



City of Lake Charles

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Lake Charles, LA
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Meeting Minutes City Council

*Tommy W. Bilbo, Jr., Donald F. Fondel, Ronnie Harvey, Jr.,
Matthew Vezinot, Stuart Weatherford, Matt Young
Council President: Craig Marks*

Wednesday, July 2, 2025

5:30 PM

Council Chambers at City Hall

AGENDA FOR REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 2, 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 - Matt Young

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Matthew Vezinot

PINNING CEREMONY - Mayor Marshall J. Simien and President Craig Marks

*The City Council began a new tradition where Mayor Simien presented and pinned the
lapels of the city council members and President Marks presented and pinned Mayor
Simien as the start of a new term of office.*

ROLL CALL

Present: 6 - President or Presiding Officer Craig Marks, Stuart Weatherford, Ronnie Harvey Jr.,
Matt Young, Matthew Vezinot, and Tommy M. Bilbo Jr.

Absent: 1 - Donald W. Fondel

*Also present were Mayor Marshall J. Simien, Jr., David L. Morgan, City Attorney, John
Cardone, City Administrator and Renee' P. DeVille, Clerk of the Council.*

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

President Marks opened up nominations for President of the City Council whereby Mr. Harvey made a motion that Mr. Marks be re-elected which was seconded by Mr. Bilbo. There were no other nominations. The council voted unanimously. President Marks opened up nominations for Vice President of the Council, whereby Matt Young made a motion that Ronnie Harvey, Jr. be nominated which was seconded by Mr. Weatherford. There were no other nominations. The council voted unanimously. Mr. Weatherford presented a plaque to Mr. Marks for his leadership as past president of the City Council. Mr. Vezinot stated that he normally wouldn't be in support of a president succeeding himself but because this was a unique situation that he felt that it was a great idea that Mr. Marks continued to lead.

Mayor Simien, on a point of personal privilege, broadcast a short video from the swearing in ceremony that was held on June 30, 2025 at the Lake Charles Event Center and commended Lillian Thorn for her performance of the National Anthem.

The meeting continued with President Marks presiding and he stated that Items 7 and 9 were being deferred until the July 16, 2025 regular council meeting and Item 4 was being deferred until the September 3, 2025 regular council meeting.

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.

Mr. Harvey was appointed chairman.

2. 208-25

An ordinance accepting the lowest responsible bid and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for the purchase of janitorial supplies for use by various divisions and departments of the City of Lake Charles.

Mr. Weatherford was appointed chairman.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

3. 258-25

Public hearing and consideration on alteration of shoreline of 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.

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

For: 6 - Marks, Weatherford, Harvey Jr., Young, Vezinot, and Bilbo Jr.

Against: 0

Absent: 1 - Fondel

Enactment No: 127-25

4. 714-24

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 2030 ½ Theriot Street, Elnora Luke, owner, subject to a tax sale to the State of Louisiana.

This item was deferred at the beginning of the meeting to the September 3, 2025 regular city council meeting.

5. 902-24

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 410 North Simmons Street, Pamela Marine Swain, 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. Pamela Swain, 410 North Simmons Street, Lake Charles, LA, stated that she currently resides in the house and her relatives had her interdicted taking over her finances so she was unable to repair the home and had no where else to reside. Mr. Harvey recommended deferral to the October 1, 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: 6 - Marks, Weatherford, Harvey Jr., Young, Vezinot, and Bilbo Jr.

Against: 0

Absent: 1 - Fondel

6. 127-25

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 614 Blake Street, Larry Miller and Joann LeBlanc Miller, 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. 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: 6 - Marks, Weatherford, Harvey Jr., Young, Vezinot, and Bilbo Jr.

Against: 0

Absent: 1 - Fondel

Enactment No: 20333

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL ACTION

7. 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.

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

8. 209-25

An ordinance for consideration to amend the official zoning map from a Neighborhood Zoning District to a Business Zoning District located at 2400 Opelousas Street and 330 North Lincoln Street.

Doug Burguières stated that this was a rehearing and he and Mr. Harvey had met with the applicant. Mr. Harvey stated that he had met with the business owner and some of the residents in the neighborhood and this particular amendment would not affect the residents in the community. The council voted as follows:

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

For: 6 - Marks, Weatherford, Harvey Jr., Young, Vezinot, and Bilbo Jr.

Against: 0

Absent: 1 - Fondel

Enactment No: 20334

9. 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.

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

10. 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.

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

For: 6 - Marks, Weatherford, Harvey Jr., Young, Vezinot, and Bilbo Jr.

Against: 0

Absent: 1 - Fondel

Enactment No: 20335

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS MAY BE ADOPTED BY CONSENT**11. 259-25**

A resolution accepting Project No. CP3308 - Downtown Streetscape Phase II - Bilbo Street between Division Street and Mill Street as substantially complete and authorizing the advertising of the 45-day lien period.

This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: 128-25

12. 260-25

A resolution setting date for public hearing and consideration on alteration of existing shoreline (Contraband Bayou) to conduct dredging operations for two boat slips, construct a boat shed, place fill for bankline stabilization behind existing bulkhead, and extending an existing culvert and constructing a new bulkhead at 3725 Burgoyne Lane, by Louisiana Marine Construction.

This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: 129-25

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: 6 - Marks, Weatherford, Harvey Jr., Young, Vezinot, and Bilbo Jr.

Against: 0

Absent: 1 - Fondel

THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES WERE FOR INTRODUCTION BY CONSENT AND READ INTO THE RECORD THE DAY FOLLOWING THIS MEETING AT 1:00P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN CITY HALL

13. 262-25

An ordinance adopting and levying the Annual Property Tax millages for the City of Lake Charles for the tax year 2025.

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

14. 263-25

An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to amend the 2024-2025 Operating and Capital Budget to reallocate funds from DR000 - Disaster Recovery Unappropriated Fund to DR009 - LCPD Annex Project.

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

15. 264-25

An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into a lease agreement with Turf and Soil Management, LLC. for the lease of equipment to be used for the maintenance of Mallard Golf Club grounds.

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

16. 266-25

An ordinance accepting the lowest responsible quote and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for Bancroft Street Sewer Repairs.

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

17. 267-25

An ordinance accepting the lowest responsible quote and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for Ryan Street Sewer Repairs.

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

268-25

An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury for the construction of a new Judicial Complex.

This item was requested to be added on by David Morgan, City Attorney. Without objection by the council members, it was added to the agenda.

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

269-25

An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to accept portions of Riverridge Drive in Riverridge Subdivision, including public right-of-ways, drainage, water and sewer lines, sewer, and traffic control devices, for ownership and maintenance by the City of Lake Charles.

This item was requested to be added on by David Morgan, City Attorney. Without objection by the council members, it was added on.

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

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to come before the Council, President Marks adjourned the meeting at 5:53 p.m. The next meeting of the City Council will be held on July 16, 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 2nd day of July, 2025.

WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my official signature and impressed hereon the official seal of said City, this 10th day of July, 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 2nd day of July, 2025.

WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my official signature and impressed upon the official seal of said City, this 10th day of July, 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.