

Minutes of a meeting of the Plaquemines Parish Council held in the Pointe-a-la-Hache Courthouse Council Chambers, 18055 Highway 15, Pointe-a-la-Hache, Louisiana on Thursday, July 28, 2022, at 5:41 p.m., pursuant to notice to all members with a quorum present as follows:

PRESENT: Council Member Richie Blink, Vice-Chairman
Council Member W. Beau Black
Council Member Corey Arbourgh
Council Member Stuart J. Guey
Council Member Trudy Newberry
Kim M. Toups, Council Secretary

ABSENT: Council Member John L. Barthelemy, Jr.
Council Member Benedict Rousselle
Council Member Carlton M. LaFrance, Sr.
Council Member Mark Cognevich, Chairman

The Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance were dispensed with.

President Lepine and Charter Director Crystal Taylor were present representing the Administration.

Council Member John L. Barthelemy, Jr., Council Member Benedict Rousselle and Council Member Carlton M. LaFrance, Sr. joined the meeting at 5:42 p.m.

Due to a technical issue, all of Council Member Arbourgh's votes were verbal.

The following items were deferred:

- Agenda Item 7b, "Rann Sok Tasty Crème Donuts, New Commercial Business in a School Zone, 8921 Highway 23, Belle Chasse, Louisiana";
- Agenda Item 9b, "A Resolution appointing _____ as the Assistant Secretary of the Plaquemines Parish Council; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto";
- Agenda Item 9e, "An Ordinance to amend and reenact Section 4-15 of the Plaquemines Parish Code of Ordinances; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto";
- Agenda Item 9i, "A Resolution conditionally approving the plan of Resubdivision of a portion of Tract 5-E Section B of Belle Chasse Plantation into Cypress Park Subdivision, Phase 2C; Phase 2C containing Lots 241 through 285, all without cost to the Plaquemines Parish Government or the Parish of Plaquemines; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto";
- Agenda Item 11b, "District 9 update";
- Agenda Item 11e, "District 7 update";
- Agenda Item 11f, "District 5 update";
- Agenda Item 11g, "District 6 update";
- Agenda Item 11h, "Discussion by Don Vallee about Walker Road.
- Agenda Item 11i, "Presentation by Dominique Seibert from the LSU Ag Center"; and
- Agenda Item 11j, "Discussion regarding District lines".

Agenda Item 5a, "A Resolution authorizing the acceptance of bids for furnishing Marsh Master MM-2MX-KC-FH with cutter and accessories and trailer or equal for a period of one year for use Parish wide; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto" was withdrawn.

There were no matters under Agenda Item 2, "Executive Session" and no matters under Agenda Item 3, "Proclamations". Therefore, Council Member Blink moved to Agenda Item 4, "Status Report by the Parish President". Without objection, so ordered. The only matter addressed by President Lepine was an update on the Parish's compromised system.

Council Member Blink moved to Agenda Item 4a, "Update by Charter Directors". There were no updates from the Directors due there being no email service. However, Council Members and members of the Administration discussed several issues, including the Port Sulphur Civic Center, the Suzie Bayou Project and culverts on the Eastbank back levees from Phoenix to Bohemia.

There being no Bids or Advertisements, Council Member Blink moved to Agenda Item 6, “Beer and Liquor Licenses”. Without objection, so ordered.

RESOLUTION NO. 22-183

On motion of Council Member Barthelemy, seconded by Council Member Guey, and on roll call all members present and voting “YES”, except Council Member Cognevich who was “ABSENT”, the following Resolution was adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT the following applications for permit to engage in the sale of liquor and/or beer only in the Parish of Plaquemines for the year 2022 are hereby approved: Hall Real Estate Management Company, LLC d/b/a Old Cellar Bar, 8480 Highway 23, Suite 1, Belle Chasse, Louisiana, 70037, Table 1, Class A-Retail Liquor; Belle Chasse Café d/b/a Belle Chasse Café, 8475 Highway 23, Belle Chasse, LA, Table 1, Class A-Retail Liquor; and Breaux Mart Supermarket, Inc. d/b/a Breaux Mart #2, 7902 Highway 23, Belle Chasse, LA, Table 1, Class B-Package Liquor.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT the following applications for Special Events/Temporary beer and liquor permits in the Parish of Plaquemines were hereby approved: Rev. Kyle V. Dave for the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church Fair to be held at 8968 Highway 23, Belle Chasse, LA, from September 30, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. until October 2, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.; and Corey Picquet, Sr. for the Big C’s Catering Fishing Rodeo to be held at Davant Park, 15535 Highway 15, Braithwaite, LA, on September 10, 2022, from 6:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT the Secretary of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify and release this Resolution and that Parish officials and employees are authorized to carry out the purposes of this Resolution, both without further reading and approval by the Plaquemines Parish Council.

There were no matters to address under Agenda Item 7, Building Permits”.

Council Member Blink moved to Agenda Item 8, “Introduction of Ordinances and Resolutions”. Without objection, so ordered. The following legislation was introduced:

1. An Ordinance to amend the 2022 Manpower Structure and Operating Expenditure Budgets; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto. COUNCIL MEMBER COGNEVICH
2. An Ordinance authorizing the acceptance of a donation for the Homeland Security/Emergency Preparedness Department and to amend the General Fund, 2022 Operating Revenue and Expenditure Budgets, Homeland Security/Emergency Preparedness Department; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto. COUNCIL MEMBER COGNEVICH
3. An Ordinance to amend the 2022 General Fund, Operating Expenditure Budget, Permits, Planning and Zoning Department and the Flood Control Department; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto. COUNCIL MEMBER GUEY
4. An Ordinance to approve a new Pay Plan and Classification Schedule adopted by the Civil Service Commission on August 4, 2022, to be effective thirty (30) days after approval by the Plaquemines Parish Council or on a date set by the Plaquemines Parish Council; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto. COUNCIL MEMBER GUEY

Council Member Blink advanced to Agenda Item 11k, “Presentation by Cindy Wirz about FEMA’s Hazard Mitigation and other FEMA programs”. Ms. Wirz addressed the Council and provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding Hazard Mitigation and other FEMA programs. Meetings with the public will be held; however, those have not been scheduled yet.

Council Member Blink moved to Agenda Item 9, “Ordinances and Resolutions on Second Reading and Final Passage”. Without objection, so ordered.

9a, “Ordinances and Public Hearings pursuant to Article 6, Section 6.01E of the Plaquemines Parish Charter:

ORDINANCE NO. 22-89

The following Ordinance was offered by Council Member Blink who moved its adoption:

An Ordinance to levy mileages on the 2022 tax roll on all property subject to taxation by Plaquemines Parish Government; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.

WHEREAS, ad valorem taxes are necessary to provide essential services to the people of Plaquemines Parish; and

WHEREAS, it is required by law that a public hearing be held on the levy of millages for the 2022 tax roll on all property subject to taxation by Plaquemines Parish Government; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article 6, Section 6.01E(1) of the Charter for Local Self-Government for the Parish of Plaquemines the preamble of this Ordinance was published in the Plaquemines Gazette on July 5th, 2022, and notice of such meeting was provided to the public;

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT:

SECTION 1

The following millages are hereby levied on the 2022 tax roll on all property subject to taxation by Plaquemines Parish Government:

2022 Millage

General Alimony	4.260 mills
Pollution Control	2.320 mills
Incinerator Waste Facilities	1.170 mills
Garbage & Waste Disposal	3.470 mills
Roads Parish-wide	1.760 mills
Health Unit	1.170 mills
Waterworks District	2.320 mills
Library	1.170 mills

SECTION 2

The proper administrative officials of the Parish of Plaquemines, State of Louisiana, be and they are hereby empowered, authorized, and directed to spread said taxes, as hereinabove set forth, upon the assessment roll of the Parish of Plaquemines for the year 2022, and to make the collection of the taxes imposed for and on behalf of the taxing authority, according to law, and that the taxes herein levied shall become a permanent lien and privilege on all property subject to taxation as herein set forth, and collection thereof shall be enforceable in the manner provided by law.

SECTION 3

The Secretary of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify and release this Ordinance and that Parish employees and officials are authorized to carry out the purposes of this Ordinance, both without further reading and approval by the Plaquemines Parish Council.

WHEREUPON, in open session the above Ordinance was read and considered section by section and as a whole.

Council Member Guey seconded the motion to adopt the Ordinance.

The foregoing Ordinance having been submitted to a vote, the vote resulted as follows:

YEAS: Council Members John L. Barthelemy, Jr., W. Beau Black, Corey Arbourgh, Stuart J. Guey, Benedict Rousselle, Trudy Newberry, Carlton M. LaFrance, Sr., and Richie Blink

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Council Member Mark Cognevich

PRESENT BUT NOT VOTING: None

And the Ordinance was adopted on this the 28th day of July, 2022.

ORDINANCE NO. 22-90

The following Ordinance was offered by Council Member Blink who moved its adoption:

An Ordinance to amend the 2022 Road Maintenance Fund, Operating Expenditure Budget, Road Maintenance Public Right of Way Department; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 20-60 budgeted funding awarded to the Plaquemines Parish Government in the amount of \$165,700 from a Local Government Assistance Program Grant (LGAP); and

WHEREAS, there is a remaining \$2,343.57 from said grant that needs to be expensed; and

WHEREAS, amending the 2022 Road Maintenance Fund, Operating Expenditure Budget, Road Maintenance Public Right of Way Department is requested;

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT:

SECTION 1

The 2022 Road Maintenance Fund, Operating Expenditure Budget, Road Maintenance Public Right of Way Department is amended by appropriating \$2,343.57 from the Local Government Assistance Program Grant (LGAP) as follows:

Fund: 003 Road Maintenance Fund			
Dept/Div: 780-4678 Road Maintenance Public Right of Way Dept.			
Object	Description	Inc/Dec	Amendment
544.001	Small Tools & Equipment General	Inc	2,343.57

SECTION 2

The Secretary of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify and release this Ordinance and that Parish employees and officials are authorized to carry out the purposes of this Ordinance, both without further reading and approval by the Plaquemines Parish Council.

WHEREUPON, in open session the above Ordinance was read and considered section by section

and as a whole.

Council Member Rousselle seconded the motion to adopt the Ordinance.

The foregoing Ordinance having been submitted to a vote, the vote resulted as follows:

YEAS: Council Members John L. Barthelemy, Jr., W. Beau Black, Corey Arbourgh, Stuart J. Guey, Benedict Rousselle, Trudy Newberry, Carlton M. LaFrance, Sr., and Richie Blink

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Council Member Mark Cognevich

PRESENT BUT NOT VOTING: None

And the Ordinance was adopted on this the 28th day of July, 2022.

ORDINANCE NO. 22-91

The following Ordinance was offered by Council Member Black who moved its adoption:

An Ordinance to amend the Five-Year Capital Improvements Plan for the Renovations-Animal Shelter Project and the 2022 General Fund, Revenue Budget; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.

WHEREAS, Plaquemines Parish Government has received additional settlement proceeds in the amount of \$5,000 for the Animal Shelter; and

WHEREAS, amending the Five-Year Capital Improvements Plan for the Renovations-Animal Shelter Project is requested;

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT:

SECTION 1

The 2022 General Fund, Revenue Budget is amended as follows:

Fund: 001 General Fund			
Dept/Div: 000-0000 Revenue-General			
Object	Description	Inc/Dec	Amendment
489.006	Misc Settlements – Animal Shelter	Inc	5,000

SECTION 2

The Five-Year Capital Improvements Plan is amended by appropriating \$5,000 to the Renovations-Animal Shelter Project from the General Fund Unreserved/Undesignated Fund Balance; funding year 2022.

SECTION 3

The Secretary of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify and release this Ordinance and that Parish employees and officials are authorized to carry out the purposes of this Ordinance, both without further reading and approval by the Plaquemines Parish Council.

WHEREUPON, in open session the above Ordinance was read and considered section by section and as a whole.

Council Member Arbourgh seconded the motion to adopt the Ordinance.

The foregoing Ordinance having been submitted to a vote, the vote resulted as follows:

YEAS: Council Members John L. Barthelemy, Jr., W. Beau Black, Corey Arbourgh, Stuart J. Guey, Benedict Rousselle, Trudy Newberry, Carlton M. LaFrance, Sr., and Richie Blink

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Council Member Mark Cognevich

PRESENT BUT NOT VOTING: None

And the Ordinance was adopted on this the 28th day of July, 2022.

ORDINANCE NO. 22-92

The following Ordinance was offered by Council Member Rousselle who moved its adoption:

An Ordinance to amend the 2022 General Fund, Manpower Structure and Operating Expenditure Budget, Interim Employee Training Department and the Flood Control-General Department; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.

WHEREAS, it has been recommended to hire and train an interim Grants Administrator that will fill the position of the current Grants Administrator scheduled to retire in 2022, at an annual salary of \$63,000 plus benefits;

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT:

SECTION 1

The 2022 Manpower Structure, Interim Employee Training Department is amended by creating and funding a Grants Administrator position, at an annual salary of \$63,000 plus benefits.

SECTION 2

The 2022 General Fund, Operating Expenditure Budget is amended by as follows:

Fund: 001 General Fund			
Dept/Div: 533-2590 Interim Employee Training Department			
Object	Description	Inc/Dec	Amendment
510.005	Salaries & Wages - Regular	Inc	27,000
515.005	FICA Taxes	Inc	390
516.105	Retirement	Inc	3,110
517.005	Group Insurance Health	Inc	330

Fund: 001 General Fund			
Dept/Div: 770-4500 Flood Control-General Department			

Object	Description	Inc/Dec	Amendment
510.005	Salaries & Wages - Regular	Dec	(30,830)

SECTION 3

The Secretary of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify and release this Ordinance and that Parish employees and officials are authorized to carry out the purposes of this Ordinance, both without further reading and approval by the Plaquemines Parish Council.

WHEREUPON, in open session the above Ordinance was read and considered section by section and as a whole.

Council Member Arbourgh seconded the motion to adopt the Ordinance.

The foregoing Ordinance having been submitted to a vote, the vote resulted as follows:

YEAS: Council Members John L. Barthelemy, Jr., W. Beau Black, Corey Arbourgh, Stuart J. Guey, Benedict Rousselle, Trudy Newberry, Carlton M. LaFrance, Sr., and Richie Blink

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Council Member Mark Cognevich

PRESENT BUT NOT VOTING: None

And the Ordinance was adopted on this the 28th day of July, 2022.

ORDINANCE NO. 22-93

The following Ordinance was offered by Council Member Rousselle who moved its adoption:

An Ordinance to amend the Five-Year Capital Improvements Plan, Drainage Environmental Assessment-Medal of Honor Park Project; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.

WHEREAS, a review of the Five-Year Capital Improvements Plan was performed and an amendment is necessary;

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT:

SECTION 1

The Five-Year Capital Improvements Plan is amended by appropriating \$10,000 to the Drainage Environmental Assessment-Medal of Honor Park Project from the Unreserved/Undesignated Series 2012 Coastal Restoration Bonds Fund Balance; funding year, 2022.

SECTION 2

The Secretary of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify and release this Ordinance and that Parish employees and officials are authorized to carry out the purposes of this Ordinance, both without further reading and approval by the Plaquemines Parish Council.

WHEREUPON, in open session the above Ordinance was read and considered section by section and as a whole.

Council Member Arbourgh seconded the motion to adopt the Ordinance.

The foregoing Ordinance having been submitted to a vote, the vote resulted as follows:

YEAS: Council Members John L. Barthelemy, Jr., W. Beau Black, Corey Arbourgh, Stuart J. Guey, Benedict Rousselle, Trudy Newberry, Carlton M. LaFrance, Sr., and Richie Blink

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Council Member Mark Cognevich

PRESENT BUT NOT VOTING: None

And the Ordinance was adopted on this the 28th day of July, 2022.

RESOLUTION NO. 22-184

On motion of Council Member Blink, seconded by Council Member Rousselle, and on roll call all members present and voting “YES”, except Council Member Cognevich who was “ABSENT”, the following Resolution was adopted:

A Resolution to appoint a replacement member to the Plaquemines Parish Tourist Commission Board; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.

WHEREAS, the State Legislature has created a Tourism Commission for Plaquemines Parish in LSA-R.S. 33:457(B)(40); and

WHEREAS, as there is no local or special law enacted by the State Legislature for the makeup of the governing board for the commission, LSA-R.S. 33:4574(f) requires the Parish Council to appoint seven (7) persons to the governing board from the lists of nominees submitted to the Council by private, non-profit groups that have an interest in one or more aspects of the tourism industry; and

WHEREAS, LSA-R.S. 33:4574(f)(b)(ii) sets the term of office for each director at three (3) years;

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT it hereby appoints Don Vallee as a Director of the Plaquemines Parish Tourist Commission to serve a three year term replacing Joan Strohmeyer:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT in accordance with the provisions of LSA-R.S. 33:4574(f)(b)(ii), the term of office for the board member named above shall run from the date of adoption of this Resolution to December 31, 2025, or until each member’s successor in office is duly appointed and commissioned in accordance with law.

Council Member Blink moved to Agenda Item 10, “Approval of the Minutes”. Without objection, so ordered.

RESOLUTION NO. 22-185

On motion of Council Member Blink, seconded by Council Member Guey, and on roll call all members present and voting “YES”, except Council Member Cognevich who was “ABSENT”, the following Resolution was adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT it hereby approves the minutes of the July 14, 2022, regular meeting as recorded by the Secretary of this Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT the

Secretary of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify and release this Resolution and that Parish employees and officials are authorized to carry out the purposes of this Resolution.

Council Member Blink moved to Agenda Item 11, “New Business”. Without objection, so ordered.

Under Agenda Item 11c, “District 8 update”, Council Member Blink discussed shaving Highway 11.

Under Agenda Item 11d, “District 1 update”, Council Member Barthelemy addressed the following topics:

- Discussion on the status of hurricane protection for Braithwaite Park and the surrounding areas.
- Status of back levee from Caernarvon to White Ditch since Hurricane Ida.
- Discussion of Hwy. 15 south of the Pointe-a-la-Hache Courthouse.
- Discussion of sediment from Mardi Gras Pass making bayous and canals impassible to fishermen and impacting their income.
- Pointe-a-la-Hache Boat Harbor and Shipyard

There being no further business to come before this Council, on motion Council Member Black, seconded by Council Member LaFrance, and on roll call all members present voting “YES” except Council Member Cognevich who was “ABSENT”, the meeting adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary

For a full transcript of discussions and presentations, a video of this meeting is available for viewing on the Parish website www.plaqueminesparish.com or on YouTube.

