



City of Lake Charles

326 Pujo Street
P.O. Box 1178
Lake Charles, LA
70602-1178

Meeting Minutes City Council

*Luvertha August, Rodney Geyen,
Ronnie Harvey Jr., John Ieyoub, Craig Marks, Stuart Weatherford
Council President: Mark Eckard*

Wednesday, August 16, 2023

5:30 PM

Council Chambers at City Hall

CALL TO ORDER - Mark Eckard, President of the Council

INVOCATION - Craig Marks

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - John Ieyoub

ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - President or Presiding Officer Mark Eckard, John Ieyoub, Rodney Geyen, Craig Marks, Stuart Weatherford, Luvertha August, and Ronnie Harvey Jr.

Absent: 0

Also present were Mayor Nic Hunter, Mr. David L. Morgan, City Attorney and Renee' P. DeVillie, Clerk of the Council.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF AUGUST 2, 2023

A motion was made to approve the minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 7 - Eckard, Ieyoub, Geyen, Marks, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

Against: 0

Hunter Lundy, candidate for Governor, addressed the City Council concerning his bid for the upcoming election.

Mr. Eckard stated that items 7 and 10 were deferred to September 20, 2023 and Item 11 will be deferred to November 1, 2023 and there would be no discussion on those items at this meeting. He also stated that Items 12 and 14 were being deleted.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- 1. 419-23** Public hearing and consideration of the Lake Charles Planning & Zoning Commission's decision to approve a request for a Major Conditional Use Permit in order to construct five (5) dwelling units on a .30-acre tract of land with Variance for a buffer reduction within a Neighborhood Zoning District, at the East side of the 600 block of Boston Street thru to Franklin Street.

Doug Burguières stated this matter came before the Lake Charles Planning & Zoning Commission on July 10, 2023 and the application was approved by a vote of (5-0). The request was to construct five (5) dwelling units on a .30-acre tract of land with a variance for a buffer reduction within a Neighborhood Zoning District. Charla Blake, Director of Project Build A Future and Brad Evans, Board President of Project Build A Future (PBAF) spoke regarding the project and the need for rental programs to assist someone to purchase a home at a later date after receiving financial education assistance. PBAF chose this area due to expected growth on Enterprise Boulevard. Mr. Geyen spoke in favor of project because he felt it would enhance the community and the tenants would be screened yearly to qualify to reside there. Ms. Patsy Shelton, 647 South Franklin Street, Lake Charles, LA and Ms. Lois Booker, 717 South Franklin Street, Lake Charles, LA were opposed because most of the residents in that area are homeowners and they were concerned about having rental properties in the area. Ms. August abstained from the vote due to being a board member for Project Build A Future. The request was approved by the following vote:

A motion was made that this item be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 6 - Eckard, Ieyoub, Geyen, Marks, Weatherford, and Harvey Jr.

Against: 0

Abstain: 1 - August

Enactment No: 202-23

- 2. 311-23** An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 1115 Pear Street, Allen Jones and Dorothy Marie Jones Revocable Living Trust, owner.

Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the property and Mr. Morgan presented photographs and documentation on proof of service which were made a part of the record. There were no requests to speak on this item. Mr. Harvey recommended time delays of 15/15 which were approved by the following vote:

A motion was made that this item be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 7 - Eckard, Ieyoub, Geyen, Marks, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

Against: 0

Enactment No: 19658

- 3. 313-23** An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 2124 10th Street, John Thomas Smith and Maria Smith, subject to a tax sale to State of Louisiana, owners.

Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the property and Mr. Morgan presented photographs and documentation on proof of service which were made a part of the record. There were no requests to speak on this item. Mr. Geyen recommended time delays of 15/30 which were approved by the following vote:

A motion was made that this item be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 7 - Eckard, Ieyoub, Geyen, Marks, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

Against: 0

Enactment No: 19659

- 4. 318-23** An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 3905 Auburn Street, David B. Landers and Robert Thomas Landers, subject to a tax sale to State of Louisiana, owners.

Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the property and Mr. Morgan presented photographs and documentation on proof of service which were made a part of the record. There were no requests to speak on this item. Mr. Weatherford recommended time delays of 15/30 which were approved by the following vote:

A motion was made that this item be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 7 - Eckard, Ieyoub, Geyen, Marks, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

Against: 0

Enactment No: 19660

5. **352-23** An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 626 Orange Street, Laura Jean Schulz and Michael Anthony Rider, owners.

Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the property and Mr. Morgan presented photographs and documentation on proof of service which were made a part of the record. Kierston Hill, 634 Orange Street, a neighboring homeowner, requested the home be secured. Mr. Weatherford recommended time delays of 15/30 which were approved by the following vote:

A motion was made that this item be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 7 - Eckard, leyoub, Geyen, Marks, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

Against: 0

Enactment No: 19661

6. **354-23** An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 2217 Barbe Street, David T. Gaar, Jr. and Laura Lindsay Garr, owners.

This item was deferred to the September 20, 2023 City Council meeting.

For: 7 - Eckard, leyoub, Geyen, Marks, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

Against: 0

7. **388-23** An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 2126 Griffin Street, Yolanda Bernard Tezeno, Sean Allen Keith Tezeno, Seanan Lee Tezeno, Shanece Marcus Tezeno, and Marcus Keith Tezeno, owners.

A motion was made that this item be Deferred to the September 20, 2023 City Council meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 7 - Eckard, leyoub, Geyen, Marks, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

Against: 0

8. **389-23** An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 1200 North Prater Street, Old Emanuel Baptist Church, owner.

A motion was made that this item be Deferred to the October 4, 2023 City Council meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 7 - Eckard, Ieyoub, Geyen, Marks, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

Against: 0

9. **390-23** An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 735 King Street, Glenda F. Cherme, Patricia Ann Thomas, Sharon Lynn Lewis and Samuel Glenn Washington, owner.

Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the property and Mr. Morgan presented photographs and documentation on proof of service which were made a part of the record. Sharon Lynn Lewis, 6271 Mark Lebleu Road, Lake Charles, LA spoke on behalf of her parents and requested that the City demolish the structure. Ms. August recommended time delays of 15/15 which were approved by the following vote:

A motion was made that this item be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 7 - Eckard, Ieyoub, Geyen, Marks, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

Against: 0

Enactment No: 19662

10. **391-23** An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 3416 West Roosevelt Street, Mervin B. Danclar Estate, owner.

A motion was made that this item be Deferred until the September 20, 2023 City Council meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 7 - Eckard, Ieyoub, Geyen, Marks, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

Against: 0

- 11. 392-23** An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 2502-2540 Oak Park Boulevard, JB Estates, LLP, owner.

A motion was made that this item be Deferred to the November 1, 2023 City Council meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 7 - Eckard, Ieyoub, Geyen, Marks, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

Against: 0

- 12. 393-23** An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 2420 Dietz Street, Nationstar Mortgage, LLC, owner.

This item was deleted.

- 13. 394-23** An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 1227 Ryan Street, Mazen Mustapha Hijazi, owner.

Mr. Ieyoub spoke to owners who have a buy/sell agreement and requested a deferral to October 18, 2023.

A motion was made that this item be Deferred to October 18, 2023. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 7 - Eckard, Ieyoub, Geyen, Marks, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

Against: 0

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL ACTION

- 14. 358-23** An ordinance accepting the lowest responsible bid and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for Project No. DR017 - Ball Field Lighting Repairs.

- 15. 400-23** An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement with a firm to provide cybersecurity services for the City of Lake Charles.

It was recommended that the proposal submitted by CFC Security d/b/a Solis Security be accepted for an amount up to \$380,000 for the first year.

For: 7 - Eckard, Ieyoub, Geyen, Marks, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

Against: 0

Enactment No: 19663

- 16. 411-23** An ordinance amending and restating Ordinance No. 19495 authorizing issuance of not to exceed \$20,000,000 Taxable Water Revenue Bonds, (City of Lake Charles Public Improvement Project), Series 2023, in order to increase the principal amount not to exceed \$30,000,000; prescribing the form and certain terms and conditions of said bonds; providing for payment thereof in principal and interest; entering into certain other covenants and agreements in connection with the security and payment of said bonds; selling said bonds to The Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund; authorizing the execution of a loan and pledge agreement and other loan documents with the Louisiana Department of Health; providing for the delivery of the bonds to said department; and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

Mr. Eckard stated that this a public hearing and that anyone would be allowed to speak. No one spoke on this matter.

A motion was made by Mr. Craig Marks and seconded by Mr. Rodney Geyen that this item be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 7 - Eckard, Ieyoub, Geyen, Marks, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

Against: 0

Enactment No: 19664

- 17. 412-23** An ordinance prohibiting loitering at the Lake Charles Civic Center between the hours of 8:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.

This item was deferred to consider amending the proposed hours and designating specific locations.

A motion was made that this item be Deferred to September 6, 2023. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 7 - Eckard, Ieyoub, Geyen, Marks, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

Against: 0

- 18. 413-23** An ordinance amending Part II, Chapter 18, Article IV and Article V, of the Code of Ordinances concerning installation of utility lines, adding Article VI concerning telecommunications, and incorporating any charges and fees as referenced therein to Appendix A City of Lake Charles Fee Schedule.

This item was amended to add a section to amend the fee schedule in accordance with these new provisions.

A motion was made that this item be amended. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 7 - Eckard, Ieyoub, Geyen, Marks, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

Against: 0

0

Enactment No: 19665

A motion was made that this item be adopted as amended. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 7 - Eckard, Ieyoub, Geyen, Marks, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

Against: 0

Enactment No: 19665

- 19. 417-23** An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into a Development Agreement with AAHLB, LLC for the relocation of the City of Lake Charles Public Works Complex.

A motion was made that this item be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 7 - Eckard, Ieyoub, Geyen, Marks, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

Against: 0

Enactment No: 19666

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS WERE ADOPTED BY CONSENT

- 24. 425-23** A resolution ordering and calling a special election to be held in the City of Lake Charles (the "City"), Louisiana, on November 18, 2023 to authorize the levy and collection of a 2% sales and use tax in lieu of two existing 1% (collectively 2%) sales and use taxes currently being levied and collected within the City; and the levy and collection of a 0.5% sales and use tax in lieu of two existing 0.25% (collectively .5%) sales and use taxes currently being levied and collected within the City.

A motion was made by Mr. Geyen, seconded by Mr. Marks, that this item be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 7 - Eckard, Ieyoub, Geyen, Marks, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

Against: 0

Enactment No: 205-23

ROLL CALL

Present: 6 - President or Presiding Officer Mark Eckard, John Ieyoub, Rodney Geyen, Stuart Weatherford, Luvertha August, and Ronnie Harvey Jr.

Absent: 1 - Craig Marks

- 25. 437-23** A resolution amending Resolution No. 65-23, passed and adopted on March 15, 2023 to add a new section designating the Director of Finance as the Official Project Representative with respect to the development of a financing for acquisition and establishment of additions to and improvements of the City's sewer system in order to provide additional security for the financing; and otherwise providing with respect thereto.

This item was amended to change the Resolution No. from 63-23 to 65-23 and also to designate Emily K. McDaniel, Director of Finance as the official project representative.

A motion was made that this item be amended. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 6 - Eckard, Ieyoub, Geyen, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

Against: 0

Absent: 1 - Marks

Enactment No: 203-23

A motion was made that this item be adopted as amended. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 6 - Eckard, Ieyoub, Geyen, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

Against: 0

Absent: 1 - Marks

Enactment No: 203-23

- 26. 438-23** A resolution of the City Council of the City of Lake Charles requesting that the Lake Charles Police Department and the Public Works Department work in collaboration to remove any illegal banners and/or signs erected within City of Lake Charles owned and/or maintained right of ways and public spaces without permission including graffiti as well as aggressively enforcing the laws prohibiting littering and graffiti.

A motion was made that this item be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 6 - Eckard, Ieyoub, Geyen, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

Against: 0

Absent: 1 - Marks

Enactment No: 204-23

- 20. 421-23** A resolution setting date for public hearing on condemnation of a structure located at 1540 Mill Street, Josephine Avery Estate, owner.

A motion was made including all the preceding items marked as having been adopted on the Consent Agenda.

For: 6 - Eckard, Ieyoub, Geyen, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

Against: 0

Absent: 1 - Marks

Enactment No: 206-23

- 21. 422-23** A resolution setting date for public hearing on condemnation of a structure located at 1128 ½ Hodges Street, Matthew Dwight Henrich, owner.

A motion was made including all the preceding items marked as having been adopted on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 6 - Eckard, Ieyoub, Geyen, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

Against: 0

Absent: 1 - Marks

Enactment No: 207-23

- 22. 423-23** A resolution setting date for public hearing on condemnation of a structure located at 1030 Bauer Street, Michael J. O'Donoghue and Carol Ray Shinnette, owners, subject to a tax sale to State of Louisiana.

A motion was made including all the preceding items marked as having been adopted on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 6 - Eckard, Ieyoub, Geyen, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

Against: 0

Absent: 1 - Marks

Enactment No: 208-23

- 23. 424-23** A resolution authorizing the City of Lake Charles to advertise to receive sealed bids for the purchase of Three (3) New Three-Quarter Ton Crew Cab Pickup Trucks for use by the Public Works Department, Grounds Maintenance Division (1), Streets Division (1), and the Parks and Recreation Department (1).

A motion was made including all the preceding items marked as having been adopted on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 6 - Eckard, Ieyoub, Geyen, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

Against: 0

Absent: 1 - Marks

Enactment No: 209-23

THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES WERE INTRODUCED BY CONSENT AND READ INTO THE RECORD AUGUST 17, 2023 AT 1:00 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN CITY HALL

- 27. 426-23** An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 1540 Mill Street, Josephine Avery Estate, owner.

- 28. 427-23** An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 1128 ½ Hodges Street, Matthew Dwight Henrich, owner.

- 29. 428-23** An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 1030 Bauer Street, Michael J. O'Donoghue and Carol Ray Shinnette, owners, subject to a tax sale to State of Louisiana.
- 30. 429-23** An ordinance accepting the lowest responsible bid and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement to purchase Three (3) New Three-Quarter Ton Crew Cab Pickup Trucks for use by the Public Works Department, Grounds Maintenance Division (1), Streets Division (1), and the Recreation and Parks Department (1).
- 31. 430-23** An ordinance accepting the lowest responsible bid and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for Project No. CP3385 - 2020 CDBG Asphalt Overlay.
- 32. 431-23** An ordinance amending Sec. 4-71 of the Code of Ordinances entitled as "Charges and civil penalties" to provide for concurrent, generally applicable civil and criminal penalties for any violations of any of the provisions under Chapter 4 of the Code of Ordinances entitled "Animals and Fowl".
- 33. 432-23** An ordinance repealing Article II (Registration, License and Permits) of Chapter 5 (Bicycles, Skateboards and Other Nonmotorized Vehicles) of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Lake Charles (Sections 5-15 through 5-21).
- 34. 433-23** An ordinance adopting the Operating and Capital Budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2023 and ending September 30, 2024.
- 35. 434-23** An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into any right-of-way agreements for the approved FY 2023-2024 Capital Improvement Projects and/or for right-of-ways and to acquire land and/or compliance with the sight triangle ordinance for FY 2023-2024.
- 36. 435-23** An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into Architectural and Engineering (A&E) agreements on all projects outlined in the approved Capital Improvement Program (CIP), funded in the FY 2023-2024 Capital Budget.

- 37. 436-23** An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement(s) for programs related to special arts and cultural events/exhibits, as authorized in the Operating and Capital Budget for the 2023-2024 fiscal year.
- 38. 439-23** An ordinance amending Section 20-78 of Chapter 20 of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Lake Charles, Louisiana, to allow parking on the north side of 8th Street from Bank Street to Enterprise Boulevard.

ADJOURNMENT - With no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:23 p.m. The next regular meeting of the City Council is September 6, 2023.

I, RENEE' P. DEVILLE, do hereby certify that I am the duly qualified and acting Clerk of the Council of the City of Lake Charles, Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana.

I further certify that the above and foregoing constitutes a true and correct copy of the Minutes of a meeting of the City Council of said City, held on the 16th day of August, 2023.

WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my official signature and impressed hereon the official seal of said City, this 23rd day of August, 2023.
s/Renee P. DeVille, Clerk of the Council.

I, RENEE' P. DEVILLE, do hereby certify that I am the duly qualified and acting Clerk of the Council of the City of Lake Charles, Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana.

I further certify that the above and foregoing constitutes a true and correct copy of the Ordinances adopted at a meeting of the City Council of said city held on the 16th day of August, 2023.

WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my official signature and impressed upon the official seal of said City, this 23rd day of August, 2023.
s/Renee' P. DeVille, Clerk of the Council.

The City of Lake Charles fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Americans with Disabilities Act, and related statutes, executive orders, and regulations in all programs and activities. The City operates without regard to race, color, or national origin. Any person who believes him/herself or any specific class of persons, to be subjected to discrimination prohibited by Title VI and/or Americans with Disabilities Act may by him/herself or by representative file a written complaint with the City of Lake Charles. The City's Title VI Coordinator/ADA Coordinator may be reached by phone at (337) 491-1440, the Mayor's Action Line at (337) 491-1346, or contact the appropriate Department Head.