

TOWN OF GOLDEN MEADOW REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**Monday, August 7, 2023
Golden Meadow Town Hall
107 Jervis Dr.
Golden Meadow, LA 70357**

Mayor Joey Bouziga was present for the regular town meeting and called it to order on Monday August 7, 2023 at 7:00 PM. He instructed everyone to refrain from cell phone use until the meeting adjourns.

Council Member Willis Toups led everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and Town Citizen Edward Louviere led everyone in prayer.

Town of Golden Meadow Council Members Present: Mike Billiot, Jody Cheramie, Kip Plaisance, Laci Latiolais, and Willis Toups

Town of Golden Meadow Council Members Absent: NONE

Others attending were: David Adams, Trixie Allemand, Bryce Autin, Charles Bertrand, Stephanie Bollinger, Buffy Charpentier, Marc Charpentier, Doug Cheramie, Tracee Cloutier, Wilbur Cloutier, Troy Dufrene, Jamie Liner, Daniel Lorraine, Patricia Louviere, Edward Louviere, Jarod Martin, Stella Mobley, John Parker, Jody Pitre, Rachel Robichaux, McNeely Rome, Stephen Smith, Craig Stewart, Marlene Sunday, William Sunday, Wendy Thibodeaux, Farrell Trahan, and Tom Watkins.

A motion to approve minutes of the Town's regular meeting from July 17, 2023, as presented, was made by Council Member Billiot; seconded by Council Member Toups, with the change for the notice of costs for 110 Pelican Ln. The total notice of costs was stated as \$5398.35, but should've been stated as \$5098.35. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Cheramie, Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: NONE.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Bouziga asked that both New Business Items A. Assessor Wendy Thibodeaux and B. Superintendent Jarod Martin be moved to the beginning of the agenda. A motion to move New Business Items A and B, as presented, was made by Council Member Billiot; seconded by Council Member Latiolais. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Cheramie, Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: NONE.

Assessor Wendy Thibodeaux addressed the Council about her accomplishments since becoming the Lafourche Parish Assessor and her reelection bid.

Superintendent Jarod Martin discussed Lafourche Parish School Board's plans to reopen the Golden Meadow Middle School.

Building Permits: NONE

Occupational Licenses: NONE

Mayor Bouziga presented the Project Status Report for Town Engineer John Plaisance:

- North Sewer Treatment Upgrades-Town Clerk Tracee Cloutier stated that Town Engineer Plaisance sent some alternative specs to Rene Becnel that the Council will need to vote on later in the meeting.
- Sewer Phase VII LCDBG-No updates.
- Mitigation Project (Seawall)-No updates.
- LGAP Grant application (Police Unit)-No updates.
- Infrastructure Grant application-under review. Mayor Bouziga has a meeting with Senator John Kennedy on 8/10/2023 and hopes to get an update.
- Clean Water State Revolving Fund (Sewer)-No updates.
- Capital Outlay-Replacement of Sewer Lift Station behind Williams Road-Planning and Construction; working on Cooperative Endeavor Agreements.
- Capital Outlay-Armand/Alcide Area Drainage, Planning and Construction; working on Cooperative Endeavor Agreements.
- A motion to approve the resolution for the upgrade to the North Sewer Treatment Plant to certify that “the Town has sufficient funds above the currently available unobligated State cash, amount of \$159,875 to cover all costs of planning, testing, miscellaneous construction costs, etc., to ensure a complete functional project upon completion, for a construction project in the amount that was estimated by GIS Engineering, LLC to cost \$281,000 under the Base Bid and \$622,900 under the Base Bid plus Alternates 1, 2 and 3. The total project amount, including contingencies, engineering and FP&C administration costs for the project would be \$328,000”, as presented, was made by Council Member Billiot; seconded by Council Member Plaisance. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Cheramie, Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: NONE.

Town Attorney Bryce Autin presented the Attorney’s Report:

- After discussing approving Ordinance amending the Golden Meadow Code of Ordinance Section No. 3.33.010 related to town payment of a percentage of hospital insurance premiums for certain retirees at the Public Hearing, it was decided that the Ordinance would have to be rewritten and reintroduced, due to not taking the new Medicare age of 67 into consideration. A motion to amend the Ordinance amending the Golden Meadow Code of Ordinance to include Medicare age, as presented, was made by Council Member Latiolais; seconded by Council Member Plaisance. The Town Attorneys will have to do more research before rewriting and reintroducing the Ordinance. Town Attorney Autin asked that the Council Members withdraw their motions. Council Member Latiolais withdrew her motion and Council Member Plaisance withdrew his second.

- The statement of claim has been signed and filed for 162 Washington St. (Samuel and Allison Rankin). A motion to remove filing of a lien for 162 Washington St from the agenda, as presented, was made by Council Member Cheramie; seconded by Council Member Toups. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Cheramie, Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: NONE.

Chief Troy Dufrene presented the Police Business:

- Update on Speed Humps-Chief Dufrene advised that none of the reports are ready.

Old Business

1504 South Bayou Drive (John Parker)-Sealed bids for the demolition of this property were requested for the 8/7/2023 meeting, but no bids were received. John Parker and Craig Stewart are present to address the Council. Mr. Stewart called Mayor Bouziga last week to discuss saving the building and they then had a conference call with Town Clerk Cloutier and Town Attorney Autin. Mr. Stewart advised that a good bit of the debris has already been cleaned up and Mr. Parker plans to repair the building. A motion to have Town Attorney Bryce Autin to draw up a Bond Contract for Mr. Parker to repair 1504 South Bayou Drive, as presented, was made by Council Member Toups; seconded by Council Member Plaisance. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Cheramie, Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: NONE.

Hurricane Ida repairs-Mayor Bouziga advised the Council that the pool was drained for the architect to look at and the debris was removed. Town Clerk Cloutier advised they are coming back to look at the pool pumps. Mayor Bouziga advised the Council that they spoke with GIS Consultants to give a price for surveying, permitting, reporting and preparing the bid package for debris removal and cleanup of the Main Drainage Canal and connected ditches in the total amount of \$93,055, which some of this amount will be reimbursable from FEMA. We received an extension from FEMA until 3/1/2024 to have this complete. Town Clerk Cloutier advised that once GIS finishes their part, then The Sulzer Group will take over, and we are hoping to be out for bids by October. A motion for the Town to pay \$34,395 to GIS Engineering for surveying and handling permits for The Main Drainage Canal, as presented, was made by Council Member Cheramie; seconded by Council Member Toups. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Cheramie, Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: NONE.

Lafourche Parish Hurricane Ida Recovery Grant-No updates.

Mayor Bouziga advised the Council that he and Town Clerk Cloutier have been speaking with Laura Sanders about the Library -2- Geaux in Golden Meadow. The Library -2- Geaux will use the Senior Citizen's Building on Thursdays from 1-4 PM. Mayor Bouziga stated that if the Senior Citizens Center's electricity bill increases, that he wants the Council to consider helping them with the bill, in order to bring library services to children in our area. A motion for the Lafourche Parish Public Library to use the Senior Citizen's Building to bring Golden Meadow library services, as presented, was made by Council Member Latiolais; seconded by Council Member Toups. A roll call vote took

place as follows: YEAS: Cheramie, Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: NONE.

Mayor Bouziga advised the Council that we received 1 bid for the security lights and fans for the park, but we are also looking at getting donations for them.

Mayor Bouziga advised the Council that we are awaiting a response from the Parish for patchwork on Ridgewood Blvd for the dip in the street. Councilman Cheramie asked if the Parish could also look at Doucet Dr.

Chief Dufrene advised the Council that they did receive some body cameras, but the earliest Axxon can get with the Police Dept. and our IT for installation and training is 10/3/2023.

South Central Planning and Development Commission's (SCPDC) Tom Watkins presented the updates on Condemnation Proceedings:

- BC 1006-110 Pelican Ln-Estate of Faustin Borne/Marcess Calais Borne/Julie Borne Galliano-Town Attorney Autin advised the Council that the statement of claim has been filed to be recorded. A motion to remove BC 1006 from the agenda, as presented, was made by Council Member Latiolais; seconded by Council Member Cheramie. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Cheramie, Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: NONE.
- BC 1008-153 Nichols Street-Jody Pitre/Monique Pitre-SCPDC's Building Inspector Charles Bertrand advised the Council that the roof is on and the lean to has been taken down, so he recommends removing it from the agenda. A motion to remove BC 1008 from the agenda, as presented, was made by Council Member Billiot; seconded by Council Member Plaisance. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Cheramie, Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: NONE.
- BC 1009-145 Terrebonne Ln-Marlene C Trahan, On Behalf of Earlia Trahan Arceneaux/Cheramie & Sunday, LLC, Jenna Cheramie-A motion to approve DDR Disaster Debris Removal's bid for \$4,300, as presented, was made by Council Member Plaisance; seconded by Council Member Latiolais. The discussion got heated. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Plaisance, Latiolais. NAYS: Cheramie, Billiot; ABSTAINED: Toups; ABSENT: NONE.
- BC 1013-137 Delgrandile Ln-Ethel Boudreaux-Building Inspector Bertrand advised the Council that they were cleaning up the property today and he recommends giving them more time to clean up the debris and having him reinspect the property before the next meeting.
- BC 1016-110 Delgrandile Ln-Gloria Bouzigard-Condemnation letter sent-deadline 8/21/2023.
- BC 1017-Structure 1 owned by Sherry Demere-SCPDC's Building Inspector Bertrand advised the Council he inspected the property, it looks good and he recommends taking it off of the condemnation list. A motion to remove BC 1017 from the agenda, as presented, was made

by Council Member Latiolais; seconded by Council Member Plaisance. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Cheramie, Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: NONE.

- BC 1017-Structure 2 owned by Estate of Azenor Martin and Amelia Autin Martin- Condemnation hearing scheduled for 8/21/2023.
- BC 1018-112 Delgrandile Lane-Gloria Bouzigard-Condemnation letter sent-deadline 8/21/2023.
- BC 1022-213 N Bayou Drive-Mae Malcomb Guilbeau, Malcom James Guilbeau, and Connie Elizabeth Guilbeau-Condemnation hearing scheduled for 8/21/2023.

New Business

A motion to approve July's Budget to Actuals Financial Statements, as presented, was made by Council Member Toups; seconded by Council Member Cheramie. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Cheramie, Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: NONE.

A motion to authorize Mayor Bouziga to sign the service order with Yeates/Mancil Architects for the Hurricane Damage Assessment Report for the Sewer Treatment Plant Control Panel, as presented, was made by Council Member Billiot; seconded by Council Member Toups. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Cheramie, Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: NONE.

A motion to authorize payment to Yeates/Mancil Architects for the completed damage assessments which will be reimbursed by FEMA, as presented, was made by Council Member Billiot; seconded by Council Member Latiolais. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Cheramie, Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: NONE.

A motion to authorize Mayor Bouziga to enter into a contract with GIS Engineering to provide a survey/recon and permitting assistance for the drainage canal debris removal, as presented, was made by Council Member Latiolais; seconded by Council Member Billiot. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Cheramie, Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: NONE.

A motion to authorize Mayor Bouziga to sign the amendment with the Louisiana Department of Treasury and Lafourche Parish Government regarding the extension of the date to expend the Hurricane Ida Recovery Grant Funds from June 30, 2023 to June 30, 2024, as presented, was made by Council Member Billiot; seconded by Council Member Toups. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Cheramie, Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: NONE.

A motion to authorize Mayor Bouziga to enter into an Amendment #1 to the Professional Engineering Services contract for Sewer Phase VII LCDBG with GIS Engineering to add additional

services which include Pre-Agreement Services for LCDBG Application, Property Survey for Lift Station and Assistance with Servitude Procurement totaling \$6,500, as presented, was made by Council Member Toups; seconded by Council Member Latiolais. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Cheramie, Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: NONE.

A motion to authorize Mayor Bouziga to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the State of Louisiana for the Replacement of the Sewer Lift Station behind Williams Road Capital Outlay Project, as presented, was made by Council Member Toups; seconded by Council Member Plaisance. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Cheramie, Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: NONE.

A motion to authorize Mayor Bouziga to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the State of Louisiana for the Armand/Alcide Area Drainage Capital Outlay Project, as presented, was made by Council Member Billiot; seconded by Council Member Latiolais. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Cheramie, Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: NONE.

A motion to authorize Mayor Bouziga to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Greater Lafourche Port Commission for park advertising rights in the amount of \$5,000, as presented, was made by Council Member Latiolais; seconded by Council Member Billiot. Council Member Cheramie asked if the park sign can be hung back up and Mayor Bouziga stated we can get some prices. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Cheramie, Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: NONE.

A motion to have Engineer Plaisance to get a price on what it would cost to put a lean to addition (to replace the Equipment Shed) to the Maintenance Building, as presented, was made by Council Member Billiot; seconded by Council Member Cheramie. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Cheramie, Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: NONE.

A motion to approve a proposal from GIS Engineering for Sewer Phase 8, which will add Cheramie Lane to the sewer system, as presented, was made by Council Member Toups; seconded by Council Member Plaisance. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Cheramie, Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: NONE.

A motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the proposal from GIS Engineering for Sewer Phase 8, which will add Cheramie Lane to the sewer system, as presented, was made by Council Member Cheramie; seconded by Council Member Toups. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Cheramie, Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: NONE.

Mayor Bouziga advised the Council that the grass cutting complaint for Boura and Boura Land at 111 Russell Drive regarding overgrown dirt piles has been taken care of. A motion to remove the

grass cutting complaint for Boura and Boura Land at 111 Russell Drive regarding overgrown dirt piles from the agenda, as presented, was made by Council Member Billiot; seconded by Council Member Cheramie. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Cheramie, Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: NONE.

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

Council Member Cheramie wants to add grass cutting complaints to the agenda. A motion to add grass cutting complaints to the agenda, as presented, was made by Council Member Billiot; seconded by Council Member Toups. The Council unanimously approved the motion as presented.

Council Member Cheramie advised Mayor Bouziga and the Council that the grass at 519 N Bayou Drive and 141 Terrebonne Lane are overgrown. Town Clerk Cloutier advised that we sent 519 N Bayou Drive a letter, but their 5 days hasn't passed yet. A motion to send 141 Terrebonne Lane a letter, as presented, was made by Council Member Billiot; seconded by Council Member Cheramie. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Cheramie, Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: NONE.

Mayor Bouziga asked for audience comments.

Lafourche Parish Councilman Daniel Lorraine discussed when the Galliano Pontoon Bridge would be open.

Chief Dufrene advised there was a state-wide burn ban for the next 30 days.

With no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn this meeting at 8:39 PM, as presented, was made by Council Member Latiolais; seconded by Council Member Billiot. The Council unanimously approved the motion as presented.

MAYOR JOEY BOUZIGA

ATTESTED:

**RACHEL ROBICHAUX
ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK**