

**Minutes
Public Hearing
Town of Iowa
115 N. Thomson
Iowa, LA 70647
November 8, 2021 6:30p.m.**

Mayor Hesse called the public hearing to order at 6:30 p.m. Present was Mayor Hesse; Council Members Joe Becnel, Julie Fontenot, Vernessa Guillory, and Daniel Hennigan; Town Clerk Cynthia Mallett; Town Attorney Eugene Bouquet; Police Chief Keith Vincent; and about 7 citizens.

Mayor Hesse announced the purpose of the public hearing, to review and receive comments on Plan 1 to redistrict the boundaries and rebalance the district populations of the Iowa Town Council election districts. He asked if anyone had any questions or comments. Nobody asked any questions or made comments. Public Hearing was closed at 6:34 p.m.

**Minutes
Regular Meeting
Town of Iowa
115 N. Thomson
Iowa, La
November 8, 2021 6:30 p.m.**

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

Present: Mayor Paul Hesse; Council Members: Vernessa Guillory, Daniel Hennigan, Joe Becnel, and Julie Fontenot; [quorum present]; Chief of Police H. Keith Vincent; Town Attorney Eugene Bouquet; and Town Clerk Cynthia Mallett; and about 7 citizens. Absent: Council Member Gerald Guidry

Invocation by Council Member Joe Becnel; followed by Pledge.

Mayor Hesse called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm.

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

It was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Joe Becnel to approve October 11, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

Jeff Kudla, Architect was not present. Mayor Hesse announced that a committee has been working on plans to build a new aquatic and activity center. He said an agreement with and between the Town of Iowa and Kudla Architecture, LLC has been presented for the design and planning services for this project. He asked, if the Council was ok with this agreement and want to pursue the project, he would like to enter into the agreement. Julie Fontenot asked questions about the cost, 1.5 million dollars. Mayor said this is a preliminary amount and there are possible grants that we will apply for to help with the cost. Mayor asked Daniel Hennigan if he will still head up this committee. Daniel said the committee will be meeting about once a month. It was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Julie Fontenot to approve and enter into agreement with and between Town of Iowa and Kudla Architect, LLC for the design and building of the Town of Iowa Activity Center and to authorize Mayor Hesse to execute said agreement. The motion carried unanimously.

Engineer Walt Jessen came before the Mayor and Council. He presented the bid sheet with the four bids received for the Water Line Looping through Iowa City Park I-2021-192. He announced Blake D. Hines was the lowest bid at \$163,730.00. It was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Julie Fontenot to

accept the bid from Blake D. Hines for \$163,000.00 for the Water Line Looping through Iowa City Park I-2021-192. The motion carried unanimously. Walt Jessen gave updates on other projects in the Town of Iowa: North Storer Avenue Drainage Improvements, finalizing the Buddy ballfield plans, Sewer Pond project, and Asphalt paving.

Mr. James Hardy, Sewer Superintendent, came forward and gave an update report of the Sewer Department. He said they will be walking out sewer lines and will put together periodic plans to smoke test with cameras. He will put a report together and start making repairs.

Clayton Aymond, Street Supervisor, came forward and reported the activities of Street Department for the month of October. Mr. Kenneth Landry asked about a stop sign that was not facing correctly. Mr. Clayton got the location from Mr. Landry and said he would take care of it.

Charles Ramour, Water Superintendent, came forward and reported the operations and updates of the water department and installation of residential meters. Mayor asked Pat Thibodeaux to talk about the installment of the water generator. Mr. Thibodeaux said that the generator will be arriving soon and the installment will be made as soon as it comes in.

Fire Chief Lewis came forward and reported the Iowa Fire Department activities for the month of October.

Police Chief Keith Vincent came forward and gave the activities of the Iowa Police Department for the month of October. Chief Vincent made the following recommendations:

- a. Transfer Brandon Guillory from full-time patrol to part-time patrol effective 11/15/2021
- b. Transfer Andrew Mayer from dispatch supervisor to dispatcher/administrative assistant
- c. Transfer Heather Pringle to dispatch supervisor
- d. Transfer Jeanine Dugas to dispatch supervisor/patrol
- e. Hire Laura Talbot as part-time dispatch effective 10/13/2021.

It was **moved by** Julie Fontenot, **seconded by** Joe Becnel to approve recommendations a-e. The motion carried unanimously.

Chief Vincent requested the Council amend the agenda to add a motion to dispose of hurricane damaged items stored in the old silos, owned by the Parish, located on W. Miller Avenue. There was a discussion with Mr. Bouquet and the Chief concerning the value of the items. Chief Vincent said some of the items are molded and needs to be thrown away. The other items will be identified and brought to the scrap yard. It was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Julie Fontenot to amend agenda to add a motion to dispose of hurricane damaged items stored in the old silos, owned by the Parish, located on W. Miller Avenue. The motion carried unanimously. It was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Julie Fontenot to approve the disposal of hurricane damaged items stored in the old silos, owned by the Parish, located on W. Miller Avenue. The motion carried unanimously. Mayor asked the Chief to give a detailed list of the disposal.

Mayor Hesse read the next item on the agenda, Resolution, 2021-12. He explained that it is an annual requirement in connection with the audit. It was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Julie Fontenot to approve Resolution 2021-12, A resolution to adopt the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire. The motion carried unanimously.

LOUISIANA COMPLIANCE QUESTIONNAIRE

RESOLUTION 2021 - 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 8th day of November, 2021.

Paul Hesse, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Cynthia Mallett, Municipal Clerk

Mayor Hesse requested the Council to review the presented appraisal report for the property located at 302 W. HWY 90. He said that the property owner was called and verbally agreed to sell the property to the Town of Iowa for the appraised amount of \$39,000.00. He asked the Council's approval to go forward with the purchase of this property. It was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Julie Fontenot to purchase the property and authorize the Mayor to execute any documents needed in association of the purchase. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Hesse read the title of proposed Ordinance No. 2021-06, An ordinance amending the code of ordinances, reapportioning single member voting districts for the Board of Council Members for the Town of Iowa, Louisiana, in accordance with the 2020 Census. The Ordinance was introduced as presented.

Mayor Hesse read the title of proposed Ordinance No 2021-07, An ordinance fixing meeting place, days, and time for Mayor and Town Council. The Ordinance was introduced as presented.

Mayor Hesse announced and presented the only bid received for the Collection and Disposal of Solid Waste. The bid was from Waste Management for \$17.45 per household unit per month for a term of five years. He explained that this will be for can pick up only. The town will pick-up, through a separate company, all other trash, except for white goods. He said people would have to take care of that themselves. Mayor announced that at the next meeting he will request the Council to increase the garbage rate to cover the increase and extra costs that the town will incur. It was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Julie Fontenot to enter into the agreement with Waste Management and authorize Mayor Hesse to execute contract with Waste Management. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Kenneth Landry came forward to complain that Waste Management, after emptying the can placed it in the middle of the driveway. Ms. Beverly Gilchrist, representing Waste Management, said she would speak with the manager about correcting this. She came forward and said she would have their legal department start on the contract and would send it to Mr. Bouquet for his review.

Mayor Hesse gave the financial report for the month of October.

Mayor Hesse asked if there was anyone present that wanted to bring something up to the Council. Mr. Johnny Mouton came forward and talked to the Council about a parcel of property he is interested in purchasing. He said it was the old trailer park on HWY. 90. He asked if they would approve it as a trailer park and if so, he could make a nice travel trailer park with it. He said he would fence it in. There was discussion between the Council, Mr. Mouton, and Mr. Bouquet about the question of it being grandfathered in. Mayor asked the Council if they wanted to have a Public Hearing before the next meeting to discuss it. Mr. Bouquet said that in his opinion this property isn't grandfathered in, and the Council adopted an ordinance against an RV Park in the city limits. Mr. Bouquet said he will confirm the ordinance and at that time notify the Council to see if they want to have a Public Hearing

Mayor Hesse announced that the town was working on the food baskets for Thanksgiving Day.

It was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Julie Fontenot to adjourn meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 8:12 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 December 13, 2021 at six thirty (6:30) 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 2021-06

An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances, Reapportioning Single Member Voting Districts for the Board of Council Members for the Town of Iowa, Louisiana, in Accordance with the 2020 Census

AND

Ordinance 2021-07

An Ordinance Fixing Meeting Place, Days, and Time for Mayor and Town Council

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.

