

**IBERVILLE PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES
PUBLIC HEARING, TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 2021
PROPOSED ORDINANCES**

The Parish Council of Iberville Parish, State of Louisiana, held a Public Hearing in the Council Meeting Room, 58050 Meriam Street, Plaquemine, Louisiana, on the 20th day of April, 2021 at 6:03 P.M. pursuant to a Notice of Public Hearing published on the 25th day of March, 2021 in the Plaquemine Post South and posted on the Iberville Parish website.

The Council Chairman, Matthew H. Jewell, called the hearing to order followed by the roll call with the following Council Members in attendance: Chasity B. Easley; District 2; Thomas E. Dominique, Sr., District 3; Leonard Jackson, Sr., District 4; Steve C. Smith District 5; Raheem T. Pierce, District 6; Hunter S. Markins, District 8; Louis R. Kelley, Jr., District 10; Timothy J. Vallet, District 11; Matthew H. Jewell, District 12; Bart B. Morgan, District 13.

Absent: Shalanda L. Allen, District 1; Terry J. Bradford, District 9.

Chief Administrative Officer- Edward Songy and Legal Counsel- Scott Stassi were also in attendance.

Mr. Songy read the following ordinances in entirety.

ORDINANCE 1 Ordinance to sell property previously declared to be surplus by IPC Ordinance #016-17 to neighboring property owner Enola P. Ambeau pursuant to the terms of Ordinance # 002-13

The floor was opened to comments and questions. There was no opposition to this ordinance from the public.

ORDINANCE 2 Ordinance to amend Article II, Section 2-01e (Parish Council) and Article III, Section 3-02(b) (Executive branch) of the Iberville Parish Home Rule Charter to repeal the provisions of no term limits for the Office of Parish Council and Parish President

The floor was opened to comments and questions. There was no opposition to this ordinance from the public. Councilman Dominique spoke in opposition to this ordinance. There was a discussion amongst the Council members.

There being no further business to be conducted, the hearing was adjourned at 6:04 p.m.

/s/ KIRSHA D. BARKER
COUNCIL CLERK

/s/ MATTHEW H. JEWELL
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

**IBERVILLE PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING, TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 2021**

The Parish Council of Iberville Parish, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session, in the Council Meeting Room, 2nd Floor, Courthouse Building, 58050 Meriam Street, Plaquemine, Louisiana, on the 20th day of April, 2021.

The Council Chairman, Matthew H. Jewell, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. followed by the roll call with the following Council Members in attendance: Shalanda L. Allen, District 1; Chasity B. Easley; District 2; Thomas E. Dominique, Sr., District 3; Leonard Jackson, Sr., District 4; Steve C. Smith District 5; Raheem T. Pierce, District 6; Hunter S. Markins, District 8; Terry J. Bradford, District 9; Louis R. Kelley, Jr., District 10; Timothy J. Vallet, District 11; Matthew H. Jewell, District 12; Bart B. Morgan, District 13.

Absent: None.

Parish President- J. Mitchell Ourso, Jr., Chief Administrative Officer- Edward Songy, and Legal Counsel- Scott Stassi were also in attendance.

A quorum was present and due notice had been posted and published in the Plaquemine Post South newspaper on the 15th day of April, 2021. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Council Chairman Jewell called for anyone wanting to make public comments to register with the Clerk. No one registered to speak.

ADDENDUM

None.

PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion by Councilman Jackson, and seconded by Councilman Arnold, it was moved to wave the reading of the minutes of March 16, 2021 and approve as written. The motion having been duly submitted to a vote was duly adopted by the following yea and nay votes on roll call:

YEAS: Allen, Easley, Dominique, Jackson, Smith, Pierce, Arnold, Markins, Bradford, Kelley, Vallet, Morgan.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

The motion was declared adopted by the Chairman.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Ourso reported on the following:

- President Ourso talked about the solar farm ordinance being introduced tonight. He read aloud different sections of the proposed ordinance in response to questions some of the Council members had.
- He spoke about the water systems in the parish and the recent heavy rainfall.
- He stated most boat landings are currently closed in the parish for recreational use due to high water levels.
- The Parish had to sandbag Hwy 75 in Bayou Sorrell.
- He spoke to Dr. Shawn Wilson, Secretary of Louisiana DOTD and discussed issues including sandbagging Hwy 75 and Mr. Wilson stated DOTD will fund \$1 million to raise low areas of Hwy 75.
- A notice to the public for commodities to be distributed was presented to the Council. The Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank will be distributing commodities on Saturday, April 24, 2021 from 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. at MSA West Academy in Plaquemine. The food bank will distribute 300 boxes once a month on a Saturday and products will be loaded into the car.
- Over 817 people have been vaccinated at the Iberville Parish Health Unit. The State is trying to push a mass vaccination because they have an abundance of vaccines.
- Every year the parish has an audit on how the animal shelter handles and treats the animals by the LA Department of Agriculture and Forestry, and the inspection was in compliance. President Ourso stated the employees do a great job at the animal shelter.
- The Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs is trying to get the Council on Aging facilities back open under strict guidelines. The guidelines were presented to the Council and President Ourso stated some of the guidelines include only two people at a table, they must wear soft masks, and the buildings have to be recertified by the Fire Marshal and DHH. They are asking for a reopening plan state wide and part of the guidelines are to convince the elderly to get vaccinated.
- Mr. Hank Grace, Ms. Desiree Lemoine, Ms. Pam Boesch and others of the Iberville Chambers of Commerce are hosting a meeting with Dr. Shawn Wilson, Secretary of Louisiana DOTD on May 18, 2021 at 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. He stated the council members should attend this meeting to fight for our parish to get a bridge.
- There were eight bidders for the erosion problems along Intercoastal Road. Rigid Construction, LLC was the lowest bidder at \$1.143 million. The Parish wrote an award letter to the lowest bidder but the third bidder which was LMB Services, LLC filed suit for a temporary restraining order. The judge awarded it due to a formality on the bid, therefore awarding it to the second lowest bidder which was Patriot Construction and Industrial. However, the third bidder didn't notify the

first bidder that they were challenging their bid, so a rehearing is being held so that the first bidder is properly notified and served.

- The Bayou Grosse Tete debris cleanup project will go out for bid sometime this summer.
- President Ourso discussed his frustration with DOTD regarding the Dorsey \ Lacroix railroad crossing in District 1. There will be a meeting with DOTD to go and look at the crossing.
- Pictures were presented to the Council of a machine digging out Whaley canal which ties into the White Castle canal. The pictures show the machine digging out the low spots. There are 3 phases of this project in the Trabau and Hymel areas.
- He also thanked Ms. Johanna who does a great job with the flowers at the North Iberville Welcome Center.
- The Parish paid 39 to 40 light bills for Bayou Pigeon residents.

Councilman Markins asked for the day and time for the vaccine appointments at the Health Unit. President Ourso answered they are available on Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Councilman Markins also asked if the Parish is physically picking up residents for the appointments, and President Ourso stated no.

Councilman Smith asked if you have to have an appointment or if you can just show up, and Mr. Clint Moore stated they not turning away anyone who shows up without an appointment.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Finance Director, Randall Dunn stated Financial statements had been sent out. He also stated in March he would come back to the Council to address the natural gas spike and stated it lasted a couple days and then it went down and he doesn't anticipate a high gas bill due to the price.

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE IPC# 001-21

ORDINANCE TO SELL PROPERTY PREVIOUSLY DECLARED TO BE SURPLUS BY IPC ORDINANCE # 016-17 TO NEIGHBORING PROPERTY OWNER ENOLA P. AMBEAU PURSUANT TO THE TERMS OF ORDINANCE # 002-13

WHEREAS the Parish of Iberville has a tax interest in the property described below which has been adjudicated for non-payment of property taxes.

WHEREAS the property described below has been previously declared to be surplus by Iberville Parish Council Ordinance #016-17.

WHEREAS the adjudicated property listed herein has been maintained for at least one year by an adjoining landowner. Section 14 of IPC Ordinance # 002-13 states: "Notwithstanding any provision of this Ordinance, Iberville Parish Council may, pursuant to the provisions of La. R.S. 47:2201(2)(B), as revised by Act 511 of 2009, allow adjoining landowners of an adjudicated

property which constitutes an adjudicated vacant lot to purchase the adjudicated vacant lot for any price set by Iberville Parish Council without any public bidding at a public meeting of the Iberville Parish Council provided that Iberville Parish Council determines that the adjoining landowner has maintained the property for a period of one (1) year prior to the sale. Such sale shall be deemed a public sale under the provisions of this subpart.”

WHEREAS the requirements of law having been met, including but not limited to, proper notice to any interested parties, advertisement in the official journal of Iberville Parish and the production of the three sworn affidavits attesting to the adjoining landowner’s maintenance of the adjudicated lot, the Iberville Parish Council desires to sell the following property:

1.) **Parcel #** 0510654300

Tax debtor: Alex Poche, Jr.

Location of property: 5390 Morris St.

Adjoining landowner intending to acquire ownership: Enola P. Ambeau

Suggested price: \$ 1,500.00

BE IT ORDAINED that the property described above is not needed for public purposes and is declared to be surplus and should be returned to commerce.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the property described above shall be sold to the adjoining landowner listed in accordance with the terms of Ordinance # 002-13 and the Iberville Parish Adjudicated Properties Program as administered by the Parish Administrator.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the adjoining landowner of the adjudicated property may purchase the adjoining property for the price suggested above unless another price is designated by the Iberville Parish Council.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that all ordinances or resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED should any part of this ordinance be declared null, void, invalid, illegal or unconstitutional, the remainder of the said ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

This ordinance shall become effective on this the 20th day of April, 2021.

The foregoing ordinance which was previously introduced at the meeting of the Iberville Parish Council on March 16, 2021 and a summary thereof having been published in the official journal on March 25, 2021, the public hearing on this ordinance held on the 20th day of April, 2021, at 6:00 p.m., in the Council Meeting Room, 58050 Meriam Street, Plaquemine, Louisiana, was brought up for final passage with a motion by Councilman Jackson, and seconded by Councilman Pierce, having been duly submitted to a vote, the ordinance was duly adopted by the following yea and nay vote on roll call:

YEAS: Allen, Easley, Dominique, Jackson, Smith, Pierce, Arnold, Markins, Bradford, Kelley, Vallet, Morgan.

NAYS None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: None.

The ordinance was declared adopted by the Chairman on the 20th day of April, 2021.

ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE II, SECTION 2-01E (PARISH COUNCIL) AND ARTICLE III, SECTION 3-02(B) (EXECUTIVE BRANCH) OF THE IBERVILLE PARISH HOME RULE CHARTER TO REPEAL THE PROVISIONS OF NO TERM LIMITS FOR THE OFFICE OF PARISH COUNCIL AND PARISH PRESIDENT

SUBSTITUTE MOTION

Upon a substitute motion by Councilman Dominique, and seconded by Councilman Markins, it was motioned to remove the ordinance from the agenda. The motion having been duly submitted to a vote was duly adopted by the following yea and nay votes on roll call:

YEAS: Allen, Easley, Dominique, Jackson, Pierce, Arnold, Markins, Kelley, Morgan.
NAYS: Smith, Bradford, Vallet.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: None.

The substitution motion was adopted and the proposed ordinance was removed from the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

A) Introduction of Ordinances

- 1) Ordinance providing for the incurring of debt and issuance of Seven Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$7,500,000) of Sales Tax Bonds, Series 2021, of the Parish of Iberville, State of Louisiana; prescribing the form, terms and conditions of said Bonds; designating the date and place of payment of said Bonds; providing for the payment thereof in principal and interest; authorizing the agreement with the Paying Agent, if necessary; and providing for other matters in connection therewith
- 2) Ordinance to regulate Trail Rides within unincorporated areas of Iberville Parish
- 3) Ordinance to establish the Magnolia Power, LLC Industrial Area within Iberville Parish
- 4) Ordinance to designate the Office of Louisiana State Fire Marshal to investigate suspected arson and suspicious fires and fire related fatalities in the unincorporated areas of Iberville Parish
- 5) Ordinance establishing regulations for Solar Farms in unincorporated area of Iberville Parish

Upon a motion by Councilman Bradford, seconded by Councilman Markins, it was moved that a public hearing be held on Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. on the introduced ordinances.

The motion having been duly submitted to a vote, was duly adopted by the following yeas and nay votes on roll call:

YEAS: Allen, Easley, Dominique, Jackson, Smith, Pierce, Arnold, Markins, Bradford, Kelley, Vallet, Morgan.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

The motion was declared adopted by the Chairman on April 20, 2021.

A moment of silence was held for the late Mr. Dale Stampley, a longtime employee for the parish.

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE REPORT

The Resolution Committee met on Tuesday, April 20, 2021 at 6:15 p.m., followed by the roll call with the following Resolution Committee Members only in attendance: Smith, Vallet, Pierce, Arnold, Kelley, Markins, Jackson, Morgan, Dominique.

Absent: None.

The following resolutions were read aloud by Mr. Songy:

- A) Resolution to permanently relocate Voting Precinct Number 5 currently located at Bayou Pigeon Library located at 36625 LA. Highway 75, Plaquemine, LA 70764 to new Bayou Sorrel-Bayou Pigeon Fire Station located at 35575 LA. Highway 75, Plaquemine, Louisiana 70764
- B) Resolution authorizing Parish President to sign grant application requests and all documentation related to funding from Capital Area Human Services District for Iberville Parish Council Substance Abuse Program for prevention and treatment

There were no questions from the Council or the public.

Councilman Dominique made a recommendation to forward the resolutions to the regular meeting, seconded by Councilman Pierce. The recommendation having been duly submitted to a vote was duly adopted by the following yeas and nay votes on roll call by Resolution Committee Members only:

YEAS: Smith, Vallet, Pierce, Arnold, Kelley, Markins, Jackson, Morgan, Dominique.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

The recommendation was declared adopted by the Chairman to forward the resolutions to the regular meeting.

DURING THE REGULAR MEETING:

RESOLUTION IPC# 2021-008

**RESOLUTION TO PERMANENTLY RELOCATE VOTING PRECINCT NUMBER 5
CURRENTLY LOCATED AT BAYOU PIGEON LIBRARY LOCATED AT 36625 LA.
HIGHWAY 75, PLAQUEMINE, LA 70764 TO NEW BAYOU SORREL-BAYOU
PIGEON FIRE STATION LOCATED AT 35575 LA. HIGHWAY 75, PLAQUEMINE,
LOUISIANA 70764**

WHEREAS, the following resolution was introduced by Councilman Arnold and seconded by Councilwoman Easley.

WHEREAS, the Iberville Parish Council has constructed a new modern fire station located at 35575 LA Highway 75, Plaquemine, LA 70764 which is larger and will provide more space, parking and conveniences for the general public for voting purposes.

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 18:534 provides once a polling place is established, it may only be changed by a vote of the parish governing authority. The Parish Polling Place Accessibility Survey for the new Bayou Sorrel-Bayou Pigeon Fire Station located at 35575 LA Highway 75, Plaquemine, LA 70764 is attached to this Resolution.

WHEREAS, the Iberville Parish Council does hereby desire to relocate the polling place for precinct number 5 currently located at the Bayou Pigeon Library, 36625 LA Highway 75, Plaquemine, LA 70764 to the new Bayou Sorrel-Bayou Pigeon Fire Station located at 35575 LA Highway 75, Plaquemine, LA 70764. This change will provide the voting public and commissioners a modern facility with increased area to conduct voting, more handicapped parking, modern restrooms, and more convenience in conducting elections. The proposed new polling place is located approximately one (1) mile from the existing polling place and will not inconvenience any voters.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Iberville Parish Council as follows:

“Subject to approval by the Louisiana Secretary of State, the polling place for voting precinct number 5 shall be permanently relocated from the Bayou Pigeon Library located at 36625 LA Highway 75, Plaquemine, LA 70764 to the new Bayou Sorrel-Bayou Pigeon Fire Station located at 35575, LA Highway 75, Plaquemine, Louisiana 70764. This precinct location for Precinct No. 5 shall be effective with the October 2021 elections.

“That a copy of this resolution providing for a permanent relocation of Iberville Parish Voting Precinct Number 5 be forwarded immediately to the Louisiana Secretary of State, Iberville Parish Clerk of Court and Iberville Parish Registrar of Voters. That upon approval of the precinct change the Iberville Parish Council shall publish notification of the change in the Parish’s Official Journal and notify the Iberville Parish Registrar of Voters to notify the registered voters of said permanent change in polling location for precinct number 5”

The above resolution was duly adopted in regular session this 20th day of April, 2021, by the following vote on roll call;

YEAS: Allen, Easley, Dominique, Jackson, Smith, Pierce, Arnold, Markins, Bradford,
Kelley, Vallet, Morgan.
NAYS None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: None.

The resolution was declared adopted on the 20th day of April, 2021.

RESOLUTION IPC# 2021-009

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARISH PRESIDENT TO SIGN
GRANT APPLICATION REQUESTS AND ALL DOCUMENTATION
RELATED TO FUNDING FROM CAPITAL AREA HUMAN SERVICES DISTRICT
FOR IBERVILLE PARISH COUNCIL SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAM
FOR PREVENTION AND TREATMENT**

WHEREAS, the following resolution was introduced by Councilman Arnold and seconded by Councilwoman Easley.

WHEREAS, the Iberville Parish Council will apply for grant funds from Capital Area Human Services District for its Drug Prevention Program and Outpatient Substance Abuse Treatment Program to be utilized in the program(s) operation for the Iberville Parish Substance Abuse Program in accordance with the terms and conditions of the grant application and awards.

WHEREAS, the Iberville Parish Council hereby authorizes the submission of grant application(s) to the Capital Area Human Services District for funding of its Drug Prevention Program and Outpatient Substance Abuse Treatment Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Iberville Parish Council that J. Mitchell Ourso, Jr., Parish President, is hereby authorized to sign any and all documentation, including applications, requests for funding, payment requests, invoices and all funding documentation related to grant funds to be provided by Capital Area Human Services District to the Iberville Parish Council for funding of the Iberville Parish Substance Abuse Programs.

The above resolution was duly adopted in regular session this 20th day of April, 2021 by the following vote on roll call:

YEAS: Allen, Easley, Dominique, Jackson, Smith, Pierce, Arnold, Markins, Bradford,
Kelley, Vallet, Morgan.

NAYS None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

The resolution was declared adopted by the Chairman on the 20th day of April, 2021.

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS REPORT

None.

DISCUSSIONS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, it was moved by Councilman Vallet, and seconded by the Councilman Pierce, to adjourn at 7:18 p.m. The motion was unanimously adopted.

/s/ KIRSHA D. BARKER
COUNCIL CLERK

/s/ MATTHEW H. JEWELL
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN