

**MINUTES OF AN EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE
MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN
OF THE TOWN OF VIDALIA, LOUISIANA,
HELD ON TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2020 AT 3:00 P.M.
IN THE TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM**

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Vidalia, Louisiana, met, in emergency session, in the Town Hall Meeting Room in Vidalia, Louisiana, on Tuesday, March 17, 2020, at 3:00 P.M.

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

There was absent: Alderman Tron McCoy.

There were also present: Town Clerk, Jay LaSyone and Town Attorney, George C. Murray, Jr.

The meeting was opened by the Mayor, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, and the Mayor gave the invocation.

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

The Mayor began by advising that, prior to going to the formal agenda to discuss and vote on the Resolutions declaring a public health emergency, he was going to bring the citizens up to date on some of the measures, such as restaurant and other business closings; limitations on the size of gatherings, etc.; that are being required by State law and by Proclamations by the Governor and by the President of the Concordia Parish Police Jury. Following his presentation, the Mayor proceeded to address Agenda Item No. 1.

Agenda Item No. 1 was Board discussion and vote on a Resolution of the Town of Vidalia declaring a public health emergency due to COVID-19. There being no comments or discussion by the Board, a motion was made by Alderwoman Dore’, seconded by Alderman Betts, that the Resolution, as presented at the meeting, to declare that a State of Emergency exists in the Town of Vidalia due to the COVID-19 virus outbreak, which affects life, health, property and public peace. The vote thereon was as follows:

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

NAYS: NONE.

ABSTAINING: NONE.

ABSENT: Alderman McCoy.

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

Agenda Item No. 2 was Board discussion and vote on a Resolution of the Town granting Mayor Craft emergency powers for Town operations in responding to COVID-19. There being no comments or discussion by the Board, a motion was made by Alderwoman Dore’, seconded by Alderman Gardner, that the Resolution, as presented at the meeting, to grant Mayor Craft emergency powers for Town operations in responding to the COVID-19 virus outbreak. The vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Aldermen Betts, Probst, Gardner, and Alderwoman Dore'.

NAYS: NONE.

ABSTAINING: NONE.

ABSENT: Alderman McCoy.

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

Following the foregoing, Alderwoman Dore' asked to be heard and, on being recognized, asked for a clarification of the nature of the curfew that will be going into effect for the hours from 10:00 P.M. through 5:00 A.M., daily. The Mayor clarified the issues brought up and thanked Alderwoman Dore' for her concerns.

Thereupon, there being no further business, on motion of Alderwoman Dore', seconded by Alderman Probst, and unanimously carried by those present, the meeting was adjourned.

/s/ Jay LaSyone
JAY LASYONE, CLERK

/s/ Buz Craft
BUZ CRAFT, MAYOR

The following resolution was offered by Alderwoman Dore' and seconded by Alderman Betts:

RESOLUTION

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY BY MAYORS

VIDALIA, LOUISIANA: LOCAL DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the Town of Vidalia, Concordia Parish, Louisiana, is presently faced with a public health emergency due to the COVID-19 outbreak; and

WHEREAS on March 11, 2020, the Worldwide Health Organization designated the COVID-19 outbreak as a worldwide pandemic and the threat is of such a nature as to warrant immediate Emergency Action to minimize the effects and loss of life; and the threat will continue until there is no longer a need to maintain these specific emergency orders; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Vidalia wishes to declare a State of Emergency in accordance with the provisions of the State Emergency Management Law, and wishes to utilize its resources to the fullest extent; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town of Vidalia, Concordia Parish, Louisiana, convened in Emergency Session, that it does hereby declare that, under the authority of the laws of the State of Louisiana, a State of Emergency exists in the Town of Vidalia, Louisiana, due to the COVID-19 outbreak, which affects life, health, property and public peace; and that all emergency operations plans be activated and that the Town's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness Director, Tim Vanier, 318-719-2010, or oeconpar@gmail.com, be designated as the point of contact for all emergency operations.

The above RESOLUTION was adopted at the March 17, 2020, emergency meeting and the vote thereon was recorded as follows:

YEAS: Aldermen Betts, Gardner, Probst and Alderwoman Dore'.

NAYS: NONE.

ABSTAINING: NONE.

ABSENT: Alderman McCoy.

And the resolution was declared adopted effective this 17th day of March, 2020.

/s/ Jay LaSyone
JAY LASYONE, CLERK

/s/ Buz Craft
BUZ CRAFT, MAYOR

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

RESOLUTION

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY BY MAYORS

VIDALIA, LOUISIANA: LOCAL DECLARATION AND MAYOR AUTHORIZATION

WHEREAS, the Town of Vidalia, Concordia Parish, Louisiana, is presently faced with a public health emergency due to the COVID-19 outbreak; and beginning March 17, 2020, and continuing until further notice, the Town of Vidalia has declared a State of Emergency in accordance with the provisions of the State Emergency Management Law, and wishes to utilize its resources to the fullest extent; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town of Vidalia, Concordia Parish, Louisiana, convened in Emergency Session, that Mayor Buz Craft is hereby authorized to respond to the emergency as he deems appropriate and to direct and perform any acts necessary, and sign any and all documents necessary, to deal with the emergency described herein.

The above RESOLUTION was adopted at the March 17, 2020, emergency meeting and the vote thereon was recorded as follows:

YEAS: Aldermen Betts, Gardner, Probst and Alderwoman Dore'.

NAYS: NONE.

ABSTAINING: NONE.

ABSENT: Alderman McCoy.

And the resolution was declared adopted effective this 17th day of March, 2020.

/s/ Jay LaSyone
JAY LASYONE, CLERK

/s/ Buz Craft
BUZ CRAFT, MAYOR