

**Minutes of June 13, 2023 – Regular Meeting
Mayor and Board of Selectmen
City of Plaquemine, Louisiana**

The Mayor and Board of Selectmen met for a Regular Meeting at the Plaquemine Community Center, 23245 Short Street, City of Plaquemine, Parish of Iberville, State of Louisiana, 70764 on Tuesday, June 13, 2023 at 6:30 p.m., with the following members present:

Present: Mayor Edwin M. Reeves, Jr. and Selectmen Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Michael K. Carlin, Sr., Thomas D. LeBlanc and Selectwoman Natasha S. Johnson

Absent: Selectwoman Wanda B. Jones and Selectman Shannon P. Courtade

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

Item 01. OPENING PRAYER.

Opening prayer was given by Mr. Mickey Harding with River International Ministries and Mr. Luke Avants.

Item 02. PUBLIC COMMENTS (MUST REGISTER WITH THE CLERK).

Mr. Joshua Johnson of 59040 Martin Luther King Blvd. spoke of the condition of his front yard after city crews completed work on a water leak at his resident.

Item 03. INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES.

Daria Daigle, Administrative Assistant for Mayor Reeves was introduced.

Item 04. TO APPROVE A 2023 CLASS T ALCOHOL BEVERAGE PERMIT FOR DA MIXOLOGIST FOR FUNCTION TO BE HELD AT THE PLAQUEMINE COMMUNITY CENTER, 23245 SHORT STREET ON JUNE 17, 2023; OWNER PRECIOUS DUPAS.

Selectman Lindon A. Rivet, Jr. moved, seconded by Selectwoman Natasha S. Johnson that the City of Plaquemine approve a 2023 Class T Alcohol Beverage Permit for DA Mixologist for function to be held at the Plaquemine Community Center, 23245 Short Street on June 17, 2023; owner Precious Dupas.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Michael K. Carlin, Thomas D. LeBlanc and Natasha S. Johnson

Nays: None

Absent: Wanda B. Joes and Shannon P. Courtade

Item 05. PUBLIC HEARING – TO DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION ON SAMMY'S DELI & GROCERY; PROPERTY LOCATED AT 22305 HWY 1. (DISTRICT 1)

Item tabled until further notice.

Item 06. PUBLIC HEARING – TO DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION ON PELICAN SHOPPETTE; PROPERTY LOCATED AT 23135 HWY. 1. (DISTRICT 1)

Item tabled until further notice.

Item 07. PUBLIC HEARING – TO DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION ON TWIN EXOTIC VAPE; PROPERTY LOCATED AT 23400 RAILROAD AVENUE. (DISTRICT 2)

Item tabled until further notice.

Item 08. PUBLIC HEARING – TO DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION ON VAPE AND BEYOND SMOKE SHOPE; PROPERTY LOCATED AT 24510 HWY. 1, SUITE B. (DISTRICT 4)

Item tabled until further notice.

Item 09. CONDEMNATION HEARING – TO DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 57844 GOVERNMENT STREET; OWNER MARY BATTISTE; C/O MERCEDES MILLIGAN. (DISTRICT 1)

Selectman Lindon A. Rivet, Jr. moved, seconded by Selectman Michael K. Carlin, Sr. that the City of Plaquemine grant owners of 57844 Government Street 30 days to comply with city code.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Michael K. Carlin, Sr., Thomas D. LeBlanc and Natasha S. Johnson

Nays: None

Absent: Wanda B. Jones and Shannon P. Courtade

Item 10. NUISANCE HEARING – TO DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 23630 FEDERAL STREET; OWNER THE ESTATE OF CHARLES SURIEL C/O VALEN JOHNSON. (DISTRICT 3)

Selectman Lindon A. Rivet, Jr. moved, seconded by Selectman Thomas D. LeBlanc that the City of Plaquemine begin condemnation proceedings on property located at 23630 Federal Street.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Michael K. Carlin, Sr., Thomas D. LeBlanc and Natasha S. Johnson

Nays: None

Absent: Wanda B. Jones and Shannon P. Courtade

Item 11. NUISANCE HEARING – TO DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 23639 FEDERAL STREET; OWNER ALBERT V. WALKER. (DISTRICT 3)

Selectman Lindon A. Rivet, Jr. moved, seconded by Selectman Thomas D. LeBlanc that the City of Plaquemine begin condemnation proceedings on property located at 23639 Federal Street.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Michael K. Carlin, Sr., Thomas D. LeBlanc and Natasha S. Johnson

Nays: None

Absent: Wanda B. Jones and Shannon P. Courtade

Item 12. CONDEMNATION HEARING – TO DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 58625 ALLEN STREET; OWNERS THELMA A. WATKINS & OTHERS, C/O GLENDA HANEY. (DISTRICT 6)

Selectwoman Natasha S. Johnson moved, seconded by Selectman Lindon A. Rivet, Jr. that the City of Plaquemine take legal action to bring property located at 58625 Allen Street into compliance with city code.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Michael K. Carlin, Sr., Thomas D. LeBlanc and Natasha S. Johnson

Nays: None

Absent: Wanda B. Jones and Shannon P. Courtade

Item 13. PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE – TO DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 23810 LEVY STREET; OWNER SCOTTIE L. HARRIS. (DISTRICT 6)

Selectwoman Natasha S. Johnson moved, seconded by Selectman Michael K. Carlin, Sr. that the City of Plaquemine remove property located at 23810 Levy Street from condemnation.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Michael K. Carlin, Sr., Thomas D. LeBlanc and Natasha S. Johnson

Nays: None

Absent: Wanda B. Jones and Shannon P. Courtade

Item 14. TO APPROVE THE REQUEST OF LYDIA WASHINGTON/ISABELLA HAYES AND AUGUSTINE JORDAN TO CONSOLIDATE LOTS 24, 25 AND 26 INTO LOTS 24-A AND 26-A; PHYSICAL ADDRESSES 58742 ANNEX STREET AND 58748 ANNEX STREET.

Selectwoman Natasha S. Johnson moved, seconded by Selectman Michael K. Carlin, Sr. that the City of Plaquemine approve the request of Lydia Washington/Isabella Hayes and Augustine Jordan to consolidate Lots 24, 25 and 26 into Lots 24-A and 26-A; physical address 58742 Annex Street and 58748 Annex Street.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Michael K. Carlin, Sr., Thomas D. LeBlanc and Natasha S. Johnson

Nays: None

Absent: Wanda B. Jones and Shannon P. Courtade

Item 15. TO ACCEPT BID FOR THE DEMOLITION OF 58311 LONG STREET.

Bid was received from the following: Collins Property Maintenance, LLC, 4862 Myrle Drive, Addis, LA 70710 for a total bid of \$6,000.00.

Selectman Michael K. Carlin, Sr. moved, seconded by Selectman Lindon A. Rivet, Jr. that the City of Plaquemine accept the bid from Collins Property Maintenance, LLC. 4862 Myrle Drive, Addis, LA 70710 totaling \$6,000.00 for the demolition of 58311 Long Street.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Michael K. Carline, Sr. and Thomas D. LeBlanc

Nays: Natasha S. Johnson

Absent: Wanda B. Jones and Shannon P. Courtade

Item 16. ADOPT RESOLUTION DECLARING EQUIPMENT SURPLUS AND RELATED ISSUES.

Selectman Thomas D. LeBlanc moved the following resolution, seconded by Selectman Lindon A. Rivet, Jr.:

RESOLUTION

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

MODEL	SERIAL #	DESCRIPTION	VALUE
Lenovo ThinkCentre M720Q	MJ0BQ04C	Hard Drive	SALVAGE
HP LaserJet P2035	VNB3452748	Printer	SALVAGE
2017 Chevrolet Caprice	6G3NS5U23HL301464	PD Vehicle	\$500.00 (to be donated to Town of White Caste
HP L1910	CNC802S055	Monitor	SALVAGE
HP LE1901WM	3CQ114C2HL	Monitor	SALVAGE
HE LE1901WM	3CQ1022RHF	Monitor	SALVAGE
HP LaserJet Enterprise M607	CNBCK6D1TQ	Printer	SALVAGE
HP LaserJet P3015	VNBCC7061X	Printer	SALVAGE
LTS LTN8716K-P16	8401706NZX00976	Router	SALVAGE
LTS CMIP3042-28	8401705BDX02227	Camera	SALVAGE
LTS CMIP3042-28	8401706BDX00747	Camera	SALVAGE
LTS CMIP3042-28	8401706BDX00043	Camera	SALVAGE
LTS CMIP3042-28	8401706BDX00828	Camera	SALVAGE
LTS CMIP3042-28	8401706BDX00781	Camera	SALVAGE
LTS CMIP3042-28	841706BDX000757	Camera	SALVAGE
LTS CMIP3042-28	8401706BDX00029	Camera	SALVAGE
LTS CMIP3C42W-M	8401906489X02406	Camera	SALVAGE
LTS CMIP3C42W-M	8401906489X02316	Camera	SALVAGE
LTS CMIP3C42W-M	8401906489X02381	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., Thomas D. LeBlanc and Natasha S. Johnson

Nays: None

Absent: Wanda B. Jones and Shannon P. Courtade

Item 17. TO ADOPT A PROCLAMATION DECLARING APRIL 10 – 14, 2023 AS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WEEK FOR THE CITY OF PLAQUEMINE.

Selectwoman Natasha S. Johnson moved, seconded by Selectman Lindon A. Rivet, Jr.:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Community Development Block Grant Program has operated since 1974 to provide local governments with the resources required to primarily meet the needs of low and moderate income person; and

WHEREAS, the Community Development Block Grant Program is among the few remaining federal programs available to address the needs of low and moderate income persons and small cities; and

WHEREAS, the Community Development Block Grant Program has provided the State of Louisiana with important and flexible assistance to meet the needs of low and moderate income residents of small cities by funding sewer, water and street improvements projects, economic development projects and other public improvement projects; and

WHEREAS, Congress and the nation acknowledge the critical value of the Community Development Block Grant Program and the significant projects that rely on its funds for support; and

WHEREAS, the week of April 10 – 14, 2023, has been reserved for recognition and appreciation of the Community Development Block Grant Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Mayor and Board of Selectmen of the City of Plaquemine, Parish of Iberville, State of Louisiana do hereby proclaim the week of April 10 – 14, 2023, as Community Development Week for the City of Plaquemine.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Michael K. Carlin, Thomas D. LeBlanc and Natasha S. Johnson

Nays: None

Absent: Wanda B. Jones and Shannon P. Courtade

Item 18. TO ADOPT A PROCLAMATION DECLARING THE MONTH OF APRIL 2023 AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH FOR THE CITY OF PLAQUEMINE.

Selectwoman Natasha S. Johnson moved, seconded by Selectman Lindon A. Rivet, Jr.:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the 55th Anniversary of the National Fair Housing Law, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, during the month of April, is an occasion for all Americans – individually and collectively – to rededicate themselves to the principle of freedom from housing discrimination whenever it exists; and

WHEREAS, this law guarantees for each citizen the critical, personal element of freely choosing a home; and

WHEREAS, a fair housing law has been passed by the State of Louisiana, and implementation of the law requires the positive commitment, involvement, and support of each of our citizens; and

WHEREAS, the department and agencies of the State of Louisiana are to provide leadership in the effort to make fair housing not just an idea, but an ideal for all our citizens, and

WHEREAS, barriers that diminish the rights and limit the options of any citizen to freely choose a home will ultimately diminish the rights and limit the options of all.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Mayor and Board of Selectmen of the City of Plaquemine, Parish of Iberville, State of Louisiana do hereby proclaim the month of April 2023 as Fair Housing Month for the City of Plaquemine.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Michael K. Carlin, Sr., Thomas D. LeBlanc and Natasha S. Johnson

Nays: None

Absent: Wanda B. Jones and Shannon P. Courtade

Item 19. UPDATE – REZONING AND CLASSIFYING THE W. W. HARLEAUX MEDIAN.

Selectman Michael K. Carlin, Sr. moved, seconded by Selectwoman Natasha S. Johnson that the City of Plaquemine leave electricity on the W. W. Harleaux median.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Michael K. Carlin, Sr. and Natasha S. Johnson

Nays: Thomas D. LeBlanc

Absent: Wanda B. Jones and Shannon P. Courtade

Item 20. DISCUSSION – UTILITY METERS THAT CANNOT BE READ AND RELATED MATTERS.

Item tabled until further notice.

Item 21. DISCUSSION – VANDALIZING OF CITY PARKS AND RELATED MATTERS.

Item tabled until the Committee Meeting of Tuesday, June 27, 2023.

Item 22. TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF CLINT BROWNELL AND CHARLEY ROBINSON TO THE PLAQUEMINE HISTORIC DISTRICT BOARD.

Selectman Thomas D. LeBlanc moved, seconded by Selectman Lindon A. Rivet, Jr. that the City of Plaquemine approve the appointment of Clint Brownell and Charley Robinson to the Plaquemine Historic District Board.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Michael K. Carlin, Sr., Thomas D. LeBlanc and Natasha S. Johnson

Nays: None

Absent: Wanda B. Jones and Shannon P. Courtade

Item 23. AUTHORIZE ADVERTISING TO RECEIVE BIDS FOR A DEPOSITORY OR FISCAL

AGENT FOR THE CITY OF PLAQUEMINE FOR A PERIOD OF ONE YEAR.

Selectman Lindon A. Rivet, Jr. moved, seconded by Selectman Thomas D. LeBlanc that the City of Plaquemine authorize the advertising to receive bids for a depository or fiscal agent for the City of Plaquemine for a period of one year.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Michael K. Carlin, Sr., Thomas D. LeBlanc and Natasha S. Johnson

Nays: None

Absent: Wanda B. Jones and Shannon P. Courtade

Item 24. ADOPT A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING PLAQUEMINE POST SOUTH NEWSPAPER AS THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL FOR THE CITY OF PLAQUEMINE FOR A PERIOD OF ONE YEAR.

Selectman Lindon A. Rivet, Jr. offered the following resolution, seconded by Selectman Thomas D. LeBlanc:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the City of Plaquemine, Parish of Iberville, State of Louisiana, is required by Louisiana Revised Statutes, 43:141 at its first meeting in June of each year to select a newspaper as the official journal for the city for a term of one year.

WHEREAS, there is only one newspaper circulation, the PLAQUEMINE POST SOUTH, in the City of Plaquemine, Parish of Iberville, Louisiana.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Board of Selectmen of the City of Plaquemine, Parish of Iberville, State of Louisiana, designate the PLAQUEMINE POST SOUTH as the Official Journal for the City of Plaquemine effective July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024, to print all legal proceedings of said city with the minimum set printing as required by law, unless otherwise instructed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, for the purpose of meeting the requirements of LSA R.S. 43:174, the name and address, effective date of selection and the period for which the selection is effective of the official journal be filed with the Secretary of State.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr. and Thomas D. LeBlanc

Nays: Michael K. Carlin, Sr. and Natasha S. Johnson

Absent: Wanda B. Jones and Shannon P. Courtade

With it being a tie vote, Mayor Reeves broke the tie by voting **yea**.

Item 25. ADOPT A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CITY ATTORNEY JOSEPH B. DUPONT, JR. TO PURSUE COLLECTION OF THE DELINQUENT 2023 OCCUPATIONAL LICENSES.

Selectman Lindon A. Rivet, Jr. offered the following resolution, seconded by Selectman Michael K. Carlin, Sr.:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the City of Plaquemine, Parish of Iberville, State of Louisiana, through its Mayor and Board of Selectmen, in accordance with Section 19-23 of the City of Plaquemine Code of Ordinances, Occupational License Taxes are due on January 1st and delinquent on March 1st; and

WHEREAS, the City of Plaquemine, Parish of Iberville, State of Louisiana, through its Mayor and Board of Selectmen, authorize City Attorney Joseph B. Dupont, Jr. to pursue collection of delinquent 2023 Occupational License Taxes, in a manner as provided by law.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Plaquemine, Parish of Iberville, State of Louisiana, through its Mayor and Board of Selectmen, authorize City Attorney Joseph B. Dupont, Jr. to pursue collection of delinquent 2023 Occupational License Taxes, in a manner as provided by law.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Michael K. Carlin, Sr., Thomas D. LeBlanc and Natasha S. Johnson

Nays: None

Absent: Wanda B. Jones and Shannon P. Courtade

Item 26. APPROVE A 2023 CLASS T ALCOHOL BEVERAGE PERMIT FOR CITY OF PLAQUEMINE FOR THE JULY 4TH CELEBRATION AND RELATED MATTERS.

Selectman Lindon A. Rivet, Jr. moved, seconded by Selectman Michael K. Carlin, Sr. that the City of Plaquemine approve a 2023 Class T Alcohol Beverage Permit for City of Plaquemine for the July 4th celebration and related matters.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Michael K. Carlin, Sr., Thomas D. LeBlanc and Natasha S. Johnson

Nays: None

Absent: Wanda B. Jones and Shannon P. Courtade

Item 27. COMMITTEE REPORTS.

a) PEC

Tony Arikol of PEC provided status of ongoing projects.

b) UTILITY DIRECTOR TRAVIS BOURGOYNE

Utility Director Travis Bourgoyne provided status of ongoing projects.

c) PUBLIC WORKS SUPERVISOR IVORY PAINIA, III

Public Works Supervisor Ivory Painia, III provided status of ongoing projects.

d) FIRE CHIEF DARREN RAMIREZ

Fire Chief Darren Ramirez briefed Mayor and Board regarding his department and related matters.

e) POLICE CHIEF ROBERT J. JOHNSON, III

Police Chief Robert J. Johnson, III briefed Mayor and Board regarding his department and related matters.

f) FINANCE DIRECTOR LAUREN BERTHELOT

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

g) CUSTOMER SERVICE DIRECTOR AUDRIANE WILLIAMS

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

Item 28. ACKNOWLEDGE POLICE AND FIRE REPORTS FOR MAY 2023.

So acknowledged.

Item 29. APPROVE PAYROLL VOUCHERS FOR THE CITY OF PLAQUEMINE FOR MAY 2023.

Selectman Lindon A. Rivet, Jr. moved, seconded by Selectman Michael K. Carlin, Sr. that the City of Plaquemine approve payroll vouchers for May 2023.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Michael K. Carlin, Sr., Thomas D. LeBlanc and Natasha S. Johnson

Nays: None

Absent: Wanda B. Jones and Shannon P. Courtade

Item 30. APPROVE MINUTES OF MAY 9, 2023 (REGULAR MEETING), MAY 23, 2023 (COMMITTEE MEETING) AND MAY 30, 2023 (SPECIAL MEETING) WITH NECESSARY CORRECTIONS.

Selectman Michael K. Carlin, Sr. moved, second by Selectman Lindon A. Rivet, Jr. that the reading of the minutes of May 9, 2023 (regular meeting), May 23, 2023 (committee meeting) and May 30, 2023 (special 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., Thomas D. LeBlanc and Natasha S. Johnson

Nays: None

Absent: Wanda B. Jones and Shannon P. Courtade

Item 31. ADDENDUM - DISCUSSION – UPDATE ON CITY HALL BUILDING AND POLICE STATION; POSSIBLE EXECUTIVE SESSION.

Selectman Lindon A. Rivet, Jr. moved, seconded by Selectman Thomas D. LeBlanc that the City of Plaquemine amend the agenda for discussion – update on city hall building and police station; possible executive session.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Michael K. Carlin, Sr., Thomas D. LeBlanc and Natasha S. Johnson

Nays: None

Absent: Wanda B. Jones and Shannon P. Courtade

Selectman Lindon A. Rivet, Jr. moved, seconded by Selectman Michael K. Carlin, Sr. that the City of Plaquemine go into executive session for discussion - update on city hall building and police station at 7:48 p.m.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Michael K. Carlin, Sr., Thomas D. LeBlanc and Natasha S. Johnson

Nays: None

Absent: Wanda B. Jones and Shannon P. Courtade

Selectman Lindon A. Rivet, Jr. moved, seconded by Selectman Thomas D. LeBlanc that the City of Plaquemine come out of executive session at 8:04 p.m.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Michael K. Carlin, Sr., Thomas D. LeBlanc and Natasha S. Johnson

Nays: None

Absent: Wanda B. Jones and Shannon P. Courtade

Item 32. ADJOURNMENT.

Selectman Michael K. Carlin, Sr. moved, seconded by Selectman Lindon A. Rivet, Jr. that the City of Plaquemine adjourn at 8:05 p.m.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Michael K. Carlin, Sr., Thomas D. LeBlanc and Natasha S. Johnson

Nays: None

Absent: Wanda B. Jones and Shannon P. Courtade

CITY OF PLAQUEMINE

/s/Edwin M. "Ed" Reeves, Jr., Mayor

/s/Roxane M. Richard, LCMC