

**Minutes
Public Meeting
Town of Iowa
115 N. Thomson
March 9, 2020
Iowa, La
7:00 p.m.**

Mayor Paul Hesse and Town Council met in regular session this date in compliance with all requirements as to notice.

Present: Mayor Paul Hesse; Council Members: Gerald Guidry, Julie Fontenot, Joe Becnel, and Daniel Hennigan; Town Clerk Cynthia Mallett; Chief of Police Keith Vincent; Town Attorney Eugene Bouquet; and about 5 citizens. Absent: Council Member Vernessa Guillory;

Invocation by Council Member Joe Becnel; followed by Pledge.

Mayor Hesse announced a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

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

It was **moved by** Julie Fontenot, **seconded by** Joe Becnel, to approve February 10, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes as written not read. The motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mayor Hesse read the item to approve Right of Entry agreement between the Town of Iowa and Conterra Networks for the purpose of a fiber optic line to benefit FulAir, an internet provider. Mr. Perry Vincent President of LRC wireless d/b/a FulAir came forward to explain the need for a fiber optic line. Mayor and Mr. Vincent discussed a proposed lease agreement between FulAir and the town of Iowa for space on the water tower. Mr. Perry said he would send a proposed lease to be viewed and approved by the council for the April meeting. It was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Julie Fontenot to defer action on this item until April regular meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

It was discussed that the first item under new business, Approve Franchise Agreement by and between Town of Iowa and Conterra Ultra Broadband, LLC d/a/ Conterra Networks, should be deferred until next regular meeting, April 13, 2020 when a lease with FulAir is executed. .Engineer Walt Jeseen gave report on updates of projects. He said the drainage project on N. Lightner Street just began and The Water Plant Manifold Project Pre-Construction meeting will be held tomorrow. It was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Julie Fontenot to defer action on this item until April regular meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr.Kudla, gave a report on the progress of Renovation of Tennis Court Project. He submitted Change Order #1 for Council approval. Change - The color upcharge, the electrical panel replacement, relocation of tennis backboard wall. It was **moved by** Julie Fontenot, **seconded by** Joe Becnel to accept the Tennis Court Renovations Change Order #1. The motion passed unanimously.

Engineer, Mr. Walt Jessen came forward and verbally gave a report on the progress of the drainage and water manifold projects.

It was **moved by** Julie Fontenot, **seconded by** Joe Becnel to authorize the advertisement of bids for Project No. 1-2019-168, Reconstruction of Barkley Street and Helen Street. The motion passed unanimously. Mayor Hesse announced Mr. Jessen will be preparing loan application with D.E.Q. for water/sewer improvements and will include this in the town's upcoming budget.

Mayor Hesse read and proclaimed April 2020 as Fair Housing Month.

Mayor Hesse read and proclaimed April 13-18, 2020 as Community Development Week

Fire Chief Lewis was absent. He submitted the monthly report via-email.

Mr. Clayton Aymond, Street Maintenance Supervisor, came forward and verbally gave the monthly report of progress.

Police Chief Vincent came forward and verbally gave the monthly police report.

It was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Joe Becnel to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement by and between the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury and the Town of Iowa for the purpose of Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LiHeap). The motion passed unanimously.

It was **moved by** Julie Fontenot, **seconded by** Daniel Hennigan to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement by and between the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury and the Town of Iowa for the purpose of the Summer Food Service Program. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Hesse explained that the town, with this amendment for building permit fees, will mirror Calcasieu Parish and their building permit cost. It was **moved by** Julie Fontenot, **seconded by** Daniel Hennigan to introduce Ordinance No. 2020-01, An Ordinance amending ordinance 2007-09 an ordinance amending Article 1, Chapter 5 of the municipal code adopting building, electrical, and plumbing codes for the Town of Iowa. The motion passed unanimously.

Item #12, Discuss the abandonment of a portion of Eli Road and the encroachment of a portion of N. Thomson Road and authorize the advertisement for public hearing, was deferred until Town Attorney, Eugene Bouquet, could review the survey and make a recommendation accordingly.

Mr. Billie Marcantel came forward as the owner of Lot 7 of Storer Subdivision. He requested the Town of Iowa Board of Council Members approve the subdivision of Lot 7 of Storer Subdivision as per submitted Plat of Survey performed by Reddoch Land Surveying, dated July 31, 2018. It was **moved by** Julie Fontenot, **seconded by** Daniel Hennigan to approve the subdivision of Lot 7 of Storer Subdivision into Lot 7 Tract A and Lot 7 Tract B as per Plat of Survey by Reddoch Land Surveying dated July 31, 2018. The motion passed unanimously.

Item #14 Discuss Lease Agreement by and between Town of Iowa and FulAir Wireless. This item was passed as to relation with item #1 of Old Business and item #1 of New Business.

Mr. Ray Prudhomme came forward to present a document for the Town Attorney, Eugene Bouquet to inspect as being official. Mr. Prudhomme explained years ago he filed a law suit against the Town of Iowa and then was incarcerated. He said that he came to city hall and the clerk gave him the document stating that a Louisiana Court of reversed the trial court's decision in favor of the plaintiff and found the Town of Iowa was not liable for Prudhomme's injuries. Mr. Bouquet reviewed the document and said it looked authentic to him. Mr. Prudhomme asked where the document came from and the clerk told him Louisiana Risk Management, Inc., the town's liability insurance company. Mr. Prudhomme said thank you and was seated.

Mayor Hesse gave the financial report.

No further business to come before the Mayor and Council Members it was **moved by** Julie Fontenot, **seconded by** Daniel Hennigan to adjourn meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 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 April 13, 2020 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 2020-01

An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 2007-09, an ordinance amending article 1. Chapter 5 of the Municipal Code Adopting Building, Electrical, and plumbing codes for the Town of Iowa

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.