Iowa
115 N. Thomson
May 13, 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: Vernessa Guillory, Gerald Guidry, Daniel Hennegan, Joe Becnel, and Julie Fontenot [quorum present]; Chief of Police H. Keith Vincent; Fire Chief Lewis; Town Attorney Eugene Bouquet; Town Clerk Cynthia Mallett

Invocation by Council Member Joe Becnel; followed by Pledge.

Mayor Hesse called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

It was **moved by**, Julie Fontenot **seconded by**, Daniel Hennegan to adopt agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

It was **moved by** Joe Becnel, **seconded by** Daniel Hennegan, to approve March 8, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes as written not read. The motion passed unanimously.

Guest, Troy Romero, Candidate for District 37, State Representative came before the Mayor and Council, introduced himself and gave a brief history of his background in business, experience in government, and his volunteer efforts in the community. He humbly asked for the support of the people. He thanked them for their time.

Guest, Wendy Augillard, CLA, Calcasieu Parish Tax Assessor came before the Mayor and Council to speak about tax millages and the roll forward process. She explained that the Town of Iowa will be looking at the roll forward process this year. She offered, on behalf of her office, that they will be there to help with information needed to make the decision to roll forward or not. Wendy explained the roll forward process and why the roll forward process is used. Ms. Augillard answered questions asked by Mayor Hesse and Council Member Julie Fontenot. Mayor thanked Ms. Augillard for coming.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mayor read the first item under old business, Discuss approval of Mobile Home Permit, Fontenot Rentals, Inc., Luke Fontenot, and Ethan Fontenot. Council Member Julie Fontenot explained that they are still authoring an ordinance with stipulations for mobile homes being moved into the Town of Iowa. Mr. Bouquet explained how it would affect Fontenot Rentals, Inc. as far as the grandfather clause. Mayor Hesse requested, from Donna Fontenot, representing Fontenot Rentals, Inc., some verification on the driveways and footages within the Mobile Home Park. Mayor Hesse asked them, if the Council would approve issuing the permit, would they agree to the regulations in the proposed ordinance. Discussion was made about the proposed regulations that may be in the ordinance. Citizen, Mr. Landry came before the Board and gave his opinion with a complaint about a mobile home next to him because of the grass cutting. It was **moved by** Daniel Hennegan, **seconded by** Julie Fontenot to approve issuing a permit for mobile home park with two requirements, fence in three sides of the park and drive ways must be paved or rocked. This shall be stated on the permit being issued. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Hesse reported the damage to the walking path can't be determined who did the damage, if it was town crew or if was a contractor. Gunter Construction offered a quote for this repair in the amount of \$14,300.00 Council Member Julie Fontenot said to set a time line Gunter Construction would complete the project with repercussions if not completed. Mayor requested the proposal be approved. It was **moved by** Julie Fontenot, **seconded by** Joe Becnel to approve the proposal from Gunter Construction to repair the walking path contingent on the timeline. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

It was **moved by** Joe Becnel , **seconded by** Julie Fontenot to approve Resolution granting the Authority to the Mayor to sign and submit all necessary documents, appoint an administrative consultant and engineer and to commit costs for the FY 2020-2021 Louisiana Community Development Block Grant Program. The motion passed unanimously.

The following resolution was offered by Joe Becnel , seconded by Julie Fontenot and unanimously carried:

RESOLUTION

**A RESOLUTION GRANTING THE AUTHORITY
TO THE MAYOR TO SIGN AND
SUBMIT ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS,
APPOINT AN ADMINISTRATIVE CONSULTANT AND ENGINEER
AND TO COMMIT COSTS
FOR THE FY 2020-2021 LOUISIANA
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the Town of Iowa deems it necessary and proper to submit an application for funding under the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Louisiana Community Development Block Grant for a sewer system improvements project; and

WHEREAS, professional engineering services are necessary in connection with the preparation of the application and the engineering design and inspection, should the project be funded; and

WHEREAS, professional grants consulting and administrative consulting services are necessary to assist in the preparation of the application and the partial administration of the grant, should the project be funded; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the base rating factors and points, up to four (4) bonus points will be assigned to those applicants which commit other funds to pay the cost of the application preparation and should the project be funded, all of the associated administrative costs and commits to pay the engineering fees associated with the implementation of this project should the project be funded.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of Town of Iowa that Mayor Paul Hesse is hereby authorized to sign and submit an application for funding and all the necessary documents in connection with the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Louisiana Community Development Block Grant Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Mayor Paul Hesse is hereby authorized to negotiate and sign a contract with D. W. Jessen & Associates, LLC to assist with the application preparation and if the application is funded, provide the professional engineering

services required and the Town hereby commits to pay all the engineering fees associated with the implementation of the LCDBG program should the project be funded to receive two (2) bonus points in the rating of the application.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Mayor Paul Hesse is hereby authorized to negotiate and sign a contract with Minvielle and Associates, Inc. to prepare the application for funding and if the application is funded, provide the professional grant administrative services required and the Town hereby commits to pay all the costs associated with the preparation of the application and all of the grant administrative consulting fees associated with the implementation of the LCDBG program should the project be funded to receive two (2) more bonus points in the rating of this application.

THEREUPON, the above resolution was duly adopted.

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Cynthia Mallett, MMC, Clerk of the Town of Iowa, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted by the Town Council, on May 13, 2019, at which meeting a quorum was present.

CYNTHIA MALLET, MMC
CLERK
TOWN OF IOWA

It was **moved by** Julie Fontenot, **seconded by** Joe Becnel to enter into Contract, By and Between, The Division of Administration and The Town of Iowa, and authorize the Mayor to execute any and all documents pertaining to CWEF File #1819- CWEF-CLE-0201. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Hesse read item three (3), Introduction of Ordinance 2019-03, An Ordinance Adopting Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2020. It was **moved by** Julie Fontenot, **seconded by** Joe Becnel to pass this item until special meeting set for May 20, 2019 at 6:00 pm. The motion carried unanimously.

It was **moved by** Julie Fontenot, **seconded by** Vernessa Guillory to introduce Ordinance 2019-04, An Ordinance Amending Section 47-7 to establish posted speed limit. The motion carried unanimously.

Chief Lewis presented reports and updates on the Iowa Volunteer Fire Department for the month of April.

Mr. Walt Jessen, Engineer, was present to give report of future projects for the Town of Iowa. Upon his recommendations; It was **moved by** Julie Fontenot, **seconded by** Daniel Hennegan to advertise for bids for the drainage project on N. Lightner Street. This is in conjunction with the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury drainage grant. The motion carried unanimously. It was **moved by** Julie Fontenot, **seconded by** Vernessa Guillory to advertise for bids for water manifold project. This project is in conjunction with the CWEF grant. The motion carried unanimously.

Chief of Police Vincent came forward and presented April's report of activities.

Mayor Hesse presented a quote from Stewart Signs to replace the Digital, LED sign for City Hall. Town Attorney, Mr. Bouquet reported that there was no installment quote and it would be beneficial to the town to have the company install the sign. It was **moved by** Julie Fontenot, **seconded by** Vernessa Guillory to table decision until next meeting with a quote to purchase and install the sign. The motion carried unanimously.

There were three proclamations the Mayor read and signed:

Emergency Medical Services Week May 19-25, 2019

National Peace Officers Memorial Day and National Police Week

Jackie R. Tims Day, Served the Volunteer Fire Department and the Town of Iowa for over 34 years

Discussion was made with comments from two citizens and an opinion from Town Attorney, Eugene Bouquet with regards to the Town of Iowa, assisting the Fire District in paying their full-time firefighters. No decision was made. More information will be gathered.

Mayor Hesse presented a report with the April financials and the forecast for remainder of current fiscal year. He stated that expenditures for General Fund should be amended.

It was **moved by** Julie Fontenot, **seconded by** Vernessa Guillory to introduce Ordinance 2019-05, An Ordinance amending Ordinance 2018-05, An Ordinance Adopting an Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2018 and Ending June 30, 2019. The motion carried unanimously.

Open for Mayor and Council- Mayor asked if there were any comments from citizens.

- a. Mayor announced that McElroy, Quirk, and Burch performed an asset verification for the Town of Iowa and the financial reports may be changed because of the retirement of some of the old assets.
- b. Mr. Landry came forward and asked for a report on the railroad issue. Mayor Hesse reported that we have found a phone number for a contact with Union Pacific and we will follow up with them to make the repairs.
- c. A citizen came forward and asked about the upcoming drainage projects because of the past rains and flooding. Mr. Clayton Aymond, Maintenance Supervisor, announced that on June 1, 2019 a contractor will be digging ditches at certain areas in town. Mayor announced that culvert cleaning will begin at the same time as the digging.

With no further business to come before the council, it was **moved by** Julie Fontenot, **seconded by** Vernessa Guillory to adjourn meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:03 pm.

ATTEST:

Paul Hesse, Mayor

Cynthia Mallett, MMC

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Iowa, State of Louisiana, acting as the governing authority of the Town of Iowa, State of Louisiana, will meet on June 10, 2019 at seven (7:00) o'clock p.m., at its regular meeting place, Iowa City Hall Meeting Room, 115 N. Thomson Avenue, Iowa, Louisiana at which time there will be a public hearing on the adoption of the below introduced ordinances:

Ordinance 2019-04

An Ordinance Amending Section 47-7 to establish posted speed limit

AND

Ordinance 2019-05

An Ordinance amending Ordinance 2018-05, An Ordinance Adopting an Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2018 and Ending June 30, 2019

All interested citizens will have the opportunity to give written or oral comments. Handicapped persons needing assistance or aid should contact City Hall, 337-582-3535 before the meeting. Published in Lake Charles American Press.