

**Minutes
Regular Meeting
115 N. Thomson, Iowa, LA 70647
City Hall Meeting Room
October 12, 2020
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: Joe Becnel, Gerald Guidry, Vernessa Guillory, Julie Fontenot, and Daniel Hennigan; Town Clerk Cynthia Mallett; Town Attorney Eugene Bouquet; Chief of Police Keith Vincent; and about 6 citizens.

Invocation by Council Member Joe Becnel, followed by Pledge.

Mayor Hesse announced a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

Mayor Hesse requested an item to be added to the agenda. Motion to acknowledge Local Government Proclamation State of Emergency. It was **moved by** Julie Fontenot, **seconded by** Daniel Hennigan to add a motion to acknowledge Local Government Proclamation State of Emergency and adopt the agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

It was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Joe Becnel to approve September 24, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes as written not read. The motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

It was **moved by** Julie Fontenot, **seconded by** Daniel Hennigan to approve Resolution No. 2020-13. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION 2020 - 13

A resolution requesting assistance and making application to the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury Road and Drainage Trust Fund for Participation in the cost of North Storer Avenue Drainage Improvements for Town of Iowa, LA

WHEREAS, funding is needed to complete this drainage improvements project:
and

WHEREAS, funding of a portion of the cost needed improvement in this phase has been committed by the Town of Iowa (77% Town); and

WHEREAS, these drainage improvements will improve the poor storm drainage and alleviate the flooding of residential property.

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

SECTION1: All of the above and foregoing is hereby made a part of this resolution.

SECTION 2: The Town Council of the Town of Iowa, Louisiana, does hereby request funding assistance and authorizes the Mayor of the Town of Iowa to make an application to the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury Road and Drainage Trust Fund for participation in the cost of Reconstructing Barkley Street and Helen Street.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at Iowa, Louisiana, on this 12th day of October, 2020.

Paul Hesse, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Cynthia Mallett, Municipal Clerk

Mayor Hesse asked for an update on the fence and set-back requirements for Mobile Home Park located on Sherman Street. There was discussion about the fence not being installed as required at the time of permit. Mayor and Council requested the Chief of Police to issue a notice to the owners of the Mobile Home Park to install the fence as required.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Hesse read the Local Government Proclamation State of Emergency and it was **move by** Julie Fontenot, **seconded by** Daniel Hennigan to approve the read proclamation effective October 6, 2020. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Walt Jessen was not present. No engineer reports were submitted.

It was **moved by** Julie Fontenot, **seconded by** Daniel Hennigan to re-authorize advertisement for Helen and Barkley Street asphalt paving Project. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Edward Rious came forward to request approval for a moving permit on a 2013 mobile home at 604 Highway 90 West. Council reviewed the submitted HUD information, plat with set-backs, and pictures on the mobile home. After discussion and questions, with answers given by Mr. Rious, it was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Vernessa Guillory, based on the information submitted to the Council, to permit Mr. Rious to move the 2013 mobile home on the property located at 604 Highway 90 west. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Hesse read title of proposed Ordinance No. 2020-05. It was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Julie Fontenot to introduce Ordinance No. 2020-05, An Ordinance to amend section 47-9 subpart (B) to add another intersection stop sign, yield signs. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. James Hardy, Water and Sewer Maintenance Department, was absent. Mayor Hesse reported water supply incidents occurring during the hurricanes and the plan to purchase a new generator for the water system.

Mr. Clayton Aymond, Street Maintenance Supervisor, reported on the hurricane clean up. There were questions and discussion about the debris pick up and the process of completing the pick-up of debris and construction material.

Chief Lewis, Fire Chief, was not present. Mayor Hesse reported on the assistance from other fire departments during both hurricanes and thanked them for their assistance.

Chief Vincent, Police Chief, reported on the monthly incidents and calls made by the police department. He also reported the curfew should be lifted by this Friday.

Mayor read the next item on the agenda, Discuss Ground Lease Agreement known as Iowa Outlet Mall. Mr. Max Hoyt, a gentleman from Lafayette, came forward to report the status of purchasing the mall from the Natalie family, and proposed plans for the use purpose of the building. He stated they are considering using the building as storage rental or distribution center. He said even offices could be included in the building. He said malls have declined and they don't intend to use it as a mall but they have not yet made a decision as to the best use of the building.

Mayor Hesse read the next item on the agenda and explained the purpose of adopting Resolution 2020-12. It was **moved by** Julie Fontenot, **seconded by** Daniel Hennigan to approve Resolution 2020-12, adopt the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire. The motion carried unanimously.

LOUISIANA COMPLIANCE QUESTIONNAIRE

RESOLUTION 2020 - 12

A resolution to adopt the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire

BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire was received from the Office of the Legislative Auditor, State of Louisiana, and was properly completed by the Clerk of the Town of Iowa and presented to the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Iowa in the same as hereby approved and adopted.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of said Compliance Questionnaire be filed in the records of the Town of Iowa and further, that a completed copy of the Resolution be forwarded to McElroy, Quirk, & Burch, the auditing firm engaged by the Town of Iowa to test the accuracy of the answers to questionnaire and submit to the Town of Iowa and the Legislative Auditor their opinion and validity of the answers therein contained.

This Resolution is declared adopted on this 12th day of October, 2020.

Paul Hesse, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Cynthia Mallett, Municipal Clerk

Mayor Hesse gave a financial report. He stated that a few expense items have increased because of the hurricane but at the same time sales tax revenue have increased also. There was discussion about the water, sewer, and garbage bills to the customers of Iowa. Mayor requested the council waive the late fee, to the customers, for another month or so because of the hardship from hurricane Laura and hurricane Delta. Nobody objected.

Mayor Hesse asked the Council if they would approve a food vendor to park a travel food truck in the park. There was discussion. Mr. Bouquet, Town Attorney, said if it would be granted, it should be only for a short period. After discussion, the Council did not agree to allow the vendor to park and sell food on town property in the park.

Mayor encouraged persons to contact their U.S. representatives to push for a declaration of disaster for Hurricane Delta.

Representative of Julian Quebedeaux, a company contracted by the Town of Iowa to video council meetings, came forward to remind the Mayor and Council that the agreement between the town and Julian will be coming up for renewal. He asked if they will consider renewing the agreement. Council Member Julie Fontenot said she wants to discuss this further before making a decision.

No further business to discuss, it was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Julie Fontenot to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

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 November 9, 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 2020-05

An Ordinance to amend Section 47-9 Subpart (B) to add another intersection stop sign, yield signs.

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.