

**Minutes
Public Hearing
Town of Iowa
115 N. Thomson
Iowa, LA
June 13, 2022 6:30 p.m.**

A Public Hearing was called in compliance with all requirements as to notice and open meeting regulations.

Present: Council Members Gerald Guidry, Joe Becnel, Vernessa Guillory, Daniel Hennigan, and Mayor Pro-Tempore Julie Fontenot; Chief of Police Keith Vincent; Town Clerk Cynthia Mallett; and about 10 citizens.

Mayor Hesse and Town Attorney Eugene Bouquet communicated by speaker phone.

Mayor Pro-Tempore, Julie Fontenot, called the public hearing to order at 6:30 p.m. She announced the Mayor would not be present.

Ms. Fontenot announced the public hearing was regarding two ordinances. She read the first ordinance, Ordinance 2022-03, An ordinance to amend section 47 of the Town of Iowa Municipal code of Ordinances. She asked if anyone had anything to say regarding this ordinance. Nobody came forward. She read the second proposed ordinance, Ordinance 2022-04, An ordinance adopting an operating budget of revenues and expenditures for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023. She asked if anybody had any thing to say about this ordinance. Nobody came forward. Ms. Fontenot closed the Public Hearing at 6:31 p.m.

**Minutes
Regular Meeting
Town of Iowa
115 N. Thomson
Iowa, La
June 13, 2022 6:30 p.m.**

Mayor Pro-Tempore and Town Council met in regular session this date in compliance with all requirements as to notice.

Present: Council Members: Gerald Guidry, Vernessa Guillory, Daniel Hennigan, Joe Becnel, and Mayor Pro-Tempore Julie Fontenot presiding [quorum present]; Chief of Police H. Keith Vincent; Town Clerk Cynthia Mallett; and about 10 citizens. Mayor Hesse and Town Attorney Eugene Bouquet communicated by telephone.

Invocation by Joe Becnel; followed by Pledge.

Mayor Pro Tempore Julie Fontenot called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

She asked for a motion to amend the agenda. She read the items that needed to be added to the agenda.

It was **moved by Daniel Hennigan, seconded by Gerald Guidry** to amend agenda to add:

1. Motion to approve Resolution 2022-10, a resolution of the Town of Iowa Board of Council Members to declare certain property owned by the Town to be surplus to the Town's needs and directing disposal of same.
2. Motion to approve Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury and the Town of Iowa for the Summer Feeding Program.

3. Motion to approve lowest quote received for the construction of the Serenity Park from Empire Dirtworks, LLC and authorize Mayor Hesse to execute agreement with and between Empire Dirtworks, LLC and Town of Iowa.
4. Upon the recommendation of Chief Vincent, Motion to promote Justin Trahan from PFC to Corpral.

The motion passed unanimously.

It was **moved** by Daniel Hennigan, **seconded** by Vernessa Guillory to adopt agenda as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

It was **moved** by Daniel Hennigan, **seconded** by Gerald Guidry to approve minutes as presented for Regular Meeting May 9, 2022 and Special Meeting June 6, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

It was **moved** by Vernessa Guillory, **seconded** by Joe Becnel to adopt Ordinance 2022-03, An ordinance to Amend Section 47 of the Town of Iowa Municipal Code of Ordinances. The motion passed unanimously.

ORDINANCE 2022-03

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 47 OF THE TOWN OF IOWA
MUNICIPAL CODE OF ORDINANCES**

WHEREAS, The Town of Iowa has been petitioned to make N. Kinney Street a one-Way Street, heading south to David Street intersection. and;

WHEREAS it is the responsibility of the Mayor and Council Members to maintain and provide safety to citizens of the Town of Iowa, and;

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Town of Iowa, for safety and traffic control issues, to establish a one-way street from the intersection of Scott and N. Kinney Streets heading in the southern direction to the intersection of David and N. Kinney Streets.

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and the Iowa Town Council of the Town of Iowa, Louisiana, that Section 47 of the Code of Ordinances, Town of Iowa, is hereby amended to add and establish the above-described section of N. Kinney Street as a one-way street, and;

FURTHERMORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and the Iowa Town Council of the Town of Iowa, Louisiana, upon this section of N. Kinney Street as stated and described vehicular traffic shall move only in the indicated direction when signs indicating the direction of traffic are erected and maintained at every intersection where movement in the opposite direction is prohibited.

The above and foregoing addition to the Code of Ordinances, Town of Iowa, Louisiana, has been read and adopted and is only intended as an addition to said Ordinances and the remaining Ordinances and the past enacted Ordinances are still in full force and effect.

Said Ordinance having been introduced on May 9, 2022, the title having been read and appropriate public advertisement completed.

The above ordinance was adopted at a duly convened meeting on motion of Vernessa Guillory, seconded by Joe Becnel upon a vote taken as follows:

YEAS: Vernessa Guillory, Joe Becnel, Gerald Guidry, Julie Fontenot,
and Daniel Hennigan
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

WHEREUPON, the presiding officer declared the above Ordinance duly adopted on the 13th day of June, 2022.

JULIE FONTENOT, MAYOR PRO TEM

I certify that the above ordinance was presented to the Mayor Pro Tem by me on the 15th day of June, 2022.

CYNTHIA MALLETT, TOWN CLERK

I, acknowledge receipt of the above ordinance from the Town Clerk on this 15th day of June, 2022.

JULIE FONTENOT, MAYOR PRO TEM

I, hereby approve the above ordinance on this 15TH day of June, 2022.

JULIE FONTENOT, MAYOR PRO TEM

I certify that the above ordinance was received by me from the Mayor Pro Tem on this 15th day of June, 2022.

CYNTHIA MALLETT, TOWN CLERK

It was **moved by Daniel Hennigan, seconded by Joe Becnel** to adopt Ordinance No. 2022-04, An Ordinance adopting budget of revenues and expenditures for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022, and ending June 30, 2023. The motion passed unanimously.

ORDINANCE 2022-04
AN ORDINANCE adopting an Operating Budget of
Revenues and Expenditures for the fiscal year beginning
July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE IOWA TOWN COUNCIL of Iowa, Louisiana, in general session convened that:

SECTION 1: The attached detailed estimate of Revenues for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022, and ending June 30, 2023, be and the same is hereby adopted to serve as an Operating Budget of Revenues for the Town of Iowa, Louisiana, during the same period.

I certify that the above ordinance was received by me from the Mayor Pro Tem on this 15TH day of June, 2022.

CYNTHIA MALLETT, TOWN CLERK

NEW BUSINESS:

Engineer, Walt Jessen, was not present to give updates.

It was **moved by Vernessa Guillory, seconded by Daniel Hennigan** to approve final Invoice, #5 to D.W. Jessen & Associates, LLC for North Storer Avenue Drainage Improvements in the amount of \$3,235.32. The motion passed unanimously.

It was **moved by Daniel Hennigan, seconded by Joe Becnel** to approve payment of Partial Pay Estimate No. 5 and Final, #6 to McMarus Construction, LLC for North Storer Drainage Improvements in the amount of \$685.00 and \$21,775.33. The motion passed unanimously.

It was **moved by Daniel Hennigan, seconded by Vernessa Guillory** to approve Invoice #1 for I-2021-193, Southland Estate Asphalt Paving to R.C. Paving in the amount of \$182,686.50. The motion passed unanimously.

It was **moved by Vernessa Guillory, seconded by Joe Becnel** to approve payment to D.W. Jessen for Southland Estate Asphalt Paving in the amount of \$14,648.14. The motion passed unanimously.

It was **moved by Daniel Hennigan, seconded by Vernessa Guillory** to approve payment #3 for Waterline looping project to Blake D. Hines in the amount of \$14,823.00. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Jeff Kudla, Architect, came forward and explained the footage difference for the two baseball fields as per separate designs. Daniel asked to keep the design with the 275 foot fields. After some discussion it was agreed the fields be at 275 feet. Jeff Kudla said he will get all the stuff together for the advertisement for bid.

Upon the recommendation of Jeff Kudla, Kudla Architecture, It was **moved by Daniel Hennigan, seconded by Vernessa Guillory** to approve and accept the lowest bid submitted by Efficient Air Systems in the amount of \$98,000.00, enter into a contract with Efficient Air Systems, and authorize Mayor Hesse to execute all documents for the project. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Melissa Alexis, Property Manager for Patrick and Darnell Aguiard came forward and explained the owner's request to sub-divide Lot 19 and S ½ of Lot 17. There was discussion about the required square footage of lots. It was **moved by Daniel Hennigan, seconded by Vernessa Guillory** to approve the request to subdivide the property upon the review and approval of Mr. Eugene Bouquet, Town Attorney if it meets the square footage requirements. The motion passed unanimously.

Officer Crooks came forward on the following condemnation cases:

- 414a S. Knapp Street- Owner was present and said he will tear it down by the end of this week.
- 500 and 502 Railroad Avenue- Owner Mr. Miller was present and came forward. Mr. Miller said that he was fixing the two-story house at 502 Railroad Avenue and tearing down the other one. He was waiting for the dumpsters to be delivered. Officer Crooks gave the bids he received to demolish both houses: Young-\$15,900.00, D & M-\$9,700.00. It was **moved by Gerald Guidry, seconded by Daniel Hennigan** to give Mr. Miller two months to tear down the structure at 500 Railroad Avenue. The motion passed unanimously. It was **moved by Daniel Hennigan, seconded by Vernessa Guillory** to have Calcasieu Parish Police Jury prepare an inspection report for 502 Railroad Avenue. The motion passed unanimously.
- 616 N. Lightner Street- J. Broussard, owner was not present. Officer Crooks reported the progress of the case for this property. It was **moved by Daniel Hennigan, seconded by Vernessa Guillory** to condemn structure. The motion passed unanimously.
- 108 S. Storer Street- Officer Crooks reported that this address is adjudicated by the Town and Parish. It was **moved by Daniel Hennigan, seconded by Joe Becnel** to table until next meeting.

- 506 W. 1st. Street- Owner, Fellowship property Group LLC, Officer Crooks received two bids for the demolition of this structure. Young-\$7,250.00 and D&M-\$5,400.00. It was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Vernessa Guillory to send notice of condemnation to agents on file for Fellowship Property Group LLC. The motion passed unanimously.

It was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Gerald Guidry to appoint Lake Charles American Press as the Town of Iowa’s Official Journal. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Pro-Tem Julie Fontenot read the resolution for the adoption of millage rate for 2022 tax year. It was **moved by** Vernessa Guillory, **seconded by** Daniel Hennigan to adopt the millage rate for 2022 tax year. The motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION 2022-06

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following millage(s) are hereby levied on the 2022 tax roll on all property subject to taxation by Town of Iowa :
(Name of taxing district)

MILLAGE

<u>General Alimony</u>	<u>5.59 mills</u>
(Tax for: e.g. General Alimony, Library, Maintenance)	

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the proper administrative officials of the Parish of Calcasieu, 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 said Parish 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.

The foregoing resolution was read in full, the roll was called on the adoption thereof, and the resolution was adopted by the following votes:

- YEAS: Vernessa Guillory, Daniel Hennigan, Gerald Guidry, Julie Fontenot
and Joe Becnel
NAYS: None
ABSTAINED: None
ABSENT: None

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of the resolution adopted at the board meeting held on June 13, 2022, at which meeting, a quorum was present and voting.

Iowa, Louisiana, this 13th day of June, 2022.
(City, Town, Village)

(Signature of authorized person of the taxing district)

It was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Vernessa Guillory to approve resolution 2022-08, a resolution to sell surplus property. The motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION 2022-08

The Town of Iowa declares the following property is no longer needed by the Town, and is declared surplus property to be assigned and sold online by LaMATS through the LPS Municipal Surplus Property Program, 700 North Tenth Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, Paul Holmes, Program Administrator:

- 1) 1- 2016 Ford Mustang (Odometer 86,708)
- 2) 1-2009 Ford Pickup Truck

and assigns same to LaMATS, as-is/where-is, to sell online at <https://lamats.net/surplus>. All high bids are subject to review by the town to determine if the fair market value has been obtained. Where the minimum value of an item has been listed, but has not been reached, the Town of Iowa reserves the right to reevaluate the minimum value considering the auction results, and to lower the minimum value if deemed fair and reasonable, or to relist the item.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Town Council of the Town of Iowa, Louisiana on this 13th day of June, 2022.

Julie Fontenot, Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:

Cynthia Mallett, Municipal Clerk

It was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Gerald Guidry to enter into contract with Meyer and Associates, upon the approval of contract by Town Attorney Eugene Bouquet, for design of Emergency Response Center and to authorize Mayor Hesse to execute related documents. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Hesse, by communication of cell phone, explained that Meyer and Associates are successful in the application and process of Legislative Capital Outlay and this is funding the Town of Iowa is seeking for this project.

It was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Joe Becnel to approve Resolution 2022-09, A resolution appointing Pamela Adams to the Board of Commissioners of Ward Eight Fire Protection District No. One, said term to expire August 2024. The motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION 2022-09

BE IT RESOLVED by the Town of Iowa, Louisiana, convened in Regular Session on the 13th day of June 2022, that it does hereby appoint Ms. Pamela Adams as a member of the Board of Commissioners of Ward Eight Fire Protection District No. One, said term to expire August, 2024.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in accordance with state law, the above referred to appointee shall be administered an oath of office by any judge, justice of the peace, clerk of court, or notary public duly appointed and qualified in the State of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the above-named appointee shall be administered the oath of office within thirty days following receipt of this resolution

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Town Council of the Town of Iowa, Louisiana on this 13th day of June, 2022.

Julie Fontenot, Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:

Cynthia Mallett, Municipal Clerk

Upon the request of Mayor Hesse from special meeting June 6, 2022, it was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Vernessa Guillory to appoint Pat Thibodeaux as Public Works Director. The motion passed unanimously.

It was explained that additional repairs needed to be made from Hurricane Laura. It was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Vernessa Guillory to approve change order to the contract with K&J Development of SWLA for Hurrican Reconstruction. The motion carried unanimously.

It was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Joe Becnel to hire McElroy, Quirk, & Burch to audit the financial activities of the Town of Iowa for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022 and to perform Agreed upon procedures Report. The motion passed unanimously.

James Hardy gave a report on May activities for the Sewer Department.

Charles Ramour gave a report on May activities for the Water Department.

Clayton Aymond reported the activities for the Street and Maintenance Department for the month of May.

Chief Keith Vincent came before the Mayor and Council and reported the activities for the month of May for the Police Department. He requested the Council approve the following resolution. It was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Gerald Guidry to approve Resolution 2022-10. The motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION 2022-10

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF IOWA BOARD OF COUNCIL MEMBERS TO DECLARE CERTAIN PROPERTY OWNED BY THE TOWN TO BE SURPLUS TO THE TOWN'S NEEDS AND DIRECTING DISPOSAL OF SAME.

WHEREAS, the Town of Iowa has identified various items of town-owned property as being surplus, unused equipment and has determined it to be in the public interest to sell to the highest bidder.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE IOWA TOWN COUNCIL, AS FOLLOWS:

1. Quadruple monitor desk mount
2. Dell computer monitor, Serial #CN-OG493H-73731-86N-096M-A00
3. Dell computer Monitor, Serial #CN-OV18WW-64180-255-46JS
4. Dell {Precision T3610 computer, serial #4KLRDZ1

The Town of Iowa hereby deems the attached listed property as surplus equipment and will be sold at Pederson auction, to the highest bidder, in June, 2022.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Town Council of the Town of Iowa, Louisiana on this 13th day of June, 2022.

Julie Fontenot, Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:

Cynthia Mallett, Municipal Clerk

Upon the request of Chief Vincent, it was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Gerald Guidry to transfer Chloe Bergeron from Part-Time to Full-Time Dispatcher effective 5/13/2022. The motion passed unanimously.

Upon the request of Chief Vincent, it was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Gerald Guidry to promote Justin Trahan from Patrolman to Corporal. The motion passed unanimously.

Nobody was present to give fire department's report. Mayor Hesse, communicated by cell phone, that the pumper truck was broken and may need repairs or replacement. He wanted to let the Council know that the Fire District will need the help of the town to purchase a new one.

Julie Fontenot explained this new agreement is amended to include an additional \$500.00 for the cost of breakfast. It was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Vernessa Guillory to approve the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with and between Calcasieu Parish Police Jury for the summer feeding program. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Pro Tem Julie Fontenot read the next item to be discussed. To approve the lowest quote for the construction of Serenity Park. She read the three quotes presented and announced the lowest quote was submitted from Empire Dirtworks, LLC for the amount of \$187,100.00. It was **moved by** Gerald Guidry, **seconded by** Joe Becnel to approve the quote, award the construction project to Empire Dirtworks, LLC, and authorize Mayor Hesse to execute acceptance of quote. The vote was as follows:

YEAS: Gerald Guidry, Joe Becnel, Vernessa Guillory, Julie Fontenot

Nays: Daniel Hennigan

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Open for Council Comments: Mayor Hesse, communicating by cell phone, asked to make comments. He expressed that even with all the expenses of the hurricane and other issues, the town has been able to maintain the financial reserve it had. Also, he relayed the information given to him by Mr. Alan Cross that had the FEMA trailer park. He said some of the trailers were moved off and Mr. Cross' plans are to build duplexes as they are moved off. Mayor Hesse explained that a Mennonite organization will be back in town and will be moving some RV's into a trailer park for a temporary time period.

A citizen came forward requesting help and information of moving a mobile home in town that may not meet the criteria of the ordinances as per age of mobile home. She was given information of the steps to take to request a variance for this ordinance.

Chief Vincent announced the Police Department was serving Bar-b-que this Sunday for Senior Citizens.

With no further business, it was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Joe Becnel to adjourn meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 pm.

ATTEST:

Julie Fontenot, Mayor Pro Tem

Cynthia Mallett, MMC