

**Minutes
Regular Meeting
Town of Iowa
115 N. Thomson
January 8, 2018
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) Absent: none

Invocation: Mayor Ponthieux; followed by Pledge.

Approval of Minutes

Talbot motioned to approve minutes of December 11, 2017 as written; Hardy seconded. Motion carried.
Talbot motioned to approve minutes of December 18, 2017 special meeting as written; Guidry seconded. Motion carried.

Agenda Items

1. Opening bids for Town Hall improvements [upgrades] – Mr. Brossett opened received bids

| <u>Bidder</u> | <u>Base Bid Amount</u> | <u>Alt. 1 bid amount</u> |
|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| E.L. Habetz Bldrs. LLC | \$144,000 | \$114,000 |
| Gunter Construction | 84,000 | 51,000 |
| Sam Istre Construction | 65,600 | 108,600 |

Bids opened and read aloud. Bids to be reviewed and are taken under advisement. Mayor inquired if lowest bid would be the lowest combination of base and Alt. 1 provided both be approved. This will be on the February meeting.

2. David Brossett – reports, recommendations and update on status of Town project(s) [Walking Path/Veterans Memorial]- construction is beginning on the Walking Path and Veterans Memorial. Public Comment: J. Lapearous
Councilmember Fontenot asked about querying local businesses to help purchase park benches. Brossett indicated yes and a plaque placed on any such bench.
3. Condemnation 506 First St. /Darrel C. Bourque of Scott, LA – Town has attempted to make contact with this property owner. Thus far no response from property owner. Mayor asked if Council wants to just clean the lot and invoice property owner and if failure to pay for cleanup then a property lien be filed. Bouquet states if a grass letter has been sent within the last few months send another courtesy letter stating property will be cleaned stating when the work will be done. Bouquet wants a recent letter sent and if property owner does not respond, then proceed with getting lot cleaned and lien filed. Marshall said it was brought to his attention more about the property area rather than the home.
4. Fire Department report – Chief Lewis – Chief Lewis presented stats for the IFD. – Dec. report presented. Total runs for 2017 were 165. Since starting medical runs, we have had ten calls.

Changes coming this year and he looks forward to a new year. Chief is asking all to encourage people to volunteer as a volunteer fire fighter. Word of mouth will help our numbers. Marshall asked about false alarms. Chief Lewis stated habitual alarms have been resolved.

5. Memorandum of Understanding between Drainage Board/Town of Iowa regarding Lat. 14B current upgrade – this is written agreement [Cooperative Endeavor Agreement] stating the Town’s commitment of \$300,000 to the current project. Talbot motioned to accept CEA and authorize Mayor to sign; Hardy seconded. Motion carried.
6. Engineer’s Report – recommendations, updates, reminders - last meeting received bids for pipe bursting. Lowest bidder, PM Construction, was approved by CDBG. State agency now authorizes Town to enter into contract. Jessen hopes to have preconstruction conference by middle of the month.
Public comment: J. Lapearous
7. Police Dept. – recommendations, reports and updates – Chief Vincent presented the stats for the IPD.
 - a. updates – five new additions to the Reserves
Promoted Kathy Mallett (full time dispatcher) to Reserve Officer -
Promoted Dwayne Daigle (chaplain) to Reserve Officer
Daniel Hennigan, Michael Benoit, Keelan Poullard as Reserve OfficersTalbot motioned to approve all recommendations to Reserve Officer; Fontenot seconded. Motion carried.

Sign checks – Julie Fontenot

There being no further business, Talbot motioned to adjourn at 7:30 p.m.; Hardy seconded. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

Sandra Turley, CMC

Carol Ponthieux, Mayor