

December 5, 2022

Town of Golden Meadow
107 Jervis Drive
Golden Meadow, LA 70357

The Mayor and Council of the Town of Golden Meadow met for their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, December 5, 2022 at 7:00 P.M. at the Golden Meadow Town Hall, 107 Jervis Drive, Golden Meadow, LA 70357.

Those present were: Mayor Joey Bouziga
Councilman Mike Billiot
Councilman Jody Cheramie
Councilman Laci Latiolais
Councilman Kip Plaisance
Councilman Willis Toups

Those absent were:

Others attending were: Monica Bouziga, Doug Cheramie, Tracee Cloutier, Wilbur Cloutier, Troy Dufrene, Terry Gaudet, Salvador Gonzalez Jr., Troy Griffin, Morris Hunter, Lafourche Parish Councilman Daniel Lorraine, Edward Louviere, Patricia Louviere, Rory Martinez, John Plaisance, Rachel Robichaux, McNeely Rome, Farrell Trahan, Rhea Wescovich, Kyle Williams, Jorge Verde, and Nelson Verdin.

Mayor Joey Bouziga called this meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Mayor Joey Bouziga instructed everyone to refrain from cell phone use until the meeting adjourns.

Councilman Willis Toups led everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and Edward Louviere led everyone in prayer.

Councilman Willis Toups presented a motion and Councilman Kip Plaisance seconded the motion as presented approving the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on November 21, 2022. The Council unanimously approved the motion as presented.

Mayor Joey Bouziga stated there were no Building Permits or Occupational Licenses submitted for approval.

Town Engineer John Plaisance presented the project statuses:

- North Sewer Plant Upgrades-will have specs complete by 12/7/2022; then we can ask the state to start advertising for that project.
- Sewer Phase VII LCDBG-have gotten all approvals from Office of Community Development and the Servitude maps are done.
- Mitigation Project-waiting on the parish and state to get those funds.

Town Attorney Bryce Autin's Report:

- Lafourche Parish Detail Agreement-The School Board requires more insurance than we carry, so Town Attorney Autin is working with the Lafourche Parish School Board Attorney to see if they will make an exception with our current insurance. If the School Board agrees to the insurance we have, there is an event on 12/7/2022 that our Police Officers can detail. Councilman Jody Cheramie presented a motion and Councilman Mike Billiot seconded the motion for Mayor Joey Bouziga to sign the agreement between Lafourche Parish School Board and the Town of Golden Meadow for Golden Meadow Police Officers to detail events in the Town of Golden Meadow, if the School Board agrees to the insurance. The Council unanimously approved the motion as presented.
- Entergy Third Party Limited Agreement-Town Attorney Autin sent the agreement back to Entergy for review 12/5/2022 to replace the cameras on the poles at the entrance of Oakridge Park. Councilman Willis Toups presented a motion and Councilman Kip Plaisance seconded the motion for Mayor Joey Bouziga to sign the agreement between Entergy and the Town of Golden Meadow to replace the cameras on the poles, when the agreement is ready. The Council unanimously approved the motion as presented.

Chief Troy Dufrene's Police Report:

- Police Officer-Chief Dufrene stated that surrounding Police Stations start their officers at \$19.50-\$20.00/hour and they have different benefits, so that may be why it is hard for us to keep police officers. Chief Dufrene conducted 5 interviews, but there were no police officers that applied. Chief Dufrene would like to hire Jorge Verde at \$15.50/hour, then up his pay to \$16.00/hour after he completes the Police Academy. Councilman Mike Billiot presented a motion and Councilman Willis Toups seconded the motion to hire Jorge Verde. The Council unanimously approved the motion as presented. Voting took place as follows: **YEAS:** Councilman Jody Cheramie, Councilman Kip Plaisance, Councilman Willis Toups, Councilman Laci

Latiolais, Councilman Mike Billiot; **NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: NONE.**

- November Police Department Stats
 - 625 calls for service
 - 250 violations
 - 203 cases
 - 2 arrests

Town Engineer John Plaisance advised Mayor Joey Bouziga and the Council that he issued a request for quotes for the John Parker Fence Permit and they are due December 13, 2022. He also stated that there is a piece of property behind there that belongs to the Parish due to non-payment of taxes.

Regarding Hurricane Ida, Mayor Joey Bouziga advised the Council that that the lights on the tennis court were installed. The tennis court building's shingles are getting torn down to put a metal roof. There is also a metal roof being put on the bathroom by the playground park. Councilman Laci Latiolais advised the Mayor and the Council that the Senior Citizen's building is almost complete. Mayor Bouziga advised the Council that he spoke to the Contractor today and there are a lot of rotten pieces of wood on the porch and handrail, so Mayor Bouziga authorized the Contractor to change the pieces. Mayor Bouziga advised the Council that they sent out for 3 bids to replace the street signs in town, and we received 1 bid back.

Mayor Joey Bouziga advised the Council that Terry Gaudet had his condemnation hearing 10/3/2022, where the Council approved a deadline of 10/17/2022. Mr. Gaudet is present at this meeting to give an update on his progress. Mr. Gaudet advised Mayor Bouziga and the Council that he will have the trash picked up by 12/8/2022. Councilman Kip Plaisance presented a motion and Councilman Willis Toups seconded the motion to remove Terry Gaudet from the agenda. The Council unanimously approved the motion as presented.

Mayor Joey Bouziga advised the Council that homeowner Florinda Verdin was given 90 days to make progress on 132 Doucet Drive, with a new deadline of 12/5/2022. Florinda Verdin's husband Nelson Verdin is here to update the Mayor and the Council on the progress. Mr. Verdin has almost finished the shed. Councilman Laci Latiolais presented a motion and Councilman Mike Billiot seconded the motion to give Florinda Verdin until January 2nd to finish working on the shed. The Council unanimously approved the motion as presented.

Chief Troy Dufrene advised Mayor Joey Bouziga and the Council that they cannot find Trevor Sandras, Schwartz properties' owners, or Abigail Land Holdings' owners to deliver summons about the grass cutting.

Mayor Joey Bouziga advised the Council that work is completed on closing in the town barn frame. Councilman Laci Latiolais presented a motion and Councilman Willis Toups seconded the motion to remove the closing in of the town barn frame from the agenda. The Council unanimously approved the motion as presented.

Councilman Willis Toups advised Mayor Joey Bouziga and the Council that the papers are ready for the sale of Gage Gisclair's house to his neighbor; they are just waiting on an appointment to go to the Lafourche Parish Jail in Thibodaux to sign the papers.

Mayor Joey Bouziga advised the Council that we are still trying to locate Huey Cressionie about 2609 North Bayou Drive.

Town Clerk Tracee Cloutier advised Mayor Joey Bouziga and the Council that she sent a request to the Police Officer overseeing this speed bump project for Chermie Ln., Washington St., and Dursette St., but she has not heard back.

Mayor Joey Bouziga advised the Council that Jazlyn Geneve Lafont has paid for the permit and variance from GIS Engineering, for the building built at 2213 North Bayou Drive. The Council had summoned Ms. Lafont to appear at the 11/21/2022 and 12/5/2022 meetings, which she did not appear for either. Councilman Willis Toups presented a motion and Councilman Kip Plaisance seconded the motion to proceed with the variance proceedings and to issue a letter and a misdemeanor summons that she cannot use the building until her permit and variance are approved. The Council unanimously approved the motion as presented.

Councilman Laci Latiolais advised Mayor Joey Bouziga and the Council that we will have a cleanup/painting day at the Senior Citizen's building when the work is complete.

Mayor Joey Bouziga advised the Council that he did not ask South Central Planning to come talk about South Central Planning Management of Condemnation Process at this meeting because he met with Town Attorney Bryce Autin, Town Clerk Tracee Cloutier, and South Central Planning to see if there's a cheaper way to go. Town Attorney Autin did some research and did not find a cheaper route. Mayor Bouziga would like to have another meeting with Town Attorney Autin, Town Clerk Cloutier, Councilman Laci Latiolais,

Councilman Mike Billiot, and South Central Planning, before bringing South Central Planning before the full Council again.

Mayor Joey Bouziga advised the Council that the letter sent for Scott A. St. Pierre at 104 Theriot St. to request grass cutting and yard clean-up was returned. Town Clerk Tracee Cloutier advised Mayor Bouziga and the Council that United Community Bank owns the house and we received the signed certified card back today, from mailing a letter asking what their intentions were with the house.

Mayor Joey Bouziga advised the Council that Sheila Picou and Others' property at 104 Pierce St. failed inspection and a condemnation hearing needs to be set. Town Attorney Bryce Autin advised Mayor Bouziga and the Council that there are 4 heirs who own this property. Councilman Laci Latiolais presented a motion and Councilman Mike Billiot seconded the motion as presented to have the condemnation hearing on 1/17/2023. The Council unanimously approved the motion as presented.

Mayor Joey Bouziga advised the Council that Samuel and Allison Rankin's property at 162 Washington St. failed inspection and a condemnation hearing needs to be set. Councilman Laci Latiolais presented a motion and Councilman Mike Billiot seconded the motion as presented to have the condemnation hearing on 1/17/2023. The Council unanimously approved the motion as presented.

Councilman Laci Latiolais presented a motion and Councilman Willis Toups seconded the motion to approve the November budget to actuals financial statements. The Council unanimously approved the motion as presented.

Councilman Laci Latiolais presented a motion and Councilman Kip Plaisance seconded the motion to approve declaring surplus junk on the old town hall phones that were recently replaced (9 desk phones and 1 conference phone). The Council unanimously approved the motion as presented.

Town Attorney Bryce Autin advised Mayor Joey Bouziga and the Council that Jeray Jarreau has been the Court Magistrate for 2 months now and with work coming up, she can sometimes respond faster than Town Attorney Autin, and he is recommending that she takes on more legal work under the guidance of him. Councilman Laci Latiolais presented a motion and Councilman Willis Toups seconded the motion to approve for Attorney Jeray Jarreau to start helping with the legal work for the Town Hall. The Council unanimously approved the motion as presented.

Mayor Joey Bouziga advised the Council it will cost \$3,850.00 to repair the tennis court fence. Councilman Laci Latiolais presented a motion and Councilman Kip Plaisance seconded the motion to repair the tennis court fence. The Council unanimously approved the motion as presented.

Town Foreman Salvador Gonzalez Jr. advised Mayor Joey Bouziga and the Council that he is requesting to have an OLOPS 5K Run Youth Formation Fundraiser on 4/1/2023. Councilman Willis Toups presented a motion and Councilman Kip Plaisance seconded the motion to approve the OLOPS 5K Run Youth Formation Fundraiser on 4/1/2023. The Council unanimously approved the motion as presented.

Councilman Laci Latiolais presented a motion and Councilman Jody Cheramie seconded the motion as presented to approve a resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign the Act of Sale for the purchase of the property at 410 North Alex Plaisance Blvd adjacent to the Town Hall. The Council unanimously approved the motion as presented.

Mayor Joey Bouziga advised the Council that he wants to add 1504 South Bayou Drive to the agenda. Councilman Mike Billiot presented a motion and Councilman Willis Toups seconded the motion to add 1504 South Bayou Drive to the agenda. The Council unanimously approved the motion as presented. Mayor Joey Bouziga advised the Council that a building inspector is needed at 1504 South Bayou Drive. Councilman Mike Billiot presented a motion and Councilman Willis Toups seconded the motion to hire a building inspector for 1504 South Bayou Drive. The Council unanimously approved the motion as presented.

Mayor Joey Bouziga advised the Council that he wants to add some bank business to the agenda. Councilman Jody Cheramie presented a motion and Councilman Kip Plaisance seconded the motion to add bank business to the agenda. The Council unanimously approved the motion as presented. Mayor Joey Bouziga asked the Council if he can sign the agreement with State Bank removing former Town Clerk Jamie Liner and former Assistant Town Clerk Trixie Allemand from the security procedures for State Bank and adding current Town Clerk Tracee Cloutier and current Assistant Town Clerk Rachel Robichaux to the security procedures for State Bank. Councilman Mike Billiot presented a motion and Councilman Willis Toups seconded the motion to approve Mayor Joey Bouziga to sign the State Bank agreement, removing former Town Clerk Jamie Liner and former Assistant Town Clerk Trixie Allemand from the security procedures for State Bank, and adding current Town Clerk Tracee Cloutier and current Assistant Town Clerk Rachel Robichaux to the security procedures for State Bank. The Council unanimously approved the motion as presented.

Mayor Joey Bouziga asked if there was any other business that needed to be brought up to the Council.

Councilman Kip Plaisance asked Mayor Joey Bouziga for an update on the mobile hotspot. Mayor Bouziga informed Councilman Plaisance that he will check into it.

Councilman Kip Plaisance asked Mayor Joey Bouziga if he and Councilman Willis Toups can look at 2023's budget before the 12/14/2022 meeting. Mayor Bouziga said yes and Town Clerk Tracee Cloutier advised them that it was available to look at any time.

Councilman Jody Cheramie advised Mayor Joey Bouziga and the Council that we are still waiting on trucks for trash pickup.

Mayor Joey Bouziga asked for audience comments.

Town Citizen Edward Louviere suggested to the Council that we have a contract with new police officer hires to assure they stay awhile. Chief Troy Dufrene informed Mr. Louviere that we have a contract in place for the new police officer hires to sign.

Town Citizen Rhea Wescovich asked for an update on the campground at 2214 South Alex Plaisance Blvd. Town Engineer John Plaisance advised that Kenny Black has not applied for the RV Park yet-he will need to turn in a plan and engineering drawings.

Town Citizen Patricia Louviere advised Mayor Joey Bouziga and the Council that Sam and Allison Rankin are deceased-the owners of 162 Washington St.

Councilman Mike Billiot advised Mayor Joey Bouziga, the Council, and the citizens that the Annual Christmas Parade will roll in town on Saturday, December 10th at 3:00 PM.

Councilman Jody Cheramie reminded Mayor Joey Bouziga, the Council, and the citizens to go vote Saturday, December 10th.

With no further business to discuss, Councilman Jody Cherie presented a motion and Councilman Willis Toups seconded the motion as presented adjourning this meeting at 7:52 P.M. The Council unanimously approved the motion as presented.

MAYOR JOEY BOUZIGA

ATTESTED:

**RACHEL ROBICHAUX
ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK**