

TOWN OF GOLDEN MEADOW REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday, September 18, 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 September 18, 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, Kip Plaisance, Laci Latiolais, and Willis Toups

Town of Golden Meadow Council Members Absent: Jody Cheramie

Others attending were: Jason Akers, Natalie Autin, Charles Bertrand, Stephanie Bollinger, Marty Bradberry, Tracee Cloutier, Wilbur Cloutier, Troy Dufrene, Jeray Jarreau, Edward Louviere, Patricia Louviere, Paula Morgan, John Plaisance, Mary Plaisance, Rachel Robichaux, McNeely Rome, Taffy Stallings, Farrell Trahan, Tom Watkins, and Kyle Williams.

A motion to approve the minutes of the Town's public hearing from September 5, 2023, as presented, was made by Council Member Billiot; seconded by Council Member Plaisance. The Council unanimously approved the motion as presented.

A motion to approve the minutes of the Town's regular meeting from September 5, 2023, as presented, was made by Council Member Billiot; seconded by Council Member Plaisance. The Council unanimously approved the motion as presented.

Mayor's Report:

Building Permits: NONE

Occupational Licenses: NONE

Jason Akres from Foley & Judell, LLP presented information on the loan for Sewer Phase VIII. A motion to approve a resolution giving preliminary approval to the issuance of a not to exceed \$750,000 taxable excess bond of the Town of Golden Meadow in connection with Sewer Phase VIII, as presented, was made by Council Member Plaisance; seconded by Council Member Latiolais. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: Cheramie.

Town Engineer John Plaisance presented the Project Status Report:

- North Sewer Treatment Plant Upgrades-Advertising will start on 9/20/2023 and we will be able to take bids next month.
- Sewer Phase VII LCDBG-awaiting servitude acquisition.
- Mitigation Project (Seawall)-under review.
- LGAP Grant application (Police Unit)-Town Clerk Tracee Cloutier has a call on 9/21/2023.
- Infrastructure Grant application-approved to the next step with FEMA for number justification for the big drainage projects-Armand/Alcide, Jefferson St., Dursette/Pershing, and the Park.
- Clean Water State Revolving Fund (Sewer Phase VIII)-loan approved; paperwork being processed; request bids in January 2024.
- Capital Outlay-Replacement of Sewer Lift Station behind Williams Road-A motion to approve the Professional Services Proposal from GIS Engineering and authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Professional Services Agreement, as presented, was made by Council Member Toups; seconded by Council Member Plaisance. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: Cheramie.
- Capital Outlay-Armand/Alcide Area Drainage, Planning and Construction- A motion to approve the Professional Services Proposal from GIS Engineering and authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Professional Services Agreement, as presented, was made by Council Member Billiot; seconded by Council Member Plaisance. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: Cheramie.
- Lean to addition on Maintenance Building-A motion to approve the Professional Services Proposal from GIS Engineering and authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Professional Services Agreement for a lean to addition on Maintenance Building using the whole cement slab, as presented, was made by Council Member Billiot; seconded by Council Member Toups. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: Cheramie.
- Drainage Canal Survey/Recon and Permitting-The survey work is complete and Town Engineer Plaisance stated he should have the report to us this week to send to FEMA.

Town Attorney Jeray Jarreau presented the Attorney's Report:

- Town Attorney Jarreau presented a letter from Mr. John Parker asking for more time to repair 1504 South Bayou Dr. Both Town Attorneys Jarreau and Autin are recommending that we go out for bids to demolish 1504 South Bayou Dr. Town Attorney Jarreau also stated that she and Town Attorney Autin will work with Town Clerk Cloutier to come up with an adequate bid request, but she wants the Council to understand we will not be able to recoup all of the costs associated with tearing it down. A motion to request bids to demolish and clean up 1504 South Bayou Dr., as presented, was made by Council Member Toups; seconded by Council Member Plaisance. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: Cheramie.

Chief Troy Dufrene presented the Police Business:

- Update on Speed Humps-Chief Dufrene advised that they are still in the process of being completed.

- Police Department Equipment-Chief Dufrene advised that they have received the body cameras, but not the in car cameras. Expert Technology set up the computer part and they have the body cameras working.
- Chief Dufrene advised that Night Out Against Crime is on 10/3/2023 and he would like to move it to the park pavilion where there is more room.

Old Business

Hurricane Ida repairs-Mayor Bouziga advised the Council that FEMA is slow moving and they are trying to push for them to get the street signs repaired.

Lafourche Parish Hurricane Ida Recovery Grant-No updates.

Mayor Bouziga advised the Council that we received 3 bids for the security lights and fans for the park pavilion:

- Martin's Heating and Air Conditioning-\$12,800.00
- Picciola Construction Company, Inc.-\$13,690.00
- Powerhouse Commercial Construction, Inc.-\$11,740.00

A motion to accept Powerhouse Commercial Construction, Inc.'s bid for \$11,740.00 for lights and fans at the park pavilion, as presented, was made by Council Member Latiolais; seconded by Council Member Toups. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: Cheramie.

Mayor Bouziga advised the Council that we are waiting on the parish to fix Ridgewood Blvd., Doucet Dr., and Norman St. In the meantime, Mayor Bouziga is going to have the Town Foreman look at Norman St. because it is really bad.

Mayor Bouziga advised that the playground equipment on order is expected in December.

Town Clerk Cloutier advised that at the end of October, we will receive a live demo on electronic tickets.

Mayor Bouziga, the Council, Town Attorney Jarreau, and the residents that this is affecting discussed the camper located at the end of Anatole Ln. A motion to move forward with getting rid of the camper at the end of Anatole Ln as soon as possible was made at the 9/5/2023 meeting. Mayor Bouziga asked Town Attorney Jarreau to look at the laws to get this taken care of as soon as possible.

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

- BC 1009-145 Terrebonne Ln.-Marlene C Trahan, On Behalf of Earlia Trahan Arceneaux/Cheramie & Sunday, LLC, Jenna Cheramie-SCPDC's Building Inspector Charles Bertrand inspected the property today and advised the Council that it is no longer condemnable. A motion to remove 145 Terrebonne Ln. 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: Plaisance, Toups, Billiot; NAYS: Latiolais; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: Cheramie.

- BC 1016-110 Delgrandile Ln.-Gloria Bouzigard-The bid to demolish was awarded at the 9/5/2023 meeting, but notice needs to be served to Gloria Bouzigard before demolition. Building Inspector Bertrand advised the Council that there have been no changes.
- BC 1017-Structure 2 owned by Estate of Azenor Martin and Amelia Autin Martin-A condemnation notice was issued for 30 days to make repairs or demolish, giving a deadline of 9/21/2023. Building Inspector Bertrand advised the Council that there have been no changes. A motion, as presented, to accept bids to demolish BC 1017 if there have been no changes, once the deadline has passed, was made by Council Member Latiolais; seconded by Council Member Plaisance. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: Cheramie.
- BC 1018-112 Delgrandile Ln.-Gloria Bouzigard-The bid to demolish was awarded at the 9/5/2023 meeting, but notice needs to be served to Gloria Bouzigard before demolition. Building Inspector Bertrand advised the Council that there have been no changes.
- BC 1022-213 N Bayou Dr.-Mae Malcomb Guilbeau, Malcom James Guilbeau, and Connie Elizabeth Guilbeau-The Council received 3 sealed bids for demolition:
 - DTB General Contractors-\$27,560.00
 - Adams Land and Property Management-\$16,800.00
 - BM Construction-\$30,000.00A motion, as presented, to accept the bid from Adams Land and Property Management for \$16,800.00 to demolish BC 1022 was made by Council Member Billiot; seconded by Council Member Toups. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: Cheramie

New Business

A motion to approve the August budget to actuals financial statements, as presented, was made by Council Member Toups; seconded by Council Member Plaisance. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: Cheramie.

A motion to approve a one-time deviation from the advertising requirements under the Procurement Policy related to FEMA Drainage Canal work from 30 days to 15 days, as presented, was made by Council Member Latiolais; seconded by Council Member Billiot. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: Cheramie.

A motion to move consider authorizing the Mayor to purchase ULINE trash cans for the park to the 10/2/2023 meeting, as presented, was made by Council Member Billiot; seconded by Council Member Toups. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: Cheramie.

A motion to authorize the Mayor to execute a grass cutting contract with BJA LLC dba BM Construction, as presented, was made by Council Member Billiot; seconded by Council Member Plaisance. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: Cheramie.

Council Member Latiolais advised the Mayor and the Council that Trunk or Treat will be on October 13, 2023 at the Golden Meadow Park and Town Attorney Jarreau advised that her non-profit Bless Your Heart would help pay for the food.

Mayor Bouziga advised the Council that the Our Lady of Prompt Succor Civil Servant Mass will be on 9/24/2023 at 10 AM.

A motion to add opening a Sewer Phase VIII checking account to the agenda, as presented, was made by Council Member Billiot; seconded by Council Member Toups. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: Cherie.

A motion to open a Sewer Phase VIII checking account, as presented, was made by Council Member Plaisance; seconded by Council Member Toups. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: Cherie.

A motion to add 158 Washington St. and 147 Russel Dr. grass cutting bids opening to the agenda, as presented, was made by Council Member Toups; seconded by Council Member Latiolais. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: Cherie.

A motion to open the bids for 158 Washington St. and 147 Russel Dr. grass cutting, as presented, was made by Council Member Latiolais; seconded by Council Member Toups. The Council unanimously approved the motion as presented.

- 158 Washington St.:
 - BM Construction-\$150.00
 - DTB General Contractors-\$150.00

Mayor Bouziga asked Town Attorney Jarreau to research what would break the tie since their bids are the same amount.

- 147 Russel Dr.:
 - BM Construction-\$500.00
 - DTB General Contractors-\$300.00

A motion to accept the bid from DTB General Contractors for \$300.00 for 147 Russel Dr., as presented, was made by Council Member Toups; seconded by Council Member Plaisance. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: Cherie

Town Attorney Jarreau researched who would win the bid for 158 Washington St. since they were the same and it will go to whoever submitted the bid first. BM Construction submitted their bid on 9/14/2023 and DTB General Contractors submitted their bid on 9/18/2023. A motion to accept the bid from BM Construction for \$150.00 for 158 Washington St., as presented, was made by Council Member Billiot; seconded by Council Member Plaisance. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: Cherie

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

Council Member Toups asked about getting flashing signs put back in the beginning of Golden Meadow on Hwy 1 alerting to the speed limit change. Mayor Bouziga stated the signs are under a claim from FEMA for the north and south end, so that is why there aren't any signs yet. Council Member Billiot asked if we can get the Sheriff's Office to come and put their trailer. Chief Dufrene stated he will contact the Sheriff's Office.

Mayor Bouziga asked for audience comments.

Town Citizen Kyle Williams advised Mayor Bouziga and the Council that people are feeding the alligators at the park and it is causing some people not to go to the park because they are scared. Town Attorney Jarreau stated that she didn't see any laws against feeding alligators. Audience member Wilbur Cloutier stated that Wildlife & Fisheries has a specific law about feeding alligators and there is also a nuisance law. Town Attorney Jarreau is supposed to research the Wildlife & Fisheries laws, so we can put signs at the park for citizens to call Wildlife & Fisheries. Chief Dufrene stated if there is a law, then they can enforce it at the park.

Council Member Toups asked about some trash on Hwy. 3235, but it is contained on private property, so there is nothing that can be done about it.

With no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn this meeting at 8:01 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**