

TOWN OF GOLDEN MEADOW REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**Monday, March 18, 2024
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, March 18, 2024 at 7:00 PM. He instructed everyone to refrain from cell phone use until the meeting adjourns.

Willis Toups led everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and Jody Cheramie led everyone in prayer.

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

Town of Golden Meadow Council Members Absent: NONE

Others attending were: Joseph Cehan, Gwen Charpentier, Marc Charpentier, Tracee Cloutier, Wilbur Cloutier, Troy Dufrene, Brian Eymard, Jeray Jarreau, Michelle Lafont, Tait Lafont, Uriah Lasseigne, Daniel Lorraine, Angie Matherne, Dwayne Matherne, Stella Mobley, John Plaisance, Johnine Rebstock, Rosalus Rebstock, Rachel Robichaux, McNeely Rome, Carroll Terrebonne, Caroline Theriot, Farrell Trahan, and Kyle Williams.

A motion to approve the town's regular meeting minutes from March 4, 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

Mayor's Report:

A motion to add Caroline Theriot-Regional Representative for Senator John Kennedy, as presented, was made by Council Member Cheramie; seconded by Council Member Billiot. The Council unanimously approved the motion as presented. Caroline Theriot introduced herself to the Council and Mayor and advised them that she is available for community outreach and assisting with constituent concerns.

A motion to authorize the Mayor to accept a bid from Joe's Septic Contractors for the removing of solids from the 3 tanks at the South Sewer Plant, and paying for this out of ARPA funds, 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 have the fuel tanks cleaned by Mandatory Fuel Management for \$2,347.50, 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. Council Member Billiot recommends treating the fuel with Star Tron every few months.

Building Permits: NONE

Occupational Licenses: NONE

Town Engineer John Plaisance presented the Project Status Report:

- North Sewer Treatment Plant Upgrades-Work in progress and the deadline to complete is 5/31/2024.
- Sewer Phase VII LCDBG-Advertising began on 1/30/2024 and bids were opened on 3/5/2024. A motion to accept the lowest bid from Norris & Boudreaux Contractors, LLC in the amount of \$787,517.45, as presented, was made by Council Member Toups; seconded by Council Member Plaisance. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Chermie, Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: NONE. Town Engineer Plaisance stated they will probably start at the end of April.
- Mitigation Project (Seawall)-GOHSEP approved it, but FEMA rejected it because of benefit cost ratio, so they are talking with Congressman Steve Scalise's and Senator John Kennedy's offices to get it overturned.
- Infrastructure Grant applications (FMA)-A motion to add the Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign that the town commits to provide funds for the non-federal match for these 4 main drainage projects to the agenda, as presented, was made by Council Member Billiot; seconded by Council Member Plaisance. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Chermie, Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: NONE. A motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the Resolution that the town commits to provide funds for the non-federal match for these 4 main drainage projects, which is 12% of the project cost (estimated project cost is \$3,493,530.00, so town's estimated cost would be a maximum of \$419,224.00), as presented, was made by Council Member Billiot; seconded by Council Member Toups. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Chermie, Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: NONE.
- Clean Water State Revolving Fund (Sewer Phase VIII (8))-GIS survey sent to Town Attorney Jeray Jarreau has finished the title work, so once GIS receives that, they can start advertising.
- Capital Outlay-Replacement of Sewer Lift Station behind Williams Road-Planning and Construction; plans were sent for review and advertising is expected March 2024. A motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the Resolution that the town commits to provide funds for the non-federal match for this project, as presented, was made by Council Member Plaisance; seconded by Council Member Chermie. A roll call vote took place as follows: YEAS: Chermie, Plaisance, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: NONE; ABSENT: NONE.
- Capital Outlay-Armand/Alcide Area Drainage-Planning and Construction; GIS is still going through the preliminary engineering and advertising is expected by the end of March 2024.
- Town Engineer Plaisance advised that 9 Capital Outlay requests for the fiscal year 2024-2025 were submitted on 10/31/2023 and we are waiting for them to go through the legislative process which will be in June 2024.
- Chlorine Contact Chamber at the South Plant will need to be replaced. GIS has issued a request for quotes and they are due on 3/21/2024.

Town Attorney Jeray Jarreau presented the Attorney's Report:

- 1504 S. Bayou Dr. (Walter Guidry and Martin Perkins)-Condemnation Hearing was on 3/4/2024, where Council gave additional time for repairs, with an update on 4/15/2024.

- Town Attorney Jarreau discussed the possibility of Tamplain Lane being turned back over to the Town with the Mayor and Council. Town Attorney Jarreau advised that she and Town Attorney Autin are working with Town Engineer Plaisance to identify the proper map and if the drainage servitudes will be included.
- Attorney to draft the following policies to be added to TOGM's policies and procedures: Communications Policy, Grievance Policy and Hostile Work Environment Policy. A motion to create a committee with the Town Attorneys, Council Member Cheramie and Council Member Plaisance to discuss these policies to present to the Council, as presented, was made by Council Member Cheramie; 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 create a committee with the Town Attorneys, Council Member Toups and Council Member Billiot to discuss Police Employee Benefits to present to the Council, as presented, was made by Council Member Plaisance; 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
- Council Member Billiot asked Town Attorney Jarreau if they worked on the bid guidelines. She advised they made a 1st draft and Town Attorney Autin is reviewing it.

Chief Troy Dufrene presented the Police Business:

- Update on Speed Humps-The Sheriff's Office completed Washington Street's assessment, but the Chief hasn't received the official report yet. They will complete Dursette Street when the bridge reopens and they are accessing Cheramie Lane right now.
- Police Department Equipment-Chief Dufrene advised the dash cameras are on order and are expected in May, but may arrive earlier.
- LPSO to put speed reader on North Bayou Drive-Chief Dufrene advised that we are still waiting on an available reader.
- Police Employee Benefits were discussed in the Attorney's Report.
- February 2024 Police Stats:
 - 1020 calls for service
 - 77 cases
 - 43 citations
 - 1 arrest

Old Business

Hurricane Ida Repairs:

- Project 673219-Pump Station Building-tank installation to take place within the next couple of months.
- The following projects have been obligated and received funding with a work completion deadline of February 2025:
 - Project 673191 (2371)-Pump behind Little Eagle and Flood Gate at Park-out for bids-due on 3/28/2024 to be opened at the 4/1/2024 town meeting.
 - Project 673198 (2408)-Big Electrical Box at Pump Station-out for bids-due on 3/28/2024 to be opened at the 4/1/2024 town meeting.

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- Project 673187 (2454)-Street and Caution Signs-out for bids-due on 3/28/2024 to be opened at the 4/1/2024 town meeting.
- Project 679655 (2523)-Lift Stations and Sewer Plants
- Project 673210 (2472)-Town Hall and Fuel Canopies
- Project 724905 (2520)-Pump Station Equipment Shed-out for bids-due on 3/28/2024 to be opened at the 4/1/2024 town meeting.
- Project 724904-Christmas Lights Inventory-order was placed for replacements
- Project 715033-Le Petit Caporal Boat
- Project 663139-Drainage Canal Debris Removal
- Project 706063-Senior Citizens Craft Building-50% rule request. Asbestos testing was done on 3/12/2024 and we are awaiting the results.
- Project 731342-Swimming Pool, Swimming Pool Pump Building, Swimming Pool Bath House Building (combined into one project for possible alternate project)-50% rule request. Pending Initial Development. Asbestos testing was done on 3/12/2024 and we are awaiting the results.

Mayor Bouziga advised the Council that we are resubmitting new paperwork for the Lafourche Parish Hurricane Ida Recovery Grant when available and the deadline is 6/30/2024.

Mayor Bouziga advised the Council that the Parish will request bids in the 2nd or 3rd quarter of 2024 to repair the asphalt on Ridgewood Boulevard, Doucet Drive, and Norman Street.

Mayor Bouziga advised the Council that the LGAP application was submitted on 11/13/2023 and the results are expected July/August 2024.

Town Attorney Jarreau presented South Central Planning and Development Commission's (SCPDC) updates on the Condemnation Proceedings:

- BC 1023-135 Pierce St.-Charles and Christina Battles. For Charles-Issued a Condemnation Order on 1/2/2024 with a deadline of 2/8/2024. For Christina-Issued a Condemnation Order on 2/5/2024 to Ad Hoc Attorney with a deadline of 3/15/2024. SCPDC's Building Inspector Joseph Cehan advised that there haven't been any changes, so they recommend moving forward with the condemnation. A motion to go out for demolition bids, 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
- BC 1026-2216 South Bayou Drive-Francis Plaisance (Plaisance Dragline & Dredging)-Demolition bid was awarded on 12/4/2023 with next update on 3/18/2024. SCPDC's Building Inspector Cehan advised that demolition is complete, but there is still building material on site. Mayor Bouziga asked the Council if he could call the owner before any action is taken and give the next update at the 4/1/2024 meeting.
- BC 1029-Corner of South Bayou Drive-AMC Liftboats-Demolition bid was awarded on 2/5/2024 with next update on 3/18/2024. Mayor Bouziga spoke to the potential buyer today and he should have an update at the 4/1/2024 meeting.

- BC 1030-127 Tamplain Lane-Allen and Polly Cheramie-Condemnation hearing scheduled for 4/15/2024.
- BC 1031-South Bayou Drive (corner of Chouest Lane and LA 1)-Christine Ford and Perry Perrin (Total Wireline Services)-On 3/4/2024-property was deemed no longer condemnable, but there were still a few things that needed to be completed to take it off of the list. Update is due at the 4/1/2024 meeting.
- BC 1032-118 Cliff Lane-Land-Glo, LLC (Charles Michael Callais, agent)-Condemnation Order issued for 30 days with the next update at the 3/18/2024 meeting. Mr. Callais couldn't make the meeting, so he asked Mayor Bouziga to ask the Council to give him 30 more days. A motion to give Mr. Callais until the 4/15/2024 meeting for an update, as presented, was made by Council Member Cheramie; 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 1033-2303 North Bayou Drive-Genevieve Dantin/Corine Berthelot-Condemnation Order issued for 30 days with the next update at the 4/15/2024 meeting.
- BC 1036-129 Summers Street-Warren and Robbi Michel-Condemnation Order issued for 30 days with the next update at the 4/15/2024 meeting.
- BC 1037-170 Pierce Street-Joycelyn Callais-Demolition bid was awarded on 2/5/2024, but Council gave 30 days for potential purchaser to buy the property, with an update at the 3/18/2024 meeting. Council Member Toups advised that Henry Lafont is working on the succession. A motion to move forward with the demolition, 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 1038-1841 South Alex Plaisance Boulevard-Thomassie Commercial Properties (Faith Filce, Agent)-on hold as per town attorneys who are speaking with their attorney. Town Attorney Jarreau stated that Town Attorney Autin advised that they started repairing the building. A motion give the property owners 30 days, with an update at the 4/15/2024 meeting, 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
- BC 1039-114 St. Mary Street-Richard and Kiesha Plaisance-On 2/20/2024, Council requested a letter be sent to homeowners to remove the debris from the roadside within 7 days; letter was mailed out on 3/5/2024 and they received it on 3/8/2024. Mayor Bouziga advised that the debris was cleaned up. A motion to remove BC 1039 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, Toups, Latiolais, Billiot; NAYS: NONE; ABSTAINED: Plaisance; ABSENT: NONE
- BC 1040-113 North Bayou Drive-Brian Eymard-Condemnation Order issued for 30 days with the next update at the 3/18/2024 meeting. SCPDC's Building Inspector Cehan advised that demolition is continuing. A motion to give Mr. Eymard 30 days, with an update at the 4/15/2024 meeting, as presented, was made by Council Member Cheramie; 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 1041-137 Washington Street-Wilbert Collins Jr.-Condemnation Order issued for 30 days with the next update at the 3/18/2024 meeting. SCPDC's Building Inspector Cehan advised that demolition is continuing. A motion to give the property owner 30 days, with an update at the 4/15/2024 meeting, 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
- BC 1042-106 Alario Lane-Alan and Evelyn France-On 2/20/2024, the Council requested to go out for bids due on 4/1/2024.
- BC 1044-130 Malgum Lane-Sean and Emily Bernard-The 2/20/2024 condemnation hearing was rescheduled for 4/15/2024 due to not getting proper service and having to appoint an Ad Hoc Attorney.
- BC 1046-904 North Alex Plaisance Boulevard-Jeremiah St. Pierre-Condemnation Order issued for 30 days with a deadline of 4/1/2024.
- BC 1048-166 Jefferson Street-Kajun M Investments (Agent-Angie Matherne)-The 2/20/2024 condemnation hearing was rescheduled for 4/15/2024 due to not getting proper service and having to appoint an Ad Hoc Attorney. Angie and Dwayne Matherne are present at tonight's meeting. They do intend to repair the property and Town Attorney Jarreau informed them that their condemnation hearing on 4/15/2024.
- BC 1050-160 Jefferson Street-Rosalus and Edith Rebstock-Condemnation Hearing scheduled for 3/18/2024. Mr. and Mrs. Rebstock are present and advised that their home is being demoed from the inside. A motion to give the property owner 30 days, with an update at the 4/15/2024 meeting, as presented, was made by Council Member Cheramie; but then rescinded. A motion to issue a 30 day condemnation order, with an update at the 4/15/2024 meeting, 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
- BC 1051-155 Jefferson Street-Charles Collier-The 2/20/2024 condemnation hearing was rescheduled to 4/15/2024 due to not getting proper service and having to appoint an Ad Hoc Attorney.
- BC 1058-South Bayou Drive-Two P., LLC (Agent-Glenn J. Plaisance)-The Condemnation Hearing was scheduled 2/20/2024, but continued to 3/18/2024 due to ownership issue. Town Attorney Autin advised that Lafourche Sports Complex owns the building, so they will be getting with SCPDC to initiate service.

New Business

A motion to approve the February 2024 Budget to Actuals Financial Reports, as presented, was made by Council Member Cheramie; 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 approve the parade permit request for Krewe of Nereids, Inc. on Sunday, 3/2/2025 at 6:00 PM, 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 Clerk Cloutier gave a report on the SCPDC budget.

Town Attorney Jarreau presented South Central Planning and Development Commission's (SCPDC) New Condemnation Hearings scheduled for 3/18/2024:

- BC 1056-2614 B South Alex Plaisance Drive-Frank and Buffy Boura-SCPDC's Building Inspector Cehan advised that proper service hasn't been made, but the homeowners are working on demoing the structure. A motion to reset the condemnation hearing for 4/15/2024, if proper service can be made, 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

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

Council Member Cheramie advised that the trash is getting picked up more often than before.

Council Member Latiolais advised that the park has new picnic tables.

Mayor Bouziga asked for audience comments.

Lafourche Parish Council Member Daniel Lorraine announced that the Rotary Club is having a Catfish Cookoff in the park on Saturday, 3/23/2024.

Marc Charpentier announced that the 108th Annual Blessing of the Boats is on Saturday, 4/6/2024 at Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church.

With no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn this meeting at 8:15 PM, as presented, was made by Council Member Cheramie; seconded by Council Member Plaisance. The Council unanimously approved the motion as presented.

MAYOR JOEY BOUZIGA

ATTESTED:

**RACHEL ROBICHAUX
ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK**