

**Minutes
Public Meeting
Town of Iowa
115 N. Thomson
Iowa, LA 70647
October 11, 2021 5:30p.m.**

Mayor Hesse called the public meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the 2020 census counts and to discuss the proposed redistricting. Present was Mayor Hesse; Council Members Joe Becnel and Vernessa Guillory, Julie Fontenot, and Daniel Hennigan; Town Attorney Eugene Bouquet; Chief of Police Vincent; Town Clerk Cynthia Mallett; and 2 citizens. Mr. Mike Hefner, Chief Demographer of Geographic Planning & Demographic Services presented the proposed redistricting map and explained the reason for the redistricting and process of adopting the new map. Persons present came forward to view the map. No questions were asked. Public Meeting was closed at 6:19 p.m.

**Minutes
Regular Meeting
Town of Iowa
115 N. Thomson
Iowa, La
October 11, 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; absent Gerald Guidry; and about 7 citizens.

Invocation by Council Member Joe Becnel; followed by Pledge.

Mayor Hesse called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

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

It was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Julie Fontenot to approve September 13, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

Jeff Kudla, Architect came forward to report the progress of repairs from Hurricane Laura. He stated that the plans and specs for the Public Works buildings should be ready to put out for bid soon. He talked about the presented plans and estimated report for the proposed Buddy Ball Field. He said he estimates the field to cost between \$650,000.00 to \$700,00.00. Mr. Kudla stated that if the council was good with this estimated cost, he will go forward with this project. Mayor Hesse said that grants may be possible and he wanted to go forward with this project.

Engineer Walt Jessen came before the Mayor and Council. He presented the final pay requests for project I-2020-182, Asphalt Paving of Barkley and Helen Street. It was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Julie Fontenot to approve pay request with clear lien for project I-2020-182 Asphalt paving to R.C. Paving in the amount of \$25,435.27 also, to D.W. Jessen's final invoice in the amount of \$1,721.98. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Jessen reported on the Water Line Looping Project through Iowa Park. He presented the drawings of the project and gave an estimated cost of the project. Mayor Hesse said funds received from American Rescue Plan (ARP) will be used for this project. It was **moved by** Julie

Fontenot, **seconded by** Vernessa Guillory to advertise for bids at an estimate cost of \$195,000.00. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Jessen reported that work for the N. Storer project has not started yet because of lack of materials needed.

Officer Crooks came forward and presented reports to Mayor and Council on two properties recommended for condemnation: 1) 510 W. Alley. 2) 104 A, B, and C S. Sherman Avenue. Council Member Julie Fontenot asked a few questions about the properties. It was **moved by** Julie Fontenot, **seconded by** Daniel Hennigan to send notification to the owners of the listed properties to appear at the next Council Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. James Hardy, Sewer Superintendent, came forward and reported the past months operations and updates of the sewer department.

Clayton Aymond, Street Supervisor, came forward and reported the activities of street Department for the month of September.

Mayor Hesse announced that a Request For Proposal will be sent for the solid waste collection of garbage in containers only. He said the pickup of other items will be done separately. Mayor Hesse announced that the culvert program is still being looked into. They are reviewing the legal affects with the property owners.

Mr. Landry came forward about the length of time trash cans can be left out after it is dumped. Mayor said he will get with Officer Crooks to see if there is an ordinance concerning this.

Charles Ramour, Water Superintendent, came forward and reported the past months operations and updates of the water department and installation of residential meters. Mayor Hesse announced that during the annual audit, it was discovered that there was an overpayment by commercial users.

Fire Chief Lewis came forward and reported the Iowa Fire Department activities for the month of September. He announced that October is Fire Prevention Month.

Police Chief Keith Vincent came forward and gave the activities of the Iowa Police Department for the month of September.

Mayor Hesse announced that he received one email interested in becoming a Fire District #1 board member. The email was presented to the Council Members. It was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Julie Fontenot to appoint Adrian Guillot as Board Member for the Fire District #1 Fire Board. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Hesse gave a report on the proposed appraisal that was ordered along with the Environmental Study. He said the appraisal was ordered but we have not received a report yet. The consulting firm is continuing to do the Environmental Study.

Mayor Hesse announce that a janitorial service is needed to clean City Hall and Police Department. He explained that he would include the Community Center but would be as a monthly cleaning or as needed. Council Member Julie Fontenot asked questions about what kind of cleaning would be done for the price quote. Council Members Julie Fontenot was not in agreement to sign a contract at this time.

Mayor Hesse asked Council Members about setting the date and time for Town of Iowa Trick or Treating. After discussion it was agreed to hold Trick or Treating in the Town of Iowa on October 31, 2021 during the hours of 5:30pm to 7:30pm.

Mayor Hesse gave the financial report for the month of September. He stated that all the financials are up to date and the September report is preliminary because the bank statements are not all in yet.

Mayor Hesse asked Pat Thibodeaux to give an update on Sewer Pond Fence. Pat gave an update on the work that was being completed at the sewer pond. Mr. John Baily, representing Pony Baseball, came forward to talk about the lights at the baseball fields. There was a discussion about what could be possibly accomplished and what was needed for the installation and repairs of the lighting. Mr. Baily also requested that the grass be cut more often and the safety of the back gate being open.

Julie Fontenot congratulated Daniel Hennigan as Teacher of the Year.

It was **moved by** Vernessa Guillory, **seconded by** Daniel Hennigan to adjourn meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

ATTEST:

Paul Hesse, Mayor

Cynthia Mallett, MMC