

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING OF THE
MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN
OF THE TOWN OF VIDALIA, LOUISIANA,
HELD ON TUESDAY, JULY 9, 2019 AT 6:00 P.M.
IN THE TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM**

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Vidalia, Louisiana, met, in regular session, in the Town Hall Meeting Room in Vidalia, Louisiana, on Tuesday, July 9, 2019, at 6:00 p.m.

There were present: Mayor Buz Craft, Aldermen Jon Betts, Tommy Probst, Tron McCoy, Robert Gardner, and Alderwoman Sabrina Dore’.

There were absent: NONE.

There were also present: Debra Moak, Town Accountant; Bill Murray, Town Manager; George C. Murray, Jr., Town Attorney; Jay LaSyone, Town Clerk, and Pam Middleton, Executive Secretary to the Mayor; and representatives of the press.

The meeting was opened with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance and the invocation was given by Alderman Gardner.

A quorum being present, the Mayor declared the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Vidalia, Louisiana, to be duly convened, in regular session, as the governing authority of said municipality, and opened the meeting for the conduct of business.

After being reviewed, the typed minutes of the Special Meeting of May 30, 2019, and the regular meeting of June 11, 2019, were both approved, with the following change being made to the June 11, 2019, minutes: In Agenda Item No. 6, Mr. Jahn’s name was corrected and his title was corrected to be Chief Operating Officer, not President. Motion for approval was made by Alderman Gardner, seconded by Alderwoman Dore’, and unanimously carried.

Addressing Agenda Item No. 1, the Mayor called on the Town Accountant, Debra Moak, who presented the financial statement for the month of May, 2019. As customary, she explained the fund balances for each of the funds, which summaries included a comparison of actual expenses to budget expenses. She also reviewed the several summary sheets, previously given to the Aldermen, and reported on the various positive and negative fund balances and indicated the net changes in the various funds through May 31, 2019. Following her presentation, there being no questions or comments and the Mayor thanked Mrs. Moak for her usual thorough presentation.

Agenda Item No. 2 was the consideration of occupational license applications. The first application was by Casey M. Crouch for Bella Rouge Boutique at 8 Cadet Street. There were no questions or comments and it was moved by Alderwoman Dore’, seconded by Alderman Probst, and unanimously carried, that the application be granted.

The second application was by Omsai Mira, LLC, d/b/a Budget Inn at 700 Carter Street by the owner, Jitendrakumar Bhakala. There were no questions or comments and it was moved by Alderwoman Dore’, seconded by Alderman Probst, and unanimously carried, that the application be granted.

Agenda Item No. 3 was for outdoor sign applications, and there were no applications.

Addressing Agenda Item No. 4, the Mayor advised the Board that he is introducing, at this meeting, the proposed Ordinance adopting and enacting the Policies and Procedures Manual for the Town of Vidalia, Louisiana. He explained the need for the Ordinance and reported that the Notice of

Intent and the Notice of Public Hearing will be advertised as soon as the dates are decided and that the proposed Ordinance is available for inspection at Town Hall.

Addressing Agenda Item No. 5, the Mayor advised the Board that it is appropriate at this time to appoint the Pro Tempore to serve through June 30, 2020, and requested that the Board make their decision. It was moved by Alderwoman Dore', seconded by Alderman Probst, that Alderman Gardner be appointed Mayor Pro Tempore to serve through June 30, 2020, and the vote was unanimous.

Agenda Item No. 6 was Board approval to appoint The Seventh Judicial District Attorney's Office as City Court Prosecutor for the Town of Vidalia, Louisiana. At the outset of the discussion, Alderwoman Dore' moved to table the matter as more information is needed, and the motion was seconded by Alderman Probst, only Alderman Gardner opposed the motion and the motion carried.

Agenda Item No. 7 was Board adoption of a Resolution to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement and Transfer of Property with the Vidalia Port Commission and to authorize Mayor Buz Craft to sign all documents necessary to implement the terms of said agreement. The Mayor advised the Board that it is now appropriate to consider the adoption of the resolution. Following a short discussion, a motion was made by Alderman Gardner, seconded by Alderwoman Dore', and unanimously carried, that the Resolution, as presented, be adopted.

(A COPY OF RESOLUTION IS ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF).

Agenda Item No. 8 was Board approval of new hire for the Vidalia Police Department: Marvin Warner – Full-time. Following a short discussion, on motion by Alderman Gardner, seconded by Alderman Probst, and unanimously carried, the hire was approved.

Agenda Item No. 9 was a discussion of planned upgrades to the Town's sewerage system. The Mayor began by discussing the plans and needs to upgrade the Town's sewerage system. He talked of the problems and proposed solutions. Following a question and answer session, concerning the capacity of the Lagoon and the capacity of the pumping system, which questions were answered by Mr. Mark Morace, the Mayor called on Mrs. Heather Malone to speak about the upgrades approved for the Town and the current monies in capital outlay for upgrades over the next five (5) years.

At the conclusion of the discussion, Alderman Probst asked to be recognized and discussed the pending Animal Control Ordinance and had comments about trash and debris pickup.

Following Alderman Probst's comments, there being no further business, the Mayor asked for a motion to adjourn, which motion was made by Alderman Betts, seconded by Alderman Gardner, and unanimously carried, and the meeting was adjourned.

JAY LASYONE, TOWN CLERK

BUZ CRAFT, MAYOR

The following resolution was offered by Alderman Gardner and seconded by Alderwoman Dore’:

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION TO ENTER INTO AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT AND TRANSFER OF PROPERTY WITH THE VIDALIA PORT COMMISSION AND TO AUTHORIZE MAYOR BUZ CRAFT TO SIGN ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE TERMS OF SAID AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, the Town of Vidalia and the Vidalia Port Commission have reached an agreement to enter into the Intergovernmental Agreement and Transfer of Property, whereby the Town of Vidalia shall transfer to the Vidalia Port Commission a 40.00 acre, more or less, tract of land, together with all improvements situated thereon, in furtherance of the creation of a Vidalia Port and eventual Industrial Park, as more particularly described in and on the terms and conditions set forth in said Agreement, as presented at this meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Vidalia, convened in regular session on July 9, 2019, determines that it is in the best interest of the citizens of Vidalia to enter into the said Intergovernmental Agreement and Transfer of Property with the Vidalia Port Commission, as presented at this meeting, and it is necessary to authorize Mayor Buz Craft to sign all documents necessary to implement the terms of said Agreement; said Resolution to be effective immediately;

NOW, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Vidalia is hereby authorized to enter into the Intergovernmental Agreement and Transfer of Property, as presented at this meeting, and to authorize Mayor Buz Craft to sign all documents necessary to implement said Agreement; said Resolution to become effective immediately.

The above RESOLUTION was presented for adoption at the July 9, 2019, regular meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Vidalia, Louisiana, and the vote thereon was recorded as follows:

YEAS: Aldermen Betts, McCoy, Gardner, Probst and Alderwoman Dore’.

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAINING: NONE

AND THE RESOLUTION was declared adopted on this the 9th day of July, 2019, to be effective immediately.

JAY LASYONE, TOWN CLERK

BUZ CRAFT, MAYOR