

**Minutes of January 9, 2024 – Public Hearing  
Mayor and Board of Selectmen  
City of Plaquemine, Louisiana**

The Mayor and Board of Selectmen met for a Public Hearing at Plaquemine Community Center, 23245 Short Street, City of Plaquemine, Parish of Iberville, State of Louisiana, 70764 on Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at 6:15 p.m., with the following members present:

Present: Selectman Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Michael K. Carlin, Sr., Thomas D. LeBlanc, Shannon P. Courtade and Selectwomen Wanda B. Jones and Natasha S. Johnson

Absent: Mayor Edwin M. “Ed” Reeves, Jr.

The Pledge of Allegiance followed the Clerk’s evidence of proper notice for the calling of the meeting.

In the absence of Mayor Edwin M. “Ed” Reeves, Jr., Mayor Pro-Temp Lindon A. Rivet, Jr. presided over the meeting.

Item 01. PUBLIC COMMENTS (MUST REGISTER WITH THE CLERK).

There were no public comments.

Item 02. PUBLIC HEARING – NOTICE OF INTENT TO ACQUIRE OWNERSHIP OF THE FORMER IBERVILLE PARISH COURTHOUSE (CURRENTLY CITY HALL) BY THE CITY OF PLAQUEMINE TO BE UTILIZED EXCLUSIVELY FOR GOVERNMENTAL SERVICES RELATED TO THE CITY OF PLAQUEMINE.

There were no comments from the public.

Item 03. ADJOURNMENT.

Selectman Shannon P. Courtade moved, seconded by Selectman Thomas D. LeBlanc that the City of Plaquemine adjourn at 6:18 P.M.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Michael K. Carlin, Sr., Wanda B. Jones, Thomas D. LeBlanc, Shannon P. Courtade and Natasha S. Johnson

Nays: None

Absent: None

CITY OF PLAQUEMINE

/s/Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Mayor Pro-Temp

/s/Roxane M. Richard, LCMC

**Minutes of January 9, 2024 – Regular Meeting  
Mayor and Board of Selectmen  
City of Plaquemine, Louisiana**

The Mayor and Board of Selectmen met for a Regular Meeting at Plaquemine Community Center, 23245 Short Street, City of Plaquemine, Parish of Iberville, State of Louisiana, 70764 on Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at 6:30 p.m., with the following members present:

Present: Selectmen Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Michael K. Carlin, Sr., Thomas D. LeBlanc, Shannon P. Courtade and Selectwomen Wanda B. Jones and Natasha Johnson

Absent: Mayor Edwin M. “Ed” Reeves, Jr.

Due to the absence of Mayor Edwin M. “Ed” Reeves, Jr., Mayor Pro-Temp Lindon A. Rivet, Jr. presided over the meeting.

The Clerk gave evidence of proper notice for the calling of the meeting.

Item 01. PUBLIC COMMENTS (MUST REGISTER WITH THE CLERK).

There were no public comments.

Item 02. INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES.

There were no new employees introduced.

Item 03. NUISANCE HEARING – TO DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION ON PROPERTY LOCATED FRONTING BAYOU ROAD, PARCEL ID: 0300493061, OWNER GENERAL STRUCTORS CONTRACTORS, INC. (DISTRICT 2)

No action needed, tree on property is in the process of being removed and once completed, property will be in compliance with city code.

Item 04. NUISANCE HEARING – TO DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 24320 FERDINAND STREET, OWNER JOHN T. ANDRISHOK. (DISTRICT 4)

Item heard after item number nine.

Selectman Thomas D. LeBlanc moved, seconded by Selectman Lindon A. Rivet, Jr. that the City of Plaquemine grant owner of 24320 Ferdinand Street 60 days to bring property into compliance with city code.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Michael K. Carlin, Sr., Wanda B. Jones, Thomas D. LeBlanc, Shannon P. Courtade and Natasha S. Johnson

Nays: None

Absent: None

Item 05. ADOPT AN ORDINANCE TO ACQUIRE OWNERSHIP OF THE FORMER IBERVILLE PARISH COURTHOUSE (CURRENTLY CITY HALL) BY THE CITY OF PLAQUEMINE TO BE UTILIZED EXCLUSIVELY FOR GOVERNMENTAL SERVICES RELATED TO THE CITY OF PLAQUEMINE.

Selectman Michael K. Carlin, Sr. moved, seconded by Selectman Shannon P. Courtade:

**ORDINANCE NUMBER 436**

**AN ORDINANCE TO ACQUIRE OWNERSHIP OF THE FORMER IBERVILLE PARISH COURTHOUSE (NOW PLAQUEMINE CITY HALL) BY THE CITY OF PLAQUEMINE TO BE UTILIZED EXCLUSIVELY FOR GOVERNMENTAL SERVICES RELATED TO THE CITY OF PLAQUEMINE**

**WHEREAS**, the Iberville Parish Police Jury (now Iberville Parish Council) utilized the Iberville Parish Courthouse on Railroad Avenue, 23640 Railroad Avenue, Plaquemine, Louisiana 70764 to house the Iberville Parish governmental agencies until the new Iberville Parish building on Meriam Street was constructed and utilized for all Parish governmental agencies for which the Parish Governing authority was responsible to provide office space to carry out their lawful governmental functions.

**WHEREAS**, all Parish governmental agencies relocated to the new Iberville Parish Courthouse in 1985 and the former historic courthouse was vacant until such time as the Iberville Parish Policy Jury and City of Plaquemine entered into a Lease and local services agreement dated February 5, 1985 (Attached Exhibit "A") for the City to utilize the former Courthouse 23640 Railroad Avenue, Plaquemine, Louisiana 70764 as the center of the City's governmental operations to house the Mayor's Office, City Court, City Marshall, City Light and Water Office, and City Tax Collector's Offices.

**WHEREAS**, under the terms and conditions of the Lease and Local Services agreement between the Iberville Parish Police Jury and City of Plaquemine, the City of Plaquemine was to maintain the old Courthouse building and all surrounding grounds of the building as depicted on the plat map attached to the Lease and Local Services agreement. The City of Plaquemine was to reimburse the Parish annually for the property insurance coverage associated with the old Courthouse.

**WHEREAS**, the close proximity of the new and old Iberville Parish Courthouses has and continues to provide convenient services to the residents of Iberville Parish and City of Plaquemine to transact public business with the Parish and City agencies. The siting of the new Courthouse and old Courthouse on the same block has greatly benefited the citizens of the Parish and City and will continue to be beneficial to the residents in the future. The location of Parish government and City government departments in a centralized area provides greater economy and efficiency of services to all residents and governmental entities and the benefits of such location of Parish and City governmental agencies are immeasurable.

**WHEREAS**, under the terms of the Lease and Local Services Agreement dated February 5, 1985 the ordinary and extraordinary repairs of the old Courthouse were in accordance with Louisiana law and each party has obligations to ensure the continues safety and integrity of the old Courthouse building.

**WHEREAS**, the old Courthouse building needs major repair and renovation to ensure the continued longevity of the structure for future generations and the estimated costs of all ordinary and extraordinary repairs are estimated to be significant.

**WHEREAS**, the City of Plaquemine has agreed to assume the cost of all ordinary and extraordinary repairs to the old Iberville Parish Courthouse at its sole costs in accordance with the repair/renovation recommendations by its professional team on repair/renovation to the old Iberville Parish Courthouse.

**WHEREAS**, in exchange for the repair/renovation of the old Iberville Parish Courthouse in accordance with the professional recommendations, the Iberville Parish Council shall transfer full title and ownership of the old Iberville Parish Courthouse 23640 Railroad Avenue, Plaquemine, Louisiana 70764 and immediate surrounding area (legally described in the attached Lease and Local Services Agreement attached exhibit A Entered February 5, 1985 to be expanded by survey being conducted by Courtland Bradford to include the parking area immediately adjacent to the southwest side of said building), utilized by the City of Plaquemine to the City of Plaquemine pursuant to a formal agreement to be executed by and between the parties.

**WHEREAS**, as further consideration in exchange for the transfer of the old Courthouse, 23640 Railroad Avenue, Plaquemine, Louisiana 70764, the City of Plaquemine agrees to take full ownership of all Parish owned sewer infrastructure, including sewer lines, lift stations and pumping stations, telemetry equipment, utility cost, all rights of ways, all documents related to customer information and to treat the community sewer from the system, which is more particularly described as follows: Sewer District 2, West Terrace, St. Louis Subdivision more particularly described by attached Exhibit “B” Entitled City of Plaquemine Sewer Maintained by Iberville Parish Utility and further described by attached Exhibit “C”, Aerial as the tan shaded area. Both the City and Parish shall notify DEQ and LDHH if required by law. The terms of the sewer takeover are detailed in multiple cooperative endeavor agreements between the parties any of which if in conflict with this paragraph are to be voided by formal agreement. Further the Iberville Parish Council and its parish president will honor any obligations it may currently have to complete all phases of work related to the Water Sector Program agreement /grant pursuant to the previously approved Iberville Parish American Rescue Plan Act Louisiana Water Sector Program Wastewater Collection System and Pump Station Rehabilitation and Improvements as it relates to the areas described in this paragraph and in conjunction with the attached vicinity map prepared by Pan American Engineers LLC and pursuant to the attached cooperative endeavor agreement between Iberville Parish council and State of Louisiana Division of Administration (Attached Exhibit “D” in globo) and any other applicable or necessary such agreements

**WHEREAS**, the old Iberville Parish Courthouse 23640 Railroad Avenue, Plaquemine, Louisiana 70764 shall always be utilized as the center of operations for City of Plaquemine government including the Mayor’s Office, City Clerk, City Court, City Marshall, Tax Collector and other offices as the City may deem appropriate.

**WHEREAS**, in the event the City of Plaquemine no longer desires to utilize the old Courthouse for its governmental operations or no longer has a need for the building, the City of Plaquemine shall notify the Iberville Parish Council and offer the Iberville Parish Council the right of first refusal to reacquire full ownership of the old Courthouse building.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED**, that Edwin M. Reeves, Jr., Mayor of the City of Plaquemine, be and is hereby authorized to execute the transfer of the former Iberville Parish Courthouse 23640 Railroad Avenue, Plaquemine, Louisiana 70764 to the City of Plaquemine in accordance with the terms of this ordinance.

The above ordinance was submitted for public hearing on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2024 and was adopted by the following vote on roll call:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Michael K. Carlin, Sr., Wanda B. Jones, Thomas D. LeBlanc, Shannon P. Courtade and Natasha S. Johnson

Nays: None

Absent: None

Item 06. **ADOPT RESOLUTION DECLARING EQUIPMENT SURPLUS AND RELATED ISSUES.**

Selectman Michael K. Carlin, Sr. moved, seconded by Selectman Thomas D. LeBlanc:

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Plaquemine, owns the following movable property which is no longer needed for a public purpose:

MODEL	SERIAL	DESCRIPTION	VALUE
ARLO - VML2030	A9E11A7CA1038	CAMERA	SALVAGE
PELCO DS-SRV2	KSA2022571	HARD DRIVE	SALVAGE
LINKSYS -LGS308P	14810C97924470	SWITCH	SALVAGE

PELCO IMP321-1ES	T91401563	CAMERA	SALVAGE
PELCO IMP321-1ES	T71109291	CAMERA	SALVAGE
PELCO IMP321-1ES	T71109253	CAMERA	SALVAGE
PELCO IMP321-1ES	T71109292	CAMERA	SALVAGE
PELCO IMP321-1ES	T71109289	CAMERA	SALVAGE
PELCO IMP321-1ES	T91301613	CAMERA	SALVAGE
PELCO IMP321-1ES	T71109257	CAMERA	SALVAGE
PELCO IMP321-1ES	T91301614	CAMERA	SALVAGE
PELCO IMP321-1ES	N/A	CAMERA	SALVAGE
PELCO IMP321-1ES	N/A	CAMERA	SALVAGE
PELCO IMP321-1ES	N/A	CAMERA	SALVAGE
PELCO IMP321-1ES	N/A	CAMERA	SALVAGE
PELCO IMP321-1ES	N/A	CAMERA	SALVAGE

**WHEREAS**, such property has no value or an appraised value of less than five thousand dollars, therefore the City of Plaquemine hereby proposes to dispose of such property in accordance with the procedures set forth in R.S. 33:4712 (F).

**THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City of Plaquemine have hereby declared the above-mentioned movable property which is no longer needed for public purpose as surplus with either no value and/or an appraised value of less than five thousand dollars as set forth in accordance with the procedures set forth in R.S. 33:4712 (F).

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Michael K. Carlin, Sr., Wanda B. Jones, Thomas D. LeBlanc, Shannon P. Courtade and Natasha S. Johnson

Nays: None

Absent: None

Item 07. DISCUSS AND MAKE A RESOLUTION TO RESTORE THE TRAVEL ALLOTMENT BACK INTO THE 2023-2024 APPROVED BUDGET.

Selectwoman Wanda B. Jones, seconded by Selectman Michael K. Carlin, Sr. that the City of Plaquemine acknowledge the 2023-2024 budget will be amended to include a one-time non-recurring travel expense from the general fund for \$25,000.00 and from City Light and Water Plant for \$20,000.00.

Selectman Thomas D. LeBlanc offered a substitute motion, seconded by Selectman Shannon P. Courtade to vote on the two one-time non-recurring travel expenses separately.

The substitute motion being put to a vote, **failed** by the following vote:

Yeas: Thomas D. LeBlanc and Shannon P. Courtade

Nays: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Michael K. Carlin, Sr., Wanda B. Jones and Natasha S. Johnson

Absent: None

With the original motion on the floor, **passed** by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Michael K. Carlin, Sr., Wanda B. Jones, Shannon P. Courtade and Natasha S. Johnson

Nays: Thomas D. LeBlanc

Absent: None

Item 08. DISCUSSION – ISSUE CONCERNING THE WALKING TRAIL THAT LEADS TO THE LEVEE FROM CANAL STREET.

Mr. Joe Williams addressed the Mayor Pro-Temp and Board of Selectmen concerning issues on the walking trail that leads to the levee from Canal Street. Ms. Ellie Hebert, with Peacock Communications, advised that they are looking into the issue and will contact Mr. Williams.

Item 09. DISCUSSION – THE PURPOSE AS WELL AS THE EFFECTS OF THE RECENT MASS UTILITY CUTOFF.

Item tabled.

Item 10. DISCUSSION – RENTAL CONTRACTS FOR CITY FACILITIES.

Selectwoman Natasha S. Johnson asked about updates on rental contracts for city facilities. City Attorney Joseph B. Dupont, Jr. asked that any Selectman/Selectwoman who has any input to try to get information to him within the next week.

Item 11. TO CLARIFY THE PURPOSE AND SPECIFICS OF LAMATS IN REFERENCE TO CHARGED OFF ACCOUNTS.

Selectwoman Natasha S. Johnson asked the purpose and specifics of LaMats. City Attorney Joseph B. Dupont, Jr. addressed her questions.

Item 12. TO DISCUSS THE SHARING OF PUBLIC RECORDS.

Selectwoman Natasha S. Johnson asked if there was any other way to download public records and e-mail to constituents. City Clerk Roxane M. Richard advised she will research and report back.

Item 13. TO DISCUSS THE PURPOSE OF THE “2023 ANNUAL EMPLOYEE LETTER FROM ED REEVES”.

Item tabled until next meeting.

Item 14. TO DISCUSS THE PURPOSE OF NATASHA JOHNSON’S RESPONSE TO 2023 ANNUAL EMPLOYEE LETTER FROM ED REEVES.

Item tabled until next meeting.

Item 15. TO DISCUSS FINANCIAL MATTERS.

Selectwoman Natasha S. Johnson asked Finance Director Lauren Berthelot questions concerning sales tax and asked to be notified when there is a promotion within the city. Selectwoman Wanda B. Jones asked Mrs. Berthelot concerning legal fees.

Item 16. TO ESTABLISH AN INTERVIEW PANEL FOR ALL PERSONNEL MATTERS.

Selectwoman Natasha S. Johnson requested when there are interviews being done for positions to please give the Board of Selectmen a call.

Item 17. TO RESCHEDULE THE REGULAR MEETING OF TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2024 DUE TO THE MARDI GRAS HOLIDAY.

Selectman Michael K. Carlin, Sr. moved, seconded by Selectman Shannon P. Courtade that the City of Plaquemine reschedule the meeting of Tuesday, February 13, 2024 to Tuesday, February 6, 2024 due to the Mardi Gras holiday.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Michael K. Carlin, Sr., Wanda B. Jones, Thomas D. LeBlanc, Shannon P. Courtade and Natasha S. Johnson

Nays: None

Absent: None

Item 18. COMMITTEE REPORTS.

a) PEC

Tony Arikol of PEC provided status on ongoing projects.

b) UTILITY DIRECTOR PAUL SEAWELL, JR.

Utility Director Paul Seawell, Jr. provided status on ongoing projects.

c) PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR IVORY PAINIA, III

Public Works Director Ivory Painia, III not present, no report given.

d) FIRE CHIEF DARREN RAMIREZ

Fire Chief Darren Ramirez briefed not present, no report given.

e) POLICE CHIEF STEPHEN ENGOLIO

Police Chief Stephen Engolio briefed the Board of Selectmen regarding his department and related matters.

f) FINANCE DIRECTOR LAUREN BERTHELOT

Finance Director Lauren Berthelot provided monthly budget to actual financial updates.

g) CUSTOMER SERVICE DIRECTOR AUDRIANE WILLIAMS

Customer Service Director Audriane Williams not present, no report given.

Item 19. ACKNOWLEDGE POLICE AND FIRE REPORTS FOR DECEMBER 2023.

So acknowledged.

Item 20. APPROVE PAYROLL VOUCHERS FOR THE CITY OF PLAQUEMINE FOR DECEMBER 2023.

Selectman Michael K. Carlin, Sr. moved, seconded by Selectwoman Wanda B. Jones that the City of Plaquemine approve payroll vouchers for December 2023.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Michael K. Carlin, Sr., Wanda B. Jones, Thomas D. LeBlanc, Shannon P. Courtade and Natasha S. Courtade

Nays: None

Absent: None

Item 21. APPROVE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 12, 2023 (REGULAR MEETING) WITH NECESSARY CORRECTIONS.

Selectman Shannon P. Courtade moved, seconded by Selectman Thomas D. LeBlanc that the reading of the minutes of December 12, 2023 (regular meeting) were waived and approved as accepted with necessary corrections.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Michael K. Carlin, Sr., Wanda B. Jones, Thomas D. LeBlanc and Shannon P. Courtade

Nays: Natasha S. Johnson

Absent: None

Item 22. ADJOURNMENT.

Selectman Michael K. Carlin, Sr. moved, seconded by Selectman Thomas D. LeBlanc that the City of Plaquemine adjourn at 7:44 p.m.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Michael K. Carlin, Sr., Wanda B. Jones, Thomas D. LeBlanc, Shannon P. Courtade and Natasha S. Johnson

Nays: None

Absent: None

CITY OF PLAQUEMINE

/s/Lindon A. Rivet, Jr. Mayor Pro-Temp

/s/Roxane M. Richard, LCMC