

**TOWN OF GRAND ISLE
REGULARLY SCHEDULED TOWN MEETING
TUESDAY, March 23, 2021
6:00 P.M.**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor David Camardelle who led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. Joseph Chauvin followed with a prayer. Roll call was as follows:

PRESENT: Council Members – Melissa Pizani, Kelly Besson, Jr., Lan Tivet, Brian Barthelemy, Elgene Gary, Deputy Chief Linda Goldman

ABSENT: 0

Motion by Council Member Lan Tivet seconded by Council Member Kelly Besson Jr. and unanimously agreed to amend agenda.

- 5C. Revising ordinance # 880 concerning the Palm Tree to be removed.
- 10A. Mosquito Control Contract – discussion on proposal bid contract that will be advertised.

Motion by Council Member Brian Barthelemy seconded by Council Member Lan Tivet and unanimously agreed to close agenda.

Motion by Council Member Lan Tivet and seconded by Council Member Melissa Pizani and unanimously agreed to accept the minutes of March 9, 2021 town meeting as written.

A hearing was held on the following propose ordinance which will again be heard at the next regular town meeting of April 13, 2021 at which time will be eligible for adoption.

ORDINANCE NO. _____

An ordinance providing the Subdivision Approval Process within Grand Isle.

ORDINANCE NO. _____

An ordinance amending Ordinance No. 908 changing the day of the Town Council Meetings.

Council Member Brian Barthelemy was recognized and suggested that the ordinance for the protected trees listing needs to be updated.

Deputy Chief Linda Goldman was recognized and gave the following police report: For the period of March 5 thru March 17, 2021 there were total call outs of 102, 18 total citations, 1 golf cart/UTV citation, 1 summons trespassing, 14 medical calls, 2 burglary/theft. Traffic/court fines paid \$10,186.18; golf cart/UTV tags sold \$20,100.00.

GIS Town Engineer Joseph Chauvin was recognized and reports on the following projects: 1.) LCDBG-CV grant for HVAC improvements submitted on March 9, 2021. 2.) TOGI and GIS working closely with GOHSEP from the 2020 Hurricane Season. Hurricane Zeta damages we are working closely with FEMA and GOHSEP. 3.) Bids for the fencing for Gas Department are under legal review. 4.) Access for Golf Carts: GIS recommends using same templet from the USACE and use some type of concrete matting for sand dune protection. Met with Low Land Construction to view areas. Price for this work would be \$60,840.00. Concrete Mats prices are \$1000.00 for an 8' x 20' section. 5.) Orange Lane pump station – AIMS Engineering is addressing comments from Jefferson Parish and preparing a draft that should be submitted by April 5, 2021. DNR submitted some minor comments for this project. AIMS will respond to these comments this week. 6.) Chighizola Pump Station – Principal Engineering is waiting on comments on the pump station design from Jefferson Parish. Principal has asked for

guidance on this issue since landowner's notifications are required for the permits. 7.) Planting for vegetation for the Hurricane Protection Levee will start at the end of March.

Jefferson Parish Council-At-Large Ricky Templet reported that \$69,000.00 that is needed for the golfcart/UTV crossovers will be forwarded to the Town of Grand Isle to complete the installation.

Town Supervisor Chris Hernandez was recognized and reports on the following: 1.) Santiny Lane pump station is up and working. Three back up diesel engines are in place. Two discharged pumps are installed on Landry Lane & Walnut Lane. 2.) Cemetery Lane and Landry Lane debris over the fence from Hurricane Zeta needs to be removed. A joint motion by the council was unanimously agreed upon to rent the excavator for one month for the cost of \$10,400.00. Council Member Lan Tivet requested that a schedule be made for the month. 3.) Speed bumps are back ordered. Hopefully will receive in 2-3 weeks. 4.) Thank you to Timothy Gautreau for update on the weather. Council Member Brian Barthelemy asked about the valve in Chenier by the bridge. Where are we at with installation?

Ronnie Sampey was recognized and reports on the following: 1.) Five Crossings are completed for golf carts. Some of the crossing's boundary lines needs clearance before post are put in place. Council Member Lan Tivet spoke about putting signs for golf carts on trash bins on the beach. Putting the signs on highway on poles. Needs location for utilities located along highway. 2.) Birch Lane crossing cleaned and ready. 3.) Along with Blue Boot completed placing all post for live jackets on beach.

Grand Isle Port Commission Director Weldon Danos was recognized and reports the following projects: 1.) Commercial Dock Improvements Project – Total cost \$2.0 Million. FEMA approval - \$1.5 Million. Capital Outlay - \$500 K (awaiting final decision). Upcoming meeting for funding support with Senator Pat Connick, JP Council Member At-Large Ricky Templet, JP Council Member Marion Edwards, Representative Tim Kerner, Representative Joe Orgeron, Mayor David Camardelle. 2.) FEMA Hurricane Zeta Damage Request For Public Assistance Grant. – FEMA approval – 1.5 Million, Port Owned Facilities – Commercial Dock, Handicap fishing pier, Kayak launch, Oyster farm area #1 Caminada Bay, Navigational markers. Damage assessment report. Recovery scoping meeting with FEMA & GOHSEP, Next step is site visits.

Grand Isle Independent Levee District – Kelly Besson Sr. was recognized. Meeting that levee board had today went well. Public aware that placement of levees on north side of island will be starting soon. Thanked Michael Scioneaux and Kelly Besson Sr. for their service with the levee board.

The following resolution was jointly offered by the Council:

RESOLUTION NO. 2802

A Resolution stating the intent of the Town of Grand Isle, Louisiana to sell the "Lafitte to Grand Isle water line" and all associated assets to the Parish of Jefferson's Consolidated Waterworks District No. 2 in exchange for bond proceeds sufficient to extinguish the outstanding debt related to the Water Revenue Bonds, Series 2000 of the Town of Grand Isle, Louisiana.

WHEREAS the Lafitte to Grand Isle water line was constructed by the Town of Grand Isle (the "Town") to facilitate the purchase of water from the Consolidated Waterworks District No. 1 of the Parish of Jefferson, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS the Town financed the construction of the water line through the issuance of Water Revenue Bonds, Series 2000 (the "Bonds") under Town Ordinance No. 701, which were payable from revenues generated from the operation of the waterworks system and from a portion of the proceeds of an ad valorem tax levied by the Town dedicated to the Water Utilities Fund; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Jefferson Parish Ordinance No. 22560 (the “Ordinance”), the Jefferson Parish Council consolidated the Waterworks District No. 1 of the Town of Grand Isle and the Consolidated Waterworks District No. 1 of the Parish of Jefferson, Louisiana into Consolidated Waterworks District No. 2 of the Parish of Jefferson, Louisiana (the “District”), thereby incorporating the Town within the boundaries of the District; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Ordinance, on April 26, 2006, the District and the Town entered into a Local Services Agreement (the “Agreement”), which Agreement obligates the District to operate and maintain the Town’s water system, to collect the user fees and related tax revenues, and to remit sufficient funds to the Town to pay the debt service on the Bonds; and

WHEREAS, the Town has maintained ownership of the Lafitte to Grand Isle water line even after the consolidation of the operations of the two waterworks districts due to restrictions placed on the asset by the Bonds: and

WHEREAS, the Town has continued to levy and collect an ad valorem tax that was pledged against the Bonds and has used these monies to fund the required debt service reserve and debt service reserve and contingencies funds, with any remaining monies being remitted to the Parish; and

WHEREAS, the Town continues to carry the related long-term debt of the Water Revenue Bonds, Series 2000, which were purchased by the United States of America, Rural Development (the “US Government”) under the Consolidated Farmers Home Administration Act of 1961 at an interest rate of 4.75%; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Jefferson is now looking to levy a Parish ad valorem millage not to exceed five (5.0) mills for a period of 10 years for the operations for the Consolidated Waterworks District No. 2 on March 20, 2021, which would now include the Town; and

WHEREAS the Parish’s new millage would mean that the citizens and businesses of the Town would be paying two ad valorem tax millages towards the operations of the Consolidated Waterworks District No. 2, one levied by the Town and one levied by the Parish: and

WHEREAS present economic conditions permit the issuance of debt by the District at more favorable terms and rates than the existing Bonds; and

WHEREAS the issuance of debt by the Parish would allow the Town to sell the Lafitte to Grand Isle water line to the Parish in exchange for the bond proceeds sufficient to extinguish the outstanding debt carried by the Town related to the Water Revenue Bonds, Series 2000; and

WHEREAS the payoff of the Water Revenue Bonds, Series 2000 would relieve the Town of the obligation of levying the Town ad valorem tax for water operations, thus avoiding the “double taxation” of its citizens and businesses noted previously.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town of Grand Isle, acting as the governing authority of the Grand Isle Water Utilities District, that:

SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Town to sell the Lafitte to Grand Isle water line and all related assets to the Parish of Jefferson’s Consolidated Waterwork’s District No. 2 in exchange for bond proceeds sufficient to extinguish the outstanding debt related to the Water Revenue Bonds, Series 2000.

SECTION 2. The Town agrees to relinquish (i.e., transfer) all restricted assets held by the Town’s Waterworks Utilities Enterprise Fund in its Water Pipeline Debt Service – Sinking Fund, Water Pipeline Debt Service – Reserve Fund, and Water Pipeline Debt Service – Depreciation and Contingencies Fund, which were established by the Town in connection with the Bonds; and

SECTION 3. The Town agrees to execute one or more agreements between the Town and the District to effectuate the aforementioned transfers of property and funds to the District by the Town; and

SECTION 4. The Town agrees to discontinue the levy of its ad valorem tax in the year (i.e., tax roll year) that the Parish ad valorem tax millage goes into effect for the operations of the waterworks district, thus eliminating the “double taxation” of its citizens and businesses; and

SECTION 5. The sale of the waterline and the discontinuance of the Town’s ad valorem tax is contingent upon the approval of the new Parish millage by the citizens on March 20, 2021

The resolution is offered jointly by Council Members.

Vote thereon as follows.

YEAS: Melissa Pizani, Kelly Besson Jr., Lan Tivet, Brian Barthelemy, Elgene Gary

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 0

This resolution was declared adopted this 23rd day of March 2021.

Motion by Council Member Brian Barthelemy seconded by Kelly Besson and unanimously agreed to approve a letter of no objection for Eric Poche to build a pier at the end of Chalmette Lane.

Mosquito Control Proposal Bid Application can be obtained at the Town of Grand Isle. Town Clerk Bonnie Pizani will have proposal sheets for anyone that is interested. Deadline to submit proposal to Town Clerk is April 21, 2021.

Council Member Melissa Pizani request/report: 1.) Drainage by Daiquiri Shop, Cott Lane – Adam Lane needs fixing. 2.) Santiny Lane needs speed bumps.

Council Member Kelly Besson Jr. request/report: 1.) Ask Deputy Chief Goldman if the Easter Egg Hunt will be held. 2.) When will Rosethorne Lane and Katherine Lane have culverts in place. 3.) Grape Lane – Iris Lane ditches needs to be dug. 4.) Toys for Chighizola Park needs prices. Looking into a camera system for the park.

Council Member Lan Tivet request/report: 1.) Signage on trash bins on the beach – highway side signs for beach access. Asking if the trash bins are removed from the beach for hurricanes/tropical storms. 2.) Music Festival will be held June 2022. Some money raised from festival has been given to Grand Isle Garden Club for some of their projects.

Council Member Brian Barthelemy request/report: 1.) Asks where Chris is at with the state drainage cross pipes on LA 1. Wants to contact someone with the state concerning this. 2.) Asking to get our town employees ready to spray for mosquitos. 3.) Location signs are missing. 4.) Asking about the junk iron removal. Chris says they started hauling it.

5.) Jefferson Parish Recreation Department will be helping with the basketball park on Cott Lane. Water fountain will be installed.

Council Member Elgene Gary request/report: 1.) Chris is taking care of his concerns.

Mayor’s Report: 1.) CPRA and USACE came today for meeting to discuss the west side of beach and what was next. Boudreaux Lane will be a 3-day project to complete. 2.) Senator Kennedy is Chairman of funds for corps money. 3.) Congressman Garrett Graves has been pushing the corps for Grand Isle. 4.) Thanks to Colonel Murphy for his help with the beach nourishment. 5.) Meeting with Jefferson Parish Council At Large Ricky Templet and Council Member Marion Edwards to discuss upgrading our water system. Representative Joe Orgeron joined the meeting by phone supporting the project 6.) Thanks to Parish President Cynthia Lee Sheng for her continued support. 7.) Grand Isle Levee Board working hard on northside levees . Needs to be shovel ready when we get the okay to proceed. 8.) Meet with Mike Walker with Crimson Pipeline last week. He wants to help Grand Isle any way he can. 9.) Friday, March 26, 2021 Covid Vaccines shots will be given at Grand Isle Community Center. Call Jan Scardino at 985-787-3196 to add your name to the appointment list. 10) John Plaisance with GIS Engineering will be working

with the town for our building permit concerns. 11.) Grand Isle Levee Board will be placing lights on rock jetties on north side of island.

Happy Easter

Motion by Council Member Lan Tivet seconded by Council Member Kelly Besson, Jr. and unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 p.m.

David J. Camardelle, Mayor
Town of Grand Isle

ATTESTED:

Bonnie Pizani, Town Clerk
Town of Grand Isle