



City of Lake Charles

326 Pujo Street
P.O. Box 1178
Lake Charles, LA
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Meeting Minutes City Council

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

Wednesday, December 17, 2025

5:30 PM

Council Chambers at City Hall

AGENDA FOR REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 17, 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 Marks, Presiding

INVOCATION - Matt Young

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Ronnie Harvey, Jr.

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, John Cardone, City Administrator and Renee' P. DeVille, Clerk of the Council.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF DECEMBER 3, 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 1 and 3 were being deferred until the January 7, 2026 regular council meeting and Items 7, 12, 13, 14, 16, 18 and 19 were being deferred until the January 21, 2026 regular council meeting.

As a point of personal privilege, Nathan Areno, Calcasieu Parish Police Jury, Director of Public Health Services and Claire Terracino, Operations Manager gave a presentation of the services they provide to the community.

31a.512-25

A resolution congratulating the Iowa Yellow Jackets on winning the 2025

LHSAA Football Non-Select Division II State Championship. The first football state champions since W. O. Boston won the AA Championship in 1972.

As a point of personal privilege, Mr. Weatherford requested this item be moved up to congratulate Coach Tommy Johns and recognize the Iowa Yellow Jackets for winning the 2025 State LHSAA Football Non-Select Division II State Championship and to invite he and his team back at a later date for recognition.

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: 238-25

APPOINTMENTS

1. **424-25** An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to accept the lowest responsible bid and to enter into an agreement for Project No. CP3019 - Sale Road Bridge Repairs.

This item was deferred at the beginning of the meeting to the January 7, 2026 regular council meeting.

2. **486-25**

An ordinance accepting the lowest responsible bid and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for Project No. CP3427 - Wastewater Treatment Plant B/C Sludge Processing

Mr. Marks was appointed as chairman.

3. **494-25**

An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to accept the lowest responsible bid and to enter into an agreement for Project No. CP3224 - Muirfield Drive Drainage Phase II, and amend the budget as

This item was deferred at the beginning of the meeting to the January 7, 2026 regular council meeting.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

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 Russell J. Stutes, Jr., City Attorney, presented photographs and documentation showing proof of service which were made part of the record. Mr. Hester's photographs

showed the structures were already demolished but the slabs still needed to be removed. 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 - Weatherford, Young, Marks, Harvey Jr., Fondel, Bilbo Jr., and Vezinot

Against: 0

Absent: 0

Enactment No: 20432

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 Russell J. Stutes, Jr., City Attorney, presented photographs and documentation showing proof of service which were made part of the record. Mr. Hester stated that significant work had been done by Mr. Muhammad and he would recommend giving him additional time to complete the work. Don Muhammad, 1517 Martha Street, Lake Charles, LA requested additional time to continue working on the structure. Mr. Harvey recommended deferral for 90 days to the March 18, 2026 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 - Weatherford, Young, Marks, Harvey Jr., Fondel, Bilbo Jr., and Vezinot

Against: 0

Absent: 0

6. 333-25

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 2310 North Old Hwy 171 (garage/barn), Charles Richard Frank and Daina Ann Kilchrist, 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. 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 - Weatherford, Young, Marks, Harvey Jr., Fondel, Bilbo Jr., and Vezinot

Against: 0

Absent: 0

Enactment No: 20433

7. 460-25

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 2205 Cline Street, Barry Mark Charles, owner, subject to a tax sale to the State of Louisiana.

This item was deferred at the beginning of the meeting until the January 21, 2026 regular council meeting.

8. 461-25

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 1613 Ace Street, Kimberly Jones, owner.

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. There were no requests to speak on this item. Mr. Fondel recommended time delays of 30/30 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 - Weatherford, Young, Marks, Harvey Jr., Fondel, Bilbo Jr., and Vezinot

Against: 0

Absent: 0

Enactment No: 20434

9. 462-25

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 1501 4th Avenue, FIG Series 2021-100 LLC, owner.

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. There were no requests to speak on this item. Mr. Fondel 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: 20435

10. 463-25

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 1205 14th Street, Jesse Alan Strub, owner.

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. Mr. Hester stated that a demolition permit had been issued and the owner had begun demolishing the property. Jesse Strub, 1205 14th Street, Lake Charles, LA stated that the house had already been demolished. 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: 20436

11. 464-25

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 1621 2nd Avenue, Judith Lynn Pichon (Estate) and Amber Henry, 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. Mr. Hester stated he had received quite a few complaints of people living there and the structure being open. Larry Pichon, 1621 Second Avenue, Lake Charles, LA requested 90 days and he was working on the succession of his wife who owned the property. Mr. Fondel requested he secure the home within 30 days and monitor with deferral until the March 18, 2026 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 - Weatherford, Young, Marks, Harvey Jr., Fondel, Bilbo Jr., and Vezinot

Against: 0

Absent: 0

12. 465-25

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 806 Azalea Drive (carport only), Tamika Francis, owner.

This item was deferred at the beginning of the meeting until the January 21, 2026 regular council meeting.

13. 466-25

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 518 Lebato Street (front house only), Jerome Murray, owner

This item was deferred at the beginning of the meeting until the January 21, 2026 regular council meeting.

14. 467-25

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 210 North Booker Street, Dorothy Mae Collins and Harry Lee Simien (Estate), owners, subject to a tax sale to the State of Louisiana.

This item was deferred at the beginning of the meeting until the January 21, 2026 regular council meeting.

15. 468-25

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 1013 Alamo Street, Clarice Mott, 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 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 30/30 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 - Weatherford, Young, Marks, Harvey Jr., Fondel, Bilbo Jr., and Vezinot

Against: 0

Absent: 0

Enactment No: 20437

16. 469-25

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 2103 Opelousas Street, Sandra Pete Anderson (Estate), owner, subject to a tax sale to the State of Louisiana.

This item was deferred at the beginning of the meeting until the January 21, 2026 regular council meeting.

17. 470-25

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 1613 Shaw Street, Severnus Gradnigo, Jr. and Mary Alice Gradnigo, owners.

This item was deferred at the beginning of the meeting until the January 21, 2026 regular council meeting.

18. 471-25

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 1029 Alamo Street, Jana Marie Burdette and Terry Daniel Turner, owners.

This item was deferred at the beginning of the meeting until the January 21, 2026 regular council meeting.

19. 472-25

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 521 Kingsley Street, Laticia Michelle Fontenot, Boardwalk Investors with Union Bank as Secured Party, Kenneth Joseph Fontenot, Shelly Michelle Fontenot, Heritage Management Services with Union Bank as Secured Party, Malcolm J. Fontenot, April Nicole Fontenot Thomas, Kim Leatrice Fontenot Poullard, and Harold J. Thibodeaux, owners, subject to a tax sale to the State of Louisiana.

This item was deferred at the beginning of the meeting until the January 21, 2026 regular council meeting.

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL ACTION

20. 390-25

An ordinance accepting the lowest responsible bid and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for Project No. CP3237 - WWTP A Basin A-06 Sewer Rehabilitation.

A motion was made by Mr. Young to accept the recommended bid from Horseshoe Construction, Inc. in the base bid amount of \$2,991,235.00 and an Alternate No.1 bid in the amount of \$864,850.00 for a total of \$3,856,085.00. The motion carried by the following vote:

Enactment No: 20438

21. 405-25

An ordinance accepting the lowest responsible bid and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for Project No. CP3414 - Southwest WTP Back Up Power Improvements.

A motion was made by Mr. Weatherford to accept the recommended bid from Kaough & Jones Electric Co., in the amount of \$1,076,680.00. 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: 20439

22. 493-25

An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to accept the lowest responsible bid and to enter into an agreement for Project No. CP9778 - LCEC ADA Railing and Seating, and amend the budget as

A motion was made by Mr. Harvey to accept the recommended bid from Seth Priola, LLC in the amount of \$232,000.00. 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: 20440

23. 459-25

An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into a professional services agreement with Allied Universal to provide comprehensive security detail coverages for City Hall and the Transit Division Building for a six (6) month period, and to amend the budget as necessary.

A motion was made by Mr. Marks and seconded by Mr. Vezinot, that this item be deferred to the January 21, 2026 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

24. 491-25

An ordinance amending the City of Lake Charles Ward 3 Marshal's Office budget for the addition of one (1) position allotment of Deputy Marshal and to amend the budget accordingly.

A motion was made by Mr. Marks and seconded by Mr. Young and Fondel that this item be deferred to the January 21, 2026 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

25. 492-25

An ordinance amending Section 4-205(5)(a)(i) of Chapter 24 of the Lake Charles Zoning Ordinance relative to Variances - Limitations on Variances.

Burguières

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: 20441

26. 497-25

An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to renew the Joint Services Agreement with the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury for animal control services.

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: 20442

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS WERE ADOPTED BY CONSENT

27. 506-25

A resolution reappointing Elwin Brent Washington and Brent Cating to the Calcasieu Parish Public Library Board of Trustees for a five-year term commencing on January 1, 2026 and ending on December 31, 2031.

Mr. Marks requested a copy of their bylaws.

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: 239-25

28. 499-25

A resolution accepting Project No. CP3346 - North Beach Asphalt Connector Boardwalk as substantially complete and authorizing the advertising of the 45-day lien period.

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: 240-25

29. 500-25

A resolution accepting Project No. CP3512 - Goosport Park New Pool and Improvements as substantially complete and authorizing the advertising of the 45-day lien period.

This item was Deferred on the Consent Agenda.

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

Against: 0

Absent: 0

30. 501-25

A resolution authorizing the City of Lake Charles to advertise to receive Statements of Qualifications from qualified Architectural/Engineering (A/E) firms to perform professional services to prepare cost estimates, provide engineering and design services, provide construction management oversight and other additional services as needed for the design and construction of an indoor recreation facility in Lake Charles.

Mr. Harvey was appointed chairman.

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

Against: 0

Absent: 0

Enactment No: 241-25

31. 509-25

A resolution authorizing the City of Lake Charles to advertise to receive sealed bids for Project No. CP3140 - Millennium Park Fall Surface Replacement.

Mr. Young was appointed chairman.

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

Against: 0

Absent: 0

Enactment No: 242-25

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

32. 503-25

An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into a professional services agreement with Nice System, Inc. to provide a cloud-based digital evidence storage management system.

Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Chelsea Janda, Legal Assistant.

33. 504-25

An ordinance approving an amendment to the City of Lake Charles 2019 Action Plan to reprogram unspent Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus ("CDBG-CV") funds to the Goosport Park Improvement No. 2 project.

Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Chelsea Janda, Legal Assistant.

34. 505-25

An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement with the most qualified Architectural/Engineering (A/E) firm responding to the Request for Statements of Qualifications to perform professional services to prepare cost estimates, provide engineering and design services, provide construction management oversight and other additional services as needed for the design and construction of an indoor recreation facility in Lake Charles.

Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Chelsea Janda, Legal Assistant.

35. 507-25

An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement with Utiliserve for fire hydrant flow testing and inspection/maintenance, pressure testing and flushing, GIS mapping and hydrant mapping.

Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Chelsea Janda, Legal Assistant.

36. 510-25

An ordinance accepting the lowest responsible bid and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for Project No. CP3140 - Millennium Park Fall Surface Replacement.

Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Chelsea Janda, Legal Assistant.

37. 511-25

An ordinance amending Section 20-78 of Chapter 20 of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Lake Charles to place no parking signs on both sides of West Jevon Lane, from East Jevon Lane west to a point 100 feet north of the sharp turn.

Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Chelsea Janda, Legal Assistant.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to come before the City Council, President Marks adjourned the meeting at 6:22 p.m. The next regular city council meeting is scheduled for January 7, 2026.

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 17th day of December, 2025.

WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my official signature and impressed hereon the official seal of said City, this 29th day of December, 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 17th day of December, 2025.

WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my official signature and impressed upon the official seal of said City, this 29th day of December, 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.