

City of Lake Charles

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

Meeting Minutes City Council

Wednesday, June 18, 2025	5:30 PM	Council Chambers at City Hall
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AGENDA FOR REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 18, 2025 TO BE TAKEN UP IN ACCORDANCE WITH RESOLUTION NO. 150-97, RULES FOR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF LAKE CHARLES, LOUISIANA

CALL TO ORDER - President Craig Marks, presiding INVOCATION - Rodney Geyen PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Mark Eckard

As a point of personal privilege, President Marks along with Mayor Hunter presented an award to Luke Hargrave, a 12th grade Barbe High School student who won 3rd Prize in the C-SPAN High School Central Division for his documentary entitled "Too Addicted to Change".

As a point of personal privilege, John Cardone and Craig Marks presented awards to Mayor Nicholas E. Hunter (8 years), Luvertha August (17 years), Mark Eckard (16 years), Rodney Geyen (28 years), and John leyoub (16 years) in recognition of their dedicated years of service to the City of Lake Charles. Mark Kraus also expressed his gratitude and thanked them for their commitment and contributions over the years.

ROLL CALL

- Present: 7 President or Presiding Officer Mark Eckard, John leyoub, Rodney Geyen, President or Presiding Officer Craig Marks, Stuart Weatherford, Luvertha August, and Ronnie Harvey Jr.
- Absent: 0

Also present were David L. Morgan, City Attorney, John Cardone, City Administrator and Renee' P. DeVille, Clerk of the Council.

Mr. Marks stated Item 1 was being deferred until July 2, 2025, Item 7 was being deferred until July 16, 2025 and Items 9, 16 and 22 were being deleted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

- For: 7 Eckard, leyoub, Geyen, Marks, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.
- Against: 0

Absent: 0

APPOINTMENTS

1. 199-25

An ordinance accepting the lowest responsible bid and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for Project No. CP3502 - Kirby and Hodges Street Sidewalk Repairs.

This item was deferred at the beginning of the meeting until the July 2, 2025 regular city council meeting.

2. 201-25

An ordinance accepting the lowest responsible bid and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for Project No. LCR409 - Buddy Prejean Park Enhancements.

Mr. Marks was appointed chairman.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

3. 667-24

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 1726 8th Street, Corey Hale, owner.

Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and David Morgan, City Attorney, presented photographs and documentation showing proof of service which were made part of the record. There were no requests to speak on this item. David Morgan stated that the owner had been working with the title company to clear the title and keeping the city abreast of the progress. Ms. August recommended deferral until the August 20, 2025 regular city council meeting, which was approved by the following vote.

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

- For: 7 Eckard, leyoub, Geyen, Marks, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.
- Against: 0
- Absent: 0

4. 764-24

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 1517 Fournet Street (including all three structures), Serenity Oaks Property LLC, owner.

Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and David Morgan, City Attorney, presented photographs and documentation showing proof of service which were made part of the record. Joshua Moreaux, Sr., 1813 Broadmoor Drive, Lake Charles, LA stated that the State was planning on taking control of the property as part of the rental restoration program. Mr. Harvey recommended deferral to the August 20, 2025 regular city council meeting which was approved by the following vote.

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

- For: 7 Eckard, leyoub, Geyen, Marks, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.
- Against: 0
- Absent: 0

5. 768-24

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 1517 Martha Street, Don Erik Muhammad, owner.

Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and David Morgan, City Attorney, presented photographs and documentation showing proof of service which were made part of the record. Don Muhammad, 1517 Martha Street, Lake Charles, LA stated he resides in the front part of the structure and has been repairing the back part which was an add-on that was damaged when a tree fell on it. He requested additional time. Mr. Harvey recommended deferral until the September 17, 2025 regular council meeting which was approved by the following vote.

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

- For: 7 Eckard, leyoub, Geyen, Marks, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.
- Against: 0
- Absent: 0

6. 800-24

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 3026 General Marshall Street, Dream Investments, LLC, Cecila Jefferson, Barbara Combs, Catherine Gaskin, Michael Joseph Deville, Brenda Joyce Jones a/k/a Brenda Joyce Guillory, Dexter Jerome Goodman, Arimis King, Larry James King, Donald Raymond King, Sheila Ann Simon King, and William Samuel King, Jr., owners.

Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and David Morgan, City Attorney, presented photographs and documentation showing proof of service which were made part of the record. There were no requests to speak on this item. *Mr.* Geyen recommended time delays of 30/60 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
- Absent: 0

Enactment No: 20322

7. 14-25

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 709 McNabb Street, Gordon Drilling Company, Inc., owner.

This item was deferred at the beginning of the meeting until the July 16, 2025 regular council meeting.

8. 123-25

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of two structures located at 1702 Commercial Street and 832 North Shattuck Street, Azucena Madrigal, owner.

Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and David Morgan, City Attorney, presented photographs and documentation showing proof of service which were made part of the record. Edgar Madrigal, 1626 8th Street, Lake Charles, LA, on behalf of his mother, Azucena Madrigal, stated he met with Doug Burguieres regarding getting a variance, but decided to demo the structure and remove the slab that was left from the Shattuck Street structure. Mr. Harvey recommended time delays of 30/90 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

Absent: 0

Enactment No: 20323

14. 192-25

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 104 North Moss Street, Edgar Madrigal, owner.

As a point of personal privilege requested by Corey Rubin, Asst. City Attorney, this item was requested to be moved up. Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and David Morgan, City Attorney, presented photographs and documentation showing proof of service which were made part of the record. Edgar Madrigal, 1626 8th Street, Lake Charles, LA requested additional time to repair the structure and stated he put up a new fence around the structure to obstruct the view of the backyard where he is storing supplies to repair the house. Mr. Harvey recommended deferral until the July 16, 2025 regular council meeting, which was approved by the following vote.

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

- For: 7 Eckard, leyoub, Geyen, Marks, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.
- Against: 0
- Absent: 0

9. 186-25

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 2015 5th Street, Quincy Rahene Bordelon, owner.

This item was deleted at the beginning of the meeting.

10. 187-25

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 1609 Simmons Street, Allen Jones and Dorothy Marie Jones Revocable Living Trust, owner, subject to a tax sale to the State of Louisiana.

Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and David Morgan, City Attorney, presented photographs and documentation showing proof of service which were made 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, leyoub, Geyen, Marks, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.
- Against: 0

Absent: 0

Enactment No: 20324

11. 188-25

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 2004 5th Street, Jaime Andres Ordonez and Natalia Forero Ordonez, owners.

Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and David Morgan, City Attorney, presented photographs and documentation showing proof of service which were made part of the record. There were no requests to speak on this item. 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, leyoub, Geyen, Marks, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.
- Against: 0
- Absent: 0

Enactment No: 20325

12. 189-25

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 1029 Gulf Street (garage only), Eva Mae White, owner.

Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and David Morgan, City Attorney, presented photographs and documentation showing proof of service which were made part of the record. There were no requests to speak on this item. *Mr.* leyoub 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, leyoub, Geyen, Marks, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.
- Against: 0
- Absent: 0

Enactment No: 20326

13. 191-25

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 3012 General Patton, Willie Morris Smith, Sr. (Estate) and Jean Mitchell Smith, owners.

Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and David Morgan, City Attorney, presented photographs and documentation showing proof of service which were made part of the record. Tracy Praylor and Wendy Smith stated they would like to repair the house but they needed to have a succession done in order to place the house in their names and requested additional time. Mr. Geyen recommended deferral until the August 20, 2025 regular council meeting, which was approved by the following vote.

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

- For: 7 Eckard, leyoub, Geyen, Marks, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.
- Against: 0
- Absent: 0

15. 193-25

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 2120 4th Street (garage only), Apryle Monique Ozane Valerie, owner.

Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and David Morgan, City Attorney, presented photographs and documentation showing proof of service which were made part of the record. There were no requests to speak on this item. 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, leyoub, Geyen, Marks, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.
- Against: 0
- Absent: 0

Enactment No: 20327

16. 194-25

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 103 North Prater Street, Wilmer Charles Grice, Sr. and Germaine Vidal Grice, owners.

This item was deleted at the beginning of the meeting.

17. 195-25

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 1630 Gieffers Street, Dinie Ell Jones Montgomery, owner, subject to a tax sale to the State of Louisiana.

Mr. Marks asked if there was anyone present to speak on this item. There was no one present. David Morgan requested this item be deferred until the July 16, 2025 regular meeting which was approved by the following vote.

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

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

Against: 0

Absent: 0

18. 196-25

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 2611 General Patch, David Nonette, Melcha Renee' Lymon, Vanessie Mattison and Derek Anthony Guidry, owners.

Mr. Marks asked if there was anyone present to speak on this item. There was no one present. David Morgan requested this item be deferred until the July 16, 2025 regular council meeting which was approved by the following vote.

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

- For: 7 Eckard, leyoub, Geyen, Marks, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.
- Against: 0
- Absent: 0

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL ACTION

19. 156-25

An ordinance accepting the lowest responsive and responsible bid and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for the purchase of Water Infrastructure Maintenance and Repair Parts for use by the Public Works Department, Water Division.

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
- Absent: 0

Enactment No: 20328

20. 202-25

An ordinance of the City Council of the City of Lake Charles ratifying the provisions of the Lake Charles Police Department policies pertaining to City Police Officers' utilization of mobile video and body worn cameras that are currently in effect and as it may be amended in the future.

Mr. Marks stated that what the council was trying to implement was already a part of the policy and there was no need for the ordinance. Kenneth Ray Gay, Jr, 518 Reid Street, Lake Charles, LA stated that since the item was being deleted he had no comment. Miles Brown, 1020 4th Avenue spoke and stated that he agreed with deleting the item. A request to appear was submitted by Milton Bellard, 1857 Gerstner Memorial Drive, but he opted not to speak. Mr. Marks made a motion to delete this item which was seconded by Mr. Eckard. The item was deleted by the following vote.

A motion was made by Mr. Marks and seconded by Mr. Eckard that this item be Deleted. The motion carried by the following vote:

- For: 7 Eckard, leyoub, Geyen, Marks, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.
- Against: 0
- Absent: 0
- 21. 228-25

An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the State of Louisiana to receive allocated funds from Act 776 of the 2024 Regular Legislative Session.

Mr. Marks requested to know the intended use of the funds. Emily McDaniel stated that the use had not been determined.

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

Absent: 0

Enactment No: 20329

22. 229-25

An ordinance requesting to abandon a 5 foot drainage easement located between 1033 and 1100 Audubon Street.

This item was deleted at the beginning of the meeting.

23. 241-25

An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Louisiana Municipal Association (LMA) for the LMA State Convention scheduled for July 29 - July 31, 2025 in Lake Charles.

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
- Absent: 0

Enactment No: 20330

24. 242-25

An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into a Joint Services Agreement with the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury authorizing the Lake Charles Fire Department to continue to operate as the primary responding agency providing emergency fire protection services in the unincorporated areas of Ward 3, Fire District 2 of the parish and to incorporate such terms and conditions as may be necessary to maintain or improve operational and financial efficiencies.

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
- Absent: 0

Enactment No: 20331

25. 243-25

An ordinance authorizing the renewal of the Joint Services Agreement between the City of Lake Charles and the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury authorizing the joint use, operation and maintenance of the Calcasieu Emergency Response Training Center.

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
- Absent: 0

Enactment No: 20332

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS WERE ADOPTED BY CONSENT

26. 244-25

A resolution accepting Project No. CP2894 - Nelson Road 24" Sewer Line CIPP Lining from Wilmax south 400' as substantially complete and authorizing the advertising of the 45-day lien period.

This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: 120-25

27. 245-25

A resolution setting date for public hearing on alteration of shoreline (Prien Lake) to remove and replace an old timber boat dock and remove and replace old concrete bulkhead by installing vinyl sheeting and fill for bank line stabilization at 4000 Locke Lane Lot # 13.

This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda. The hearing date was set for July 2, 2025.

Enactment No: 121-25

28. 246-25

A resolution setting date for public hearing on condemnation of a structure located at 2008 12th Street, Natasha Young and Russell Young, owners.

This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda. The hearing date was set for August 6, 2025.

Enactment No: 122-25

29. 247-25

A resolution setting date for public hearing on condemnation of a structure located at 2011 Evans Street, Olivia Davis Trahan (Estate), owner.

This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda. The hearing date was set for August 6, 2025.

Enactment No: 123-25

30. 248-25

A resolution setting date for public hearing on condemnation of a structure located at 903 Mill Street, Florence Murchison Breda, Marjorie Breda, Leonard Charles V Breda, Charlene B Norman, and Elizabeth A Breda, owners.

This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda. The hearing date was set for August 6, 2025.

Enactment No: 124-25

31. 249-25

A resolution setting date for public hearing on condemnation of a structure located at 1803 13th Street, Dohn Hamic Hoffpauir, owner, subject to a tax sale to the State of Louisiana.

This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda. The hearing date was set for August 6, 2025.

Enactment No: 125-25

32. 250-25

A resolution setting date for public hearing on condemnation of a structure located at 512 Lebato Street (shed only), Stanley E. Keller, owner.

This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda. The hearing date was set for August 6, 2025.

Enactment No: 126-25

Approval of the Consent Agenda

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

Against: 0

Absent: 0

THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES ARE FOR INTRODUCTION BY CONSENT AND WILL BE READ INTO THE RECORD THE DAY FOLLOWING THIS MEETING AT 9:00A.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN CITY HALL

33. 251-25

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 2008 12th Street, Natasha Young and Russell Young, owners.

Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Renee' P. DeVille, Clerk of the Council.

34. 252-25

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 2011 Evans Street, Olivia Davis Trahan (Estate), owner.

Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Renee' P. DeVille, Clerk of the Council.

35.	253-25	An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 903 Mill Street, Florence Murchison Breda, Marjorie Breda, Leonard Charles V Breda, Charlene B Norman, and Elizabeth A Breda, owners.
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36.	254-25	An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 1803 13th Street, Dohn Hamic Hoffpauir, owner, subject to a tax sale to the State of Louisiana.
		Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Renee' P. DeVille, Clerk of the Council.
37.	255-25	
		An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 512 Lebato Street, Stanley E. Keller, owner.
		Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Renee' P. DeVille, Clerk of the Council.
38.	256-25	
		An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into a cooperative endeavor agreement with Greater St. Mary Baptist Church for the transfer of ownership of properties (parcel number 00570052 and parcel number 00581771), for use in the Church's operations related to the CDBG-DR Hope Center project.
		Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Renee' P. DeVille, Clerk of the Council.
39.	257-25	
		An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles, Louisiana to designate the American Press as the Official Journal of the City of Lake Charles, Louisiana, for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026.
		Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Renee' P. DeVille, Clerk of the Council.
ADJO	JRNMENT	
		With no further business to come before the Council, President Marks adjourned the meeting at 6:48 p.m. The next regular scheduled city council meeting is July 2, 2025.

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 18th day of June, 2025.

WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my official signature and impressed hereon the official seal of said City, this 23rd day of June, 2025. 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 18th day of June, 2025.

WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my official signature and impressed upon the official seal of said City, this 23rd day of June, 2025. 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.