



# City of Lake Charles

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

## Meeting Minutes City Council

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

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Wednesday, August 20, 2025

5:30 PM

Council Chambers at City Hall

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### **AGENDA FOR REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 20, 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 - Craig Marks**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Matt Young**

### **ROLL CALL**

**Present:** 7 - Stuart Weatherford, Matt Young, President or Presiding Officer Craig Marks, Ronnie Harvey Jr., Donald W. Fondel, Tommy M. Bilbo Jr., and Matthew Vezinot

**Absent:** 0

*Also present were Mayor Marshall J. Simien, Jr., Russell J. Stutes, Jr., City Attorney, and Renee' P. DeVille, Clerk of the Council.*

*As a point of personal privilege, President Marks, Michael Castille and Mayor Simien, Jr. presented awards to the Gulf States Sectional Golf Champions and also presented an award to Matt Nicholas, the City Golf Champion.*

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF AUGUST 6, 2025**

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

**For:** 7 - Weatherford, Young, Marks, Harvey Jr., Fondel, Bilbo Jr., and Vezinot

**Against:** 0

**Absent:** 0

*President Marks stated Items 3 and 5 were being deferred until September 17, 2025 and Item 14 was being deferred until September 3, 2025. He further stated that Item 12 was being deleted. President Marks then stated that he would like to take up Item 14a next.*

**14a. 349-25**

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

*Mr. Stutes stated that under City Charter 2-13 and La. R.S. 38:2212(P) the City was authorized to act without normal delays in emergency circumstances and proper notice had been published by the Clerk. Mayor Simien stated that the sewer had actually collapsed under the street. Mr. Stutes read the item into the record and Mr. Young made a motion to accept the recommended bid from Horseshoe Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$256,821.24. The vote was as follows:*

**Mr. Young made a motion to accept the recommended quote from Horseshoe Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$256,821.24.**

**For:** 7 - Weatherford, Young, Marks, Harvey Jr., Fondel, Bilbo Jr., and Vezinot

**Against:** 0

**Absent:** 0

Enactment No: 20357

**PUBLIC HEARINGS****1. 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.

*Paula Broussard, Supervisor of Property Standards, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and Russell J. Stutes, Jr., 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. Stutes 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 - Weatherford, Young, Marks, Harvey Jr., Fondel, Bilbo Jr., and Vezinot

**Against:** 0

**Absent:** 0

Enactment No: 20358

**2. 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.

*Paula Broussard, Supervisor of Property Standards, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and Russell J. Stutes, Jr., City Attorney, presented photographs and documentation showing proof of service which were made part of the record. Joshua Moreau, Sr., 1813 Broadmoor Drive, Lake Charles, LA stated that the tentative date to begin demolition was mid-September. Mr. Harvey recommended deferral until the October 15, 2025 regular council meeting, which was approved by the following vote.*

**A motion was made that this item be Deferred until the October 15, 2025 regular city council meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**For:** 7 - Weatherford, Young, Marks, Harvey Jr., Fondel, Bilbo Jr., and Vezinot

**Against:** 0

**Absent:** 0

**3. 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.

**This item was deferred at the beginning of the meeting to the September 17, 2025 regular city council meeting.**

**4. 73-25**

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 2116 3rd Street, Oran L. Owens (Estate) and Rosemary Owens, owners.

*Paula Broussard, Supervisor of Property Standards, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and Russell J. Stutes, Jr., City Attorney, presented photographs and documentation showing proof of service which were made part of the record. Chapman Farber, the owner's son, requested additional time to sell the property. Mr. Fondel recommended deferral until the October 15, 2025 regular city council meeting, which was approved by the following vote.*

**A motion was made that this item be Deferred to the October 15, 2025 regular council meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**For:** 7 - Weatherford, Young, Marks, Harvey Jr., Fondel, Bilbo Jr., and Vezinot

**Against:** 0

**Absent:** 0

**5. 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.

**This item was deferred at the beginning of the meeting until the September 17, 2025 regular council meeting.**

**6. 231-25**

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 923 Alamo Street (front house only), Willie Nunez, owner.

*Paula Broussard, Supervisor of Property Standards, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and Russell J. Stutes, Jr., 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. Fondel 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 - Weatherford, Young, Marks, Harvey Jr., Fondel, Bilbo Jr., and Vezinot

**Against:** 0

**Absent:** 0

Enactment No: 20359

**7. 232-25**

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 408 Gelpi Drive, Edward Babineaux, owner, subject to a tax sale to the State of Louisiana.

*Paula Broussard, Supervisor of Property Standards, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and Russell J. Stutes, Jr., 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. Bilbo 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 - Weatherford, Young, Marks, Harvey Jr., Fondel, Bilbo Jr., and Vezinot

**Against:** 0

**Absent:** 0

Enactment No: 20360

**8. 233-25**

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 416 Gelpi Drive, Adeline Brown Ryan and Angela (NMN) Brown, owners.

*Paula Broussard, Supervisor of Property Standards, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and Russell J. Stutes, Jr., 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. Bilbo 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 - Weatherford, Young, Marks, Harvey Jr., Fondel, Bilbo Jr., and Vezinot

**Against:** 0

**Absent:** 0

Enactment No: 20361

**9. 235-25**

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 1725 North Simmons Street, Joseph Pitre, Martha Henry, Marcus Simon, Brandon Simon, and Michael Simon, owners.

*Paula Broussard, Supervisor of Property Standards, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and Russell J. Stutes, Jr., 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 and requested that the fence be included, which was approved by the following vote.*

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

**For:** 7 - Weatherford, Young, Marks, Harvey Jr., Fondel, Bilbo Jr., and Vezinot

**Against:** 0

**Absent:** 0

Enactment No: 20362

**10. 236-25**

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 1829 6th Avenue, Adam J. Ceasar, Sr. and Elvia Ann Ceasar, owners.

*Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and Russell J. Stutes, Jr., City Attorney, presented photographs and documentation showing proof of service which were made part of the record. Kenneth Ceasar submitted a card in support but did not wish to speak. Mr. Bilbo 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 - Weatherford, Young, Marks, Harvey Jr., Fondel, Bilbo Jr., and Vezinot

**Against:** 0

**Absent:** 0

Enactment No: 20363

**ORDINANCES FOR FINAL ACTION****11. 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.

**Mr. Marks made a motion to accept the recommended bid from Horseshoe Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$156,775.00 with Alternate No. 1 in the amount of \$68,750.00 for a total of \$225,525.00.**

**For:** 7 - Weatherford, Young, Marks, Harvey Jr., Fondel, Bilbo Jr., and Vezinot

**Against:** 0

**Absent:** 0

Enactment No: 20364

**12. 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.

**This item was deleted at the beginning of the meeting.**

**13. 380-24**

An ordinance accepting the lowest responsible bid and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for Project No. CP3274 - Southpark Drive Waterline Extension.

**Mr. Marks made a motion to accept the recommended bid from Blake D.Hine, Inc. in the amount of \$2,523,942.00. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**For:** 7 - Weatherford, Young, Marks, Harvey Jr., Fondel, Bilbo Jr., and Vezinot

**Against:** 0

**Absent:** 0

Enactment No: 20365

**14. 337-25**

An ordinance amending both Sec. 20-78 and Sec. 20-132(b) of Chapter 20 of the City of Lake Charles' Code of Ordinances prohibiting parking on both sides of Elaine Street from Rhodes Street to Kingsley Street and designating this area as a tow-away zone.

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

**THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS MAY BE ADOPTED BY CONSENT****15. 339-25**

A resolution selecting nominees by the City Council of the City of Lake Charles to be sent to the Honorable Jeff Landry, Governor, for appointment of a Board Member to the Lake Charles Harbor and Terminal District Board of Commissioners.

*There were three nominees, Kevin D. Guidry, Ernest Broussard, Jr. and Jay Kumar. Mr. Guidry and Mr. Broussard were present and introduced themselves to the Council.*

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

**For:** 7 - Weatherford, Young, Marks, Harvey Jr., Fondel, Bilbo Jr., and Vezinot

**Against:** 0

**Absent:** 0

Enactment No: 166-25

**17. 341-25**

A resolution authorizing the City of Lake Charles to advertise to receive sealed bids to purchase Roadbase Limestone Aggregate per specifications for use by the Public Works Department.

**This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda. Mr. Fondel was appointed as chairman.**

Enactment No: 167-25

**16. 340-25**

A resolution setting date for public hearing on condemnation of structures located at 513 South Prater Street and 515 South Prater Street, Georgiana Thomas Mayo and Simon Thomas, Jr., owners.

**This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda. The hearing date was set for the October 1, 2025 regular council meeting.**

Enactment No: 168-25

**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 - Weatherford, Young, Marks, Harvey Jr., Fondel, Bilbo Jr., and Vezinot

**Against:** 0

**Absent:** 0

**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**

**18. 342-25**

An ordinance adopting the Operating and Capital Budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2025 and ending September 30, 2026.

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

**19. 343-25**

An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into any right-of-way agreements for the approved FY 2025-2026 Capital Improvement Projects and/or for right-of-ways and to acquire land and/or compliance with the sight triangle ordinance for FY 2025-2026.

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

- 20. 344-25** 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 2025-2026 Capital Budget.

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

- 21. 345-25** An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into agreements for programs related to special arts and cultural events/exhibits, as authorized in the Operating and Capital Budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

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

- 22. 346-25**

An ordinance accepting the lowest responsive and responsible bid and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement to purchase Roadbase Limestone Aggregate per specifications, for use by the Public Works Department.

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

- 23. 347-25**

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structures located at 513 South Prater Street and 515 South Prater Street, Georgiana Thomas Mayo and Simon Thomas, Jr., owners.

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, the meeting was adjourned at 6:07 p.m. The next regular scheduled meeting will be held on September 3, 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 20th day of August, 2025.*

*WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my official signature and impressed hereon the official seal of said City, this 22nd day of August, 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 20th day of August, 2025.*

*WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my official signature and impressed upon the official seal of said City, this 22nd day of August, 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.*