

**Minutes**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Town of Iowa**  
**115 N. Thomson**  
**August 8, 2016**  
**7:00 PM**

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, Thomas Talbot, Gerald Guidry (quorum present)

Absent: Errol Marshall

Invocation given by Mayor Ponthieux, and then followed by Pledge.

Hardy motioned to approve the minutes of July 11, 2016 as written; Talbot seconded. Motion carried.

**Agenda Items**

1. Open bids for obsolete equipment – 2006 Ford CV – no bids. No action
2. Jayla Pete – recipient of LA Housing Scholarship – a recent graduate from Iowa H.S. Applied and was accepted to University at Lafayette. Mayor introduced her and explained the scholarship she was awarded.
3. David Brossett, AIA – update and recommendation regarding park restrooms – addressed the Council regarding the construction of new park restrooms. Council has a small copied set of the drawings. Mayor stated she had the full size set in her office for anyone to view. The contract was presented and sent to Mr. Bouquet for his review and comment. Hardy asked about outside security. Security is separate from what is included in the current packet. Mayor is meeting with resources.  
Public Comment: Lapearous ask for estimated cost. Response is about \$200,000.  
Brossett said it will be publicly bid and hopefully it will come in at much less cost.  
Caesar asked is it one building and asked how many will it serve at one time. Response is five.  
Mayor asked for the Council provisionally approve with provision it passes Mr. Bouquet's approval.  
Talbot motions to authorize Mayor to sign contract once Mr. Bouquet approves; Hardy seconded. Motion carried.
4. Fire Department – Fire Chief presents stats, updates – Chief Miller presented the department stats in the month of July which included fifteen (15) hours training and eleven incidents responded too. Invited to Boy Scout Annual Banquet, Community Unity Gathering with area churches as community service for the month.
5. Sales Tax 1 public notice announcement – Mayor read aloud the following Public Notice.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given in compliance with La. R.S. 42:19.1, that the Town of Iowa, Louisiana, will meet in open and public session on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2016, at 7:00 p.m., at the City Hall, 115 N. Thompson, Iowa, Louisiana, to consider calling an election to be held in the Town of Iowa, Louisiana, on December 10, 2016, to consider rededication of a 1% sales and use tax currently dedicated for capital and other improvements to the Town's waterworks, streets and park systems, to include sewer and wastewater systems, to make the tax perpetual, and to fund the tax into debt.

Public comment: Lapearous asked how much dedicated to each. To be determined.

6. Engineer – updates, reports, recommendations -

a. award of bids on pipe bursting project and nitrification chamber – July 18<sup>th</sup> bids were opened and engineer recommended to award in amount for \$162,960 to PM Construction for the pipe bursting. Jessen reviewed and recommends low bidder. Hardy motioned to accept P.M. Construction; Guidry seconded. Motion carried. Engineer stated quotes were received for nitrification chamber work and recommends Blake D. Hines, Inc. in the amount of \$24,025. Talbot motioned to accept Hines proposed bid; Hardy seconded. Motion carried.

b. Ashridge Subdivision – Billy Loftin – Billy Loftin representing Progressive Merchants asking for Phase 4, 5 be approved for maintenance. Mr. Ty Todd of Cypress Engineering also present. Jessen and Bebee walked with the owner this morning and inspected water, sewer and paving in Phases 4, 5. Punch list was completed and given to developer. Most is minor site grading and some small minor issues. Lofton requests Town Council approve and accept Phase 4, 5 of Ashridge Subdivision subject to punch list items being completed and signed off on by Engineer Jessen and PW Director Bebee. Jessen said tonight was to formally present the plat to the Town. Guidry asked about the pump system/lift station if it will handle pumping this subdivision. Hardy motioned to approve and accept subject to everything being completed and approved by engineer; Talbot seconded. Motion carried. Minor items must be completed and Engineer sign off and then notify Clerk it is ok to sign plat for recording.

c. introduction of Ord. 2016-08 – Ashridge into Sewer Dist.#1 – introduction and title read. Public hearing to be held September 12, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall, 115 N. Thomson.

### ORDINANCE 2016-08

An ordinance amending Section 50-62 of the  
Code of Ordinances, Town of Iowa, requested by  
Progressive Merchants, Inc. to be admitted to Sewer District No. 1  
Ashridge Subdivision

d. Ralph Foreman – regarding sewage line relocation and dedication to Town after approval – Mr. Foreman made small sketch and presented to Council. States he met with Brad Bebee regarding how the homes will be placed on the lots. Main sewer line is on the east side. Foreman needs to install six inch sewer line. Will install according to Town's specs and after installation he will dedicate the 15 ft. to the Town. Foreman will write in the sales contract to property owner that Town has a 15 ft. right of way as sewer right of way. Mayor asked if going to put a sewer manhole access. Bebee responds yes. Foreman says when he puts in the line there will be tie ins for all three homes. Bebee said it is from South Lightner. Jessen says this is really a re-subdivision of lots and needs to have this redrawn and accepted and recorded at the Clerk of Court. Public re subdivision is cleaner and recordation is needed. Recommend that the action presented here is approved subject to being done in accordance to law. Hardy

motioned to approve the recommendation of Town Engineer Jessen that this be re subdivision and Ralph Foreman present it to Council for approval so it can be recorded; Talbot seconded. Motion carried. Foreman needs to have it surveyed and present it to Council for final approval so that it can be recorded at the Clerk of Court.

Kinney Ave drainage is to begin this month. Contractor to put out notices. Sidewalk pre construction meeting held today. Contractor will start on the Miller sidewalk first.

7. Garbage RFP – authorization to advertise – Mayor comments that Warren Guidry is present to make known to the Council an option the Town may have in regards to garbage collection. Last week the Parish contract was renegotiated. Calcasieu Parish gave the option of piggybacking on parish contract. Guidry said he wanted to extend invitation to Town of Iowa as he did with Vinton and Westlake. Mr. Guidry just wanted Council to be aware of this piggyback option. Gerald Guidry asked about how the billing is computed. Julie Fontenot voiced a previous complaint with current contractor picking up garbage on Thomson during school hours. It ties up traffic just too much and she would like to see this addressed with new contract. Council asked to review current Parish contract. Guidry stated the current rate is \$15.87 under Parish Contract. Talbot motioned to seek proposals while still considering the option of piggy back on CPPJ contract; Hardy seconded. Motion carried. Public comment: Lapearous stated he was glad to see Town seek proposals. Caesar commented good to review both ways. He prefers to see Town go with WM and he feels will serve citizens best.

8. Billboards – discuss development of ordinance - the Town needs to address large signs and billboards. Guidry motioned to make a moratorium on billboards and signs other than a store front until Council has had time to draft a new ordinance regulating such signage; Talbot seconded. Motion carried. Public comment: Lapearous asked is it Council's intention to regulate? Yes by developing an ordinance.

9. Police Department – updates, reminder, reports –  
Chief requested to add an item to agenda: He request the following be added to the agenda:  
Promotions: From Patrolman First Class to Corporal: M. Gaspard & B. Crooks

Talbot motioned to add to agenda the Chief's request for promotion item; Guidry seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Hardy motioned to approve Chief Vincent's recommendation of promotion from Patrolman First Class to Corporal for M. Gaspard and B. Crooks; Fontenot seconded. Motion carried.

National Night Out was a successful event. Everyone who attended had a good time.

Chief asked for street signs be put up in Ashridge. Developer stated original signs were removed/stolen. Football season is kicking off with camp Aug. 20<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor informed Council that Bond commission wants a change in wording of the previous resolution sent to them. Asked Council to please add this to the agenda. Talbot motioned to add this item to agenda; Hardy seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Talbot motioned to change 48 months to 36 months as requested by the Bond Commission; Hardy seconded. Motion carried.

10. 2016 LMA Service Awards were presented by Thomas Talbot to the following Council Members: Larry Hardy was presented a silver pin for serving four terms. Mr. Guidry received gold pin for serving six terms. Mr. Talbot received a silver pin for serving four terms.

Public comment: Lapearous and Caesar congratulated all for their years of service.

Round Table:

Dist. A - Fontenot stated she has observed two ladies while out walking take trash bags with them and pick trash up though out the Town. Wants the Council to acknowledge their service to the community. Mayor said she is working on Civic Pride awards. Fontenot inquired about process for requesting grass letters. Fontenot wants to know if we can rewrite part of the grass ordinance.

Park Improvements – in our newsletter received it talks about a type of playground grant. Is it ok if she looks into whether we can apply? Also wants to look into the Veterans Memorial and the selling of bricks. Wants to check into this as to what the cost would be. Talbot says he supports this idea if Fontenot wants to do the leg work. If there are no objections, she will do the legwork and bring the information back and present to the Council.

Hardy – asked that Marion and Helen Streets be checked. Marion is the south side and Helen is the north side. These are getting worse and wants the condition watched.

Talbot – reminded everyone school is starting this week. Lot more children walking. Football season is starting. Keep a watchful eye on the Gulf for storms.

Guidry – remind the KC is conducting its 17<sup>th</sup> grand raffle. Look for someone selling tickets which cost \$100 each. Date is Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>.

There being no further business, Hardy motioned to adjourn at 8:40 p.m.; Talbot seconded. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

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Sandra Turley, CMC

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Carol Ponthieux, Mayor