



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*

Wednesday, March 4, 2026

5:30 PM

Council Chambers at City Hall

AGENDA FOR REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 4, 2026 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 - Vice President, Harvey, presiding

INVOCATION - Donald Fondel

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Matthew Vezinot

ROLL CALL

Present: 6 - Stuart Weatherford, Matt Young, Ronnie Harvey Jr., Donald W. Fondel, Tommy M. Bilbo Jr., and Matthew Vezinot

Absent: 1 - President or Presiding Officer Craig Marks

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.

As a point of personal privilege, Councilman Vezinot commended Entergy, Ms. Lorena Ceasar, the Lake Charles Police Department and the Lake Charles Fire Department for their quick response to the recent outage due to a fire at the substation on Big Lake Road. He stated that the power was restored within two hours to the residents of Graywood after losing power.

As a point of personal privilege, Councilman Bilbo recognized the efforts of JRE Brokerage, Will Chadwick for finding properties in District C that were possible investment properties such as the old Hobby Lobby Site, Logan's Restaurant and others. Will Chadwick spoke and stated that they were happy to bring opportunities to the City of Lake Charles and that they had spoken to the Mayor about an upcoming investment that would be disclosed at a later date.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 18, 2026

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

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

Against: 0

Absent: 1 - Marks

Vice President Harvey stated that Item No. 5 was being deferred until the March 18, 2026 regular council meeting.

The monthly financial reports for February, 2026 were provided to the City Council members by the Department of Finance. The reports include the Budget to Actual Revenues and the Budget to Actual Expenditures.

APPOINTMENTS

1. 429-25

An ordinance accepting the lowest responsible bid and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement to purchase one (1) new Three-Wheel Sweeper, for use by the Public Works Department, Streets Division.

Councilman Bilbo was appointed chairman.

Enactment No: 20505

2. 495-25

An ordinance accepting the lowest responsible bid and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for Project No. LCR401 - Lock Park Inclusive Playground, and amend the budget as necessary.

Councilman Young was appointed chairman.

Enactment No: 20506

3. 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.

Councilman Young was appointed chairman,

Enactment No: 20507

4. 549-25

An ordinance accepting the lowest responsible bid and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for Project No. DR002 - Public Works New Facility Phase 2, and amend the budget as necessary.

Councilman Marks was appointed chairman.

Enactment No: 20508

5. 26-26

An ordinance accepting the lowest responsible bid and authorizing the City

of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for Project No. CP3309 - Ham Reid Road Waterline Extension - Elliot Road to Big Lake Road.

This item was deferred at the beginning of the meeting.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

6. 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.

Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and Russell J. Stutes, Jr., City Attorney, stated this item was deferred for service at the February 18, 2026 meeting and 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 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: 6 - Weatherford, Young, Harvey Jr., Fondel, Bilbo Jr., and Vezinot

Against: 0

Absent: 1 - Marks

Enactment No: 20502

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL ACTION

7. 56-26

An ordinance authorizing the settlement of a claim against the City of Lake Charles in the suit styled "Ronald C. Richard v. City of Lake Charles and Michael Cartwright", Docket No. 2025-588, Division F, on the docket of the 14th Judicial District Court, Parish of Calcasieu, State of Louisiana.

Miles Brown, 1020 4th Avenue, Lake Charles, requested the amount of the settlement. Mr. Stutes stated that could request the amount from Accounting once the settlement has been paid. Mr. Brown stated that the IA report showed no reprimand for the officer yet the city is still paying a settlement. After consideration, the council voted as follows:

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

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

Against: 0

Absent: 1 - Marks

Enactment No: 20503

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS MAY BE ADOPTED BY CONSENT

8. 57-26

A resolution setting date for public hearing on condemnation of a structure located at 2217 Broad Street, Frankie Jordan Dyer, owner.

This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda. The hearing date was set for the April 15, 2026 regular council meeting.

Enactment No: 42-26

9. 58-26

A resolution setting date for public hearing on condemnation of a structure located at 902 Camelia Street (garage only), Matthew A. McIntosh, owner.

This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda. The hearing date was set for the April 15, 2026 regular council meeting.

Enactment No: 43-26

10. 59-26

A resolution setting date for public hearing on condemnation of a structure located at 1729 Broadmoor Drive, Larry Gene Thomas, owner.

This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda. The hearing date was set for the April 15, 2026 regular council meeting.

Enactment No: 44-26

11. 60-26

A resolution setting date for public hearing on condemnation of a structure located at 3704 Brentwood Drive, Esther Jane Aucoin, owner, subject to a tax sale to Barrios Investments, LLC.

This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda. The hearing date was set for the April 15, 2026 regular council meeting.

Enactment No: 45-26

12. 61-26

A resolution setting date for public hearing on condemnation of a structure located at 2725 Louisiana Avenue, Holly Rider Brouillette and Zoe Gaspard Rider, owners.

This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda. The hearing date was set for the April 15, 2026 regular council meeting.

Enactment No: 46-26

13. 62-26

A resolution setting date for public hearing on condemnation of a structure located at 704 11th Street, J & B Real Estate Investment Group, LLC, owner.

This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda. The hearing date was set for the April 15, 2026 regular council meeting.

Enactment No: 47-26

14. 63-26

A resolution setting date for public hearing on condemnation of a structure located at 1021 15th Street, Eva Christeana Russell, 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 the April 15, 2026 regular council meeting.

Enactment No: 48-26

15. 64-26

A resolution setting date for public hearing on condemnation of a structure located at 2110 Railroad Avenue, Andre' N. Walker, Brittany Ann Walker, Denver Jerome Withers and Jevan Ramsey Yokum, owners.

This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda. The hearing date was set for the April 15, 2026 regular council meeting.

Enactment No: 49-26

16. 65-26

A resolution setting date for public hearing on condemnation of a structure located at 2107 Clarinda Street, Julius Lee Fontenot, Sr. and Jannifer V. Fontenot, owners.

This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda. The hearing date was set for the April 15, 2026 regular council meeting.

Enactment No: 50-26

17. 66-26

A resolution setting date for public hearing on condemnation of a structure located at 2105 Clarinda Street, Julius Lee Fontenot and Jannifer Valmont Fontenot, owners.

This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda. The hearing date was set for the April 15, 2026 regular council meeting.

Enactment No: 51-26

18. 67-26

A resolution of the City of Lake Charles verifying the review of the Municipal Water Pollution Prevention (MWPP) documents for Plant A (NPDES Permit No. LA0036340, AI 4838), Plant B/C (NPDES Permit No. LA0036366, AI 4839) and Plant D (LA0118770, AI 117690).

This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: 52-26

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

Against: 0

Absent: 1 - Marks

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

19. 68-26

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 2217 Broad Street, Frankie Jordan Dyer, owner.

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

20. 69-26

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 902 Camelia Street (garage only), Matthew A. McIntosh, owner.

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

21. 70-26

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 1729 Broadmoor Drive, Larry Gene Thomas, owner.

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

22. 71-26

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 3704 Brentwood Drive, Esther Jane Aucoin, owner, subject to a tax sale to Barrios Investments, LLC.

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

23. 72-26

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 2725 Louisiana Avenue, Holly Rider Brouillette and Zoe Gaspard Rider, owners.

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

24. 73-26

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 704 11th Street, J & B Real Estate Investment Group, LLC, owner.

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

25. 74-26

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 1021 15th Street, Eva Christeana Russell, 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.

26. 75-26

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 2110 Railroad Avenue, Andre' N. Walker, Brittany Ann Walker, Denver Jerome Withers and Jevan Ramsey Yokum, owners.

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

27. 76-26

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 2107 Clarinda Street, Julius Lee Fontenot, Sr. and Jannifer V. Fontenot, owners.

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

28. 77-26

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 2105 Clarinda Street, Julius Lee Fontenot and Jannifer Valmont Fontenot, owners.

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

29. 78-26

An ordinance authorizing the removal of the yield sign on Center Street at Sycamore Street and authorizing the installation of a stop sign on Center Street at its intersection with Sycamore Street creating a three-way stop.

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

Enactment No: 20509

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 5:47 p.m. The next regular council meeting will be held on March 18, 2026 at 5:30 p.m..

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 4th day of March, 2026.

*WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my official signature and impressed hereon the official seal of said City, this 5th day of March, 2026.
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 4th day of March, 2026.

*WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my official signature and impressed upon the official seal of said City, this 5th day of March, 2026.
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.