

Minutes  
Town of Iowa  
Regular Meeting  
115 N. Thomson  
July 11, 2016  
7:00 p.m.

Mayor and 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 given by Mayor Ponthieux; followed by Pledge.

Approval of Minutes: June 13, 2016 Guidry motioned to approve minutes of June 13, 2016 as written; Hardy seconded. Motion carried.

**Agenda Items**

1. Liquor license approval – Spring Fresh Market - Corey Baker, Manager, of Spring Fresh Market is asking for approval of liquor permit. Hardy motioned to approve based on receiving approval from State; Guidry seconded. Motion carried. September 5<sup>th</sup> is projected opening date but depends on parking lot repair completion. Fontenot inquired if store would be enlarged. Baker responded not at this time. Operation Managers are filled but still seeking about 12-13 part time employees. Store will be open seven days a week. Hours 7a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

2. Engagement letter for FY15-16 - Talbot motioned to authorize Mayor to enter into agreement with MQB; Marshall seconded. Motion carried.

3. IVFD – Chief Miller – reports, updates – Chief Miller presented department status stating a total of 12 hours of training and total of 4 calls. Community involvement consisted of a reading at Iowa Library about Fire Safety and did a presentation at Faith Ministries. These presentations make us eligible for additional PIAL points. There will be a driver training class at the Mall this weekend conducted by LSU.

4. Engineer – updates, reports, recommendations – Engineer Walt Jessen made his presentations.  
a. recommendation of acceptance & award to low bid for W. Miller sidewalk project. Bids were received and opened on June 27, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. Present were Engineer's office, Clerk, Accountant and bidders. Lowest bid amount was \$70,849 by Asphalt & Assoc. Jessen recommends Council to accept lowest bidder. Hardy motioned to approve and accept Asphalt & Assoc. as low bidder; Marshall seconded. Motion carried. Mayor asked if they could try to be completed by the start of school.

b. Ashridge Phase 4, 5 - not present. No action  
CPPJ Trust Fund grant has been submitted. Pipe bursting project bids are to be opened Monday, July 18<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. at Town Hall. So far 3 contractors have picked up bid pkg. Nitrification cleaning requested proposals will be received and reviewed/opened July 22<sup>nd</sup> 3:00 p.m. at engineer's office.

5. **Adopt Millage Rate for 2016 – Resolution 2016-11** – Mayor reviewed the details of the millage rate for this year based on reassessment. Hardy motioned to approve resolution and adopt millage for 2016; Talbot seconded. Motion carried.

Public comments: Jerry Lapearous and Calvin Caesar both commented. Caesar inquired why the Town didn't go with higher millage rate. Lapearous inquired as to reassessment values.



committee produced this drawing concept. But again it leaves us with how to fund it. Mayor says we can try to piecemeal. Mayor said we move and use what funds we have available. Marshall stated in the Town's defense people are comparing us to Sulphur and larger entities and Iowa has a much smaller tax base. Mayor asked Council what they want her to do. Talbot said let's discuss how we can work together and maybe fund this with grants. Open the channels of communication back up. Talbot said some of the conceptual plan was done to include the Rabbit Festival which is no longer held in the park.

Public comment: Lapearous asked architect last month about cost of bathroom. Caesar says the Council should meet and asked when the plan was done. Was stated Ernie Broussard drew the plan.

7. Discuss garbage contracting – Mayor says Progressive contract ends in November as we are at the end of the five year extension. Talbot is in favor of the RFP process. It was proposed to see if a garbage company could be in charge of the billing and be allowed to travel the streets of Iowa to pick up garbage. His concern is about rental property in which trash is put out and no fee collected from these rental property owners. Hardy agreed about RFP. Hesse suggested to Council to RFP but if Parish cost is less then piggyback on the parish contract. Putting a caveat in that we will not count houses. Marshall suggested charging/billing the person who owns the property. Says we've got to do better with dealing with rental properties. Hesse indicated garbage needs to break even.

Comments: Lapearous said you should have bid out years ago. Best look long and hard at how you paid for this service. Caesar: no secret about rental property owners are riding on the rest of our backs. Wants to know how paid and better not be using dedicated funds to pay this. Now that you are aware what is your intent.

Fontenot wants to know what would happen if the garbage company bills and doesn't pick up because it's not been paid. Who would be responsible to pick up that garbage? Mayor says property owner will be held responsible and that the property owner is going to be billed. Hardy asked if we can bill property owners of rental property. Marshall says nothing in contract dictates how we charge our customers. Will take communication between the Town and garbage contractor regarding picking up cans when no one is living there. Go by utility customer base as to what is billed. Put in the RFP stipulations mentioned here tonight. Talbot motioned for Town to go out for RFP; Hardy seconded. Motion carried.

8. Police Department – Updates, Reminder, Reports – Chief Vincent presented the stats for his department.

a. Promotions: Daniel Gaspard to FT patrol; Colleen Stinger to FT patrol; Johnson to Sergeant - Talbot motioned to approve these promotion recommendations; Marshall seconded. Motion carried.

b. Resolution 2016 - 12 lease vehicle Bond Commission / 2017 Ford Interceptor SUV – Talbot motioned to approve the resolution; Hardy seconded. Motion carried.

Public comment: Lapearous asked how many vehicles? Chief said about 15. How many personnel? Chief responded about 20 including all.

#### **RESOLUTION 2016-12**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF IOWA, LOUISIANA (“TOWN”) TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO OBTAIN APPROVAL FROM THE LOUISIANA STATE BOND COMMISSION ON AN EXPEDITED BASIS TO APPROVE A LEASE-PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR THE ACQUISITION OF ONE POLICE UNITS/VEHICLES FROM FORD MOTOR THROUGH FORD MOTOR MUNICIPAL CREDIT AND TO PERFORM ALL ADDITIONAL AND NECESSARY ACTS TO PERFECT A LEASE-PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR ACQUISITION OF THE EQUIPMENT**

WHEREAS, the Town of Iowa (“Town”), under the authority of Article VII, Section 14 (c) of the State of Louisiana, desires to enter into a Lease Purchase-Agreement (“Agreement”) with Ford Motor Credit Company, based on the terms and conditions recited in the agreement attached hereto for the lease-purchase of movable property, to wit: One (1) 2017 Ford Police Interceptor Utility and to acquire said property from a vendor, Bill Hood Ford Hammond, Louisiana consistent with the terms described in

the lease, attached hereto, and **not to exceed \$26,275.00** and **not to exceed 6.50%** annual percentage rate, and not to exceed 48 months.; and

WHEREAS, the Town desires to authorize the Mayor to act on behalf of the Town in performing all necessary acts and in executing the necessary Agreements to facilitate the described lease-purchase; and

WHEREAS, the Town desires to obtain expedited approval from the Louisiana State Bond Commission, in accordance with Title 71, Section 1101 et seq. of the Louisiana Administrative Code; and

WHEREAS, in satisfaction of the requirements of Title 71, Section 1101 et seq., the Town submits the foregoing Resolution, a copy of its current budget, a certificate of compliance, along with copies of the pertinent agreements evidencing the lease purchase of the movable that is the subject of the proposed transaction.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Town of Iowa hereby authorizes the Mayor of the Town of Iowa, acting in the name and under the authority of the Town, to perform such acts and to execute such agreements to the full extent necessary to affect the lease-purchase of the described equipment from Bill Hood Ford Hammond, LA. through Ford Motor Credit.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor is authorized to obtain expedited approval of the lease-purchase of (1) 2016 Ford Police Interceptor Utility from the Louisiana State Bond Commission.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Town makes the following declarations, in satisfaction of the requirements of Title 71, Section 1101 et seq. of the Louisiana Administrative Code:

The one (1) new 2017 Ford Police Interceptor Utility that the Town proposes to acquire, will be acquired using the funding and financing to be approved by the Bond Commission, to provide essential governmental services related to law enforcement [public safety] and emergency response. The Town has excess or sufficient revenues to cover annual debt service in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 33:2922. The total amount of the annual indebtedness is \$26,275.69 which does not exceed the greater of \$100,000 or 10 percent of the Town of Iowa's annual revenues. The Town has not defaulted on any debt obligation within the previous five (5) years. The provisions of the public bid law have been complied with.

By virtue of applicant/issuer's application for, acceptance and utilization of the benefits of the Louisiana State Bond Commission's approval(s) resolved and set forth herein, it resolves that it understands and agrees that such approval(s) are expressly conditioned upon, and it further resolves that it understands, agrees and binds itself, its successors and assigns to, full and continuing compliance with the "State Bond Commission Policy on Approval of Proposed Use of Swaps, or other forms of Derivative Products Hedges, Etc.", adopted by the Commission on July 20, 2006, as to the borrowing(s) and other matters(s) subject to the approval(s) including subsequent application and approval under said Policy of the implementation or use of any swap(s) or other product(s) or enhancements(s) covered thereby.

THUS DONE AND READ IN FULL, AND CONSIDERED SECTION BY SECTION AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Mayor and Councilmen of the Town of Iowa, Louisiana on this 11<sup>th</sup> day of July 11, 2016 by a vote:

c. Resolution 2016- 13 - obsolete no longer needed equipment - Marshall motioned to approve the resolution; Fontenot seconded. Motion carried.  
Talbot asked about the surplus 'blue goose' what it refers too. This is a large metal evidence depository box.

#### **RESOLUTION 2016-13**

#### **A RESOLUTION FOR THE PURPOSE SURPLUSING AND OF DISPOSING BY BID OF PROPERTY NOT NEEDED FOR PUBLIC PURPOSE/OBSOLETE AND UNNECESSARY PROPERTIES BELONGING TO THE TOWN OF IOWA**

The following resolution was offered by Marshall; seconded by Fontenot.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF IOWA, LOUISIANA, in regular session convened, that:

**WHEREAS:** the Town Council of the Town of Iowa, Louisiana, meeting in regular session declares that it seeks to dispose of property valued less than \$5,000 that is no longer needed for public purposes:

**WHEREAS:** That certain property belonging to the Town of Iowa Police Department is obsolete and/or unnecessary to the operation of the municipality. Said property as further described as:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Minimum Bid Amt.</u>
<b>2006 Ford Crown Vic [VIN#4064]</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>

**WHEREAS:** In accordance with LRS 33:4712, Section F the Town of Iowa intends to sell movable property by bid process. The Town of Iowa will accept bids from August 1, 2016 through August 8, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. Said bids shall be opened August 8, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Conference Room. Item(s) shall be sold to the person with the highest bid. All sales are final. **The City reserves the right to reject any bid that does not meet the minimum bid price set**

**WHEREAS:** Any property not sold shall be disposed.

**WHEREAS:** the Iowa P.D. surpluses the 'Blue Goose' depository box and transfers/donates to Town of Fenton

YEAS: Marshall, Fontenot, Hardy, Talbot, Guidry  
NAYS: none  
ABSENT: none  
ABSTAIN: none

PASSED AND ADOPTED at Iowa, Louisiana, on this the 11th day of July 2016.

Chief Vincent presented stats for department informing Council Lake Charles Police Chief Don Dixon donated top of the line honor guard uniforms and we are very grateful for this donation. It was very kind. Talbot requested letter sent to LCPD thanking them with all Council names. There will be a meeting to explain to the children about law enforcement on Wed. at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center. Community meeting not just one specific church.

Chief wants to thank the citizens of Iowa for sharing and showing their support of IPD. It means a lot to our officers.

Sign Checks: Talbot

Round Table Comments:

Hardy – Harper Street was asphalted in the 80s and big blocks of asphalt is peeling off now. Marion Street is sinking. Really need to address this situation. He hopes resurfacing of these areas is within this new fiscal budget.

Marshall – the requirement of a citizen to comply with an officer's request needs to be made known. Wants it made a point of emphasis at the upcoming meeting

Talbot – heat temperatures are to be high over the coming weeks. Please check on the elderly.

There being no further business, Talbot motioned to adjourn at 8:37 p.m.; Marshall seconded. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

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Sandra Turley, CMC

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Carol Ponthieux, Mayor