

Minutes
Regular Meeting
Town of Iowa
115 N. Thomson
January 11, 2016
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: Mayor Carol Ponthieux, Council Members: Julie Fontenot, Larry Hardy, Errol Marshall; Thomas Talbot, Gerald Guidry (quorum present)

Invocation: Mayor Ponthieux; followed by Pledge.

Approval of Minutes: Talbot motioned to approve minutes of December 14, 2015 as written; Hardy seconded. Motion carried.

Agenda Items

1. Open bids – obsolete equipment – open bids - the town received one bid for each item: B&L Truck and Auto for the 2003 Ford 250 [vin#0154] in the amount of \$5,531.11 and Tierra Garrett for Lot 1 of miscellaneous items in the amount of \$30. Guidry motioned to accept both bids as the lowest received; Hardy seconded. Motion carried.
2. FY14-15 Audit presented by MQB - Caitlin Guillory of MQB presented the FY 14-15 audit. Financial statements referred to present fairly, in all material aspects in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted. She indicated General Fund did well and overall the other funds were positive. Increase in sales tax due to economic growth. Fire Protection District had an additional increase of \$50,000 for fire substation. Enterprise fund showed a loss due to repairs and wages. prior to On page 58 Note 12, she stated will explain balances between 2014 and 2015 as had to restate fund balance due to new pension fund liability and deferred outflows due to implementation of GASB 68. Ms. Guillory the reviewed the findings for this audit. Finding 3 stated financial reporting not done timely but this was due to health issues. Town now has a new accountant and all of this is now resolved. Misappropriation of utility deposits [\$2700] not deposited into bank account. Town followed the appropriate protocol for handling this situation including contacting legislative auditor and requesting law enforcement investigation. Town has implemented new controls over utility deposits and bank deposits. Town has addressed all findings with appropriate action and changes. Marshall asked for brief explanation of Note 12 language. Ms. Guillory explained with GASB 68 you must get the liability on your books but it is not actually an expense so needed to state the net position.

Public comments: Only two citizens commented: Calvin Caesar and Jerry Lapearous. Caesar's question about loss in enterprise was due to revenue was basically flat and there were maintenance expenses. Lapearous stated he was not well liked and then gave his opinion of audit and says he will go back to legislative auditor.

Mayor thanked Ms. Guillory. Audit reports can be found at: www.la.gov/reports_data

3. Fire Chief Sandy Miller – report/updates – Chief Miller presented the department stats for the month. For 2015 responded to more calls than previous year. Averaging about 35 hours per month for training. Mayor says we have some really good volunteers and doing an excellent job.
4. Engineer – reports on current projects/updates, recommendations - Kinney St. drainage still waiting on Cable Company to clear. John Dale Lift station the pumps are online. Have some minor tweaking to do. Change order for the flow meters is a bit over \$38,000 and we’re still looking to add surge protection cost. Need to submit change order to state for approval. Mayor request the estimated total be submitted and presented to Council at the next meeting. A walk-through with Garden Terrace sewer line relocation has been done and not the point to recommend for acceptance. Mr. Jessen stated he had been contacted by the owner regarding expanding the RV Park [Cypress Bend]. Jessen informed owner as to what information the Town needs. Engineer wants to see a site plan, where he is placing sewer, water, drainage, location of driveways, buffer fencing. Town needs to update our development ordinances. Cypress Bend needs to submit all this information. Guidry wants to know about stationary rentals. Guidry is concerned about buffer zones on all sides. Engineer is currently working on development of sidewalks along the school [W. Miller]. Working on getting a servitude with the school. Also looking at Third street sidewalk to avoid having students walk in the streets. Jessen asked to look at the design and what it would take. .
 - a. Garden Terrace – Ord. 2016-01 – introduction title read to admit to sewer district. Public hearing and action on this ordinance will be at Town Hall 115 N. Thomson at 7 p.m. February 8, 2016

ORDINANCE 2016-01
An ordinance amending Section 50-62 of the
Code of Ordinances, Town of Iowa, requested by
Philmar, Inc. to be admitted to Sewer District No. 1
Garden Terrace Subdivision Phase Three

5. Ordinance 2015- 03 - renewing of sales tax I – Mayor adjourned the regular meeting at 7:51 p.m. for the purpose of holding a public hearing on this ordinance.
 - a. Public Hearing – One comment from Calvin Caesar asked if nothing changed. Sales Tax will be used for stated purpose. There being no further comment public hearing closed at 7:54 p.m.
 - b. Action/vote - Hardy motioned to approve Ord. 2015-03; Marshall seconded. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE 2015- 03
AN ORDINANCE renewing and levying a tax [Sales Tax I] for the purposes set forth in
Resolution No. 2015-07, ordering and authorizing the renewal, levy
and collection of a 10-year 1% sales and use tax to be
dedicated for (1) capital and other improvements to the
water works of the Town; (2) to keep in repair the streets
and to accomplish capital and further improvements to the
park system of the Town

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

Louisiana, in regular meeting, December 14, 2015 at 7:00 o'clock p.m.:

Section 1. There is hereby levied beginning with and after September 1, 2016, for a period of ten (10) years from the date said tax is first due and collectible, a tax of one percent (1%) upon the sale, at retail, the use, the lease or rental, the consumption and the storage for use or consumption of tangible personal property, and upon the sale of services as defined in L.A. R.S. 47:301 to 47:317, inclusive, for the purposes set forth in Resolution 2015-07, in accordance with, and under the terms, conditions, procedures, definitions, penalties, interest, charges, rules, and

regulations of, and to be collected in the same manner as the tax set forth in Ordinance No. 70, adopted by the Town of Iowa in 1966.

The following Council Members voted:

YEA: Hardy, Marshall, Fontenot, Talbot, Guidry

NAY: none

ABSENT: none

ABSTAIN: none

Whereupon, the above Ordinance was duly adopted on 11th of January 2016.

6. Ordinance 2015-04 – renewing of sale tax II - Mayor adjourned regular meeting for the purpose of public hearing on this ordinance at 7:55 p.m.
 - a. Public Hearing – Caesar asked if the renewal remains same. Sales tax purposes remain the same.
 - b. Action/vote - Talbot motioned to approve Ord. 2015-04; Hardy seconded. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE 2015-04

AN ORDINANCE renewing/authorizing to levy and collect a ten year 1% sale and use tax [Sales Tax II] to be dedicated and used for the following purposes: (1) maintenance and construction of streets, sidewalks street lighting; (2) maintenance and construction of sewerage treatment facilities, systems, pumps and sewer lines; and (3) general administrative and general fund needs as set forth in Resolution No. 2015-07.

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

Louisiana, in regular meeting, December 14, 2015 at 7:00 o'clock p.m.;

Section 1. There is hereby levied beginning with and after July 1, 2017, for a period of ten (10) years from the date said tax is first due and collectible, a tax on one percent (1%) upon the sale, at retail, the use, the lease or rental, the consumption and the storage for use or consumption of tangible personal property, and upon the sale of services as defined in L.A.R.S. 47:301 to 47:317, inclusive, for the purposes set forth in Resolution No. 2015-07, in accordance with, and under the terms, conditions, procedures, definition, penalties, interest, charges, rules and regulations of, and to be collected in the same manner as the tax set forth in Ordinance No. 70, adopted by the governing body of the Town of Iowa, in 1966 and all subsequent amendments thereto.

The following Council Members voted:

Yea: Talbot, Hardy, Fontenot, Marshall, Guidry

Nay: none

Absent: none

Abstain: none

Whereupon, the above Ordinance was duly adopted on 11th of January, 2016.

7. Police Department – recommendations, reports and updates – Chief Vincent presented his department stats. He expressed thanks on behalf of the Vincent family for dedication ceremony for the playground equipment in his brother’s memory.
 - a. Ordinance 15-05 – ordinance amending police department budget – mayor adjourned the regular meeting in order to conduct a public hearing on this ordinance to adjust police department budget at 7:58 p.m.
 - (1) Public Hearing – Caesar asked what the increase is? Increase through fine revenue and the carry overs included in this amended budget figure. There being no further comment regular meeting resumed.
 - (2) Action/vote – regular meeting resumed at 8:01 p.m. - Talbot motioned to approve/accept Ord. 2015-05; Hardy seconded. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE 2015-05

**AN ORDINANCE
AMENDING THE FY 2015-16 GENERAL FUND POLICE DEPARTMENT BUDGET
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 FY15-16 General Fund Police Department Budget

SECTION 1: The following is an amended statement of the probable receipts and disbursements of the Police Department Town of Iowa, Louisiana for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2015 and ending June 30th, 2016 and the same is hereby declared to be and is designated the adopted amended budget for the Town of Iowa Police Department, Louisiana for FY2015-16.

Amended Changes

General Fund Police Department

Revenues: IPD changes from \$ 507,394.00 to \$854,250.00

Expenditures: Police Dept. Expenditures changes from \$1,002,602.00 to \$ 1,210,219.00

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

Said Ordinance having been introduced on December 14, 2015, the title having been read with public hearing set on January 11, 2016 and appropriate public advertisement completed.

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

YEAS: Talbot, Hardy, Fontenot, Marshall, Guidry

NAYS: none

ABSENT: none

ABSTAIN: none

THUS ADOPTED AND APPROVED during regular session at Iowa, Louisiana on this 11th day of January 2016.

B. Ordinance 15-06 – ordinance adjusting Police Chief Salary – Mayor adjourned regular meeting for the purpose of a public hearing on this ordinance at 8:03 p.m.

(1) Public Hearing – Caesar stated he is in favor of this. No further comments regular meeting resumed at 8:04 p.m.

(2) Action/vote – Talbot motioned to approve Ord. 2015-06; Marshall seconded. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE 2015 - 06

**An ordinance amending Chapter 2, Administration, of the Code of Ordinances
of the Town of Iowa, Louisiana; Providing for the fixing of the salary of Chief of Police.**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and the Town Council of the Town of Iowa, Louisiana, that Section 2-8 of the Code of Ordinances, Town of Iowa, is hereby added to read as follows:

Sec. 2-8 Compensation of Chief of Police

Effective pay period ending January 14, 2016, the compensation due the Town of Iowa Chief of Police shall change from \$47,055 to a yearly salary of \$55,055.

The above and foregoing 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”: Talbot, Marshall, Fontenot, Hardy, Guidry

“NAYS”: none

ABSTAIN: none

ABSENT: none

WHEREUPON, The Ordinance was declared and adopted on the 11th, day of January 2016.

c. CEA with CPPJ – grant – authorize Mayor to sign for the grant for digital surveillance equipment. Hardy motioned to authorize Mayor to sign; Guidry seconded. Motion carried.

8. CEA – between Town and OEP validating Mayor’s authorization to sign for two small grants - police asked for body cameras not to exceed \$2700 and public works requested barricades not to exceed \$3200. These two grants were awarded. The Council was polled on this in December to allow Mayor to sign by deadline. To be on the record, Hardy motioned that authorization was granted to Mayor to sign; Fontenot seconded. Motion carried.

Caesar commented by asking to know if this gives cameras to everyone.

9. Review of parish ordinance for consideration of adoption dealing with animal control – some of the Council wanted to go line by line. Discussion arrived at the conclusion to hold a meeting later this month to review this item. Marshall requested a copy of the animal control agreement.

Public comment from Lapearous asking about traps for cats. Calvin Caesar stated the parish ordinances are very good.

Sign checks – Julie Fontenot

Round Table

Dist. A – No comment

Dist. B – asked about utility disconnect notices. .

Dist. C – look at the trees on Bowers around the power lines and between Third and Second.

Dist. D – no comment

Dist. E – no comment

There being no further business Marshall motioned to adjourn the meeting; Hardy seconded. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

Sandra Turley, CMC

Carol Ponthieux, Mayor