

MINUTES
POINTE COUPEE PARISH COUNCIL
March 14, 2023

The Pointe Coupee Parish Council met in regular session at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 14, 2023, at the Courthouse Annex 2 in the Meeting Room, New Roads, Louisiana.

Chairman Boudreaux called the meeting to order and directed Council Clerk Gerrie Martin to call the roll:

PRESENT: Messrs. Jimmie Gaspard, Sidney LaCoste, Edwin Soulier, Charles Watkins, Edward Bazile, Paul Bergeron and Dustin Boudreaux.

ABSENT: Mr. Kurt Jarreau.

APPROVE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 14, 2023 MEETING

Motion by Mr. Bazile and seconded by Mr. Gaspard:

RESOLVED, That the minutes of February 14, 2023 regular meeting of the Parish Council be adopted as presented and published in the official journal.

Unanimously carried.

CONSIDER AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

There were no amendments to the agenda.

SPECIAL BUSINESS:

EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY TO FAMILY OF THE LATE RICHARD WARD, SR.

Motion by Mr. Bergeron and seconded by Mr. Soulier:

WHEREAS, God in His infinite wisdom has called to his eternal reward Mr. Richard Joseph Ward, Sr.; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Richard Joseph Ward, Sr. was a native and resident of Livonia/Fordoche area and Pointe Coupee Parish for 89 years; and

WHEREAS, his presence will be sadly missed by his family and friends: Therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this Pointe Coupee Parish Council does and hereby offer our deepest sympathy and condolences to the family of Mr. Richard Joseph Ward, Sr. and this resolution of sympathy in the loss of their loved one.

Unanimously carried.

PRESENTATION OF EMPLOYEE ANNIVERSARY SERVICE AWARDS TO SHARONECA LOCKETT, TROY JONES AND TOMMY LEONARD

Parish President Major Thibaut presented employee anniversary service awards to Troy Jones and Sharoneca Lockett for 5 years of dedicated service. He announced service award for Tommy Leonard for 15 years of dedicated service, who was not present at the meeting.

PROCLAMATION DECLARING MARCH AS AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH

Motion by Mr. Bazile and seconded by Mr. Watkins:

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross has touched many lives in Pointe Coupee Parish, as well as across the country and around the world; and

WHEREAS, during American Red Cross Month, we thank those who contribute to the mission of the Red Cross, whether through time, money or blood, and we invite others to support the Red Cross in helping people in need down the street, across the country and around the world; and

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross is synonymous with helping people, and has been doing so for more than 130 years. Throughout the past year, the American Red Cross launched hundreds of disaster relief operations in the United States to help people affected by fires, floods, hurricanes and tornadoes. The American Red Cross also supported major international disasters, including the Japan earthquake and tsunami response, while continuing its work on the 2010 Haiti earthquake response and recovery; and

WHEREAS, in Pointe Coupee Parish, the Red Cross works tirelessly through its employees and volunteers to support us when disaster strikes, when someone needs life-saving blood, or the comfort of a helping hand. It provides 24-hour support to members of the military, veterans and their families, and provides training in CPR, aquatics safety and first aid; and

WHEREAS, for nearly 100 years, United States presidents have called on the American people to support the Red Cross and its humanitarian mission. Our community depends on the American Red Cross and because it is not a government agency, the Red Cross depends on support from the public to continue its humanitarian work. This is especially important in these challenging economic times - which impact the Red Cross and many people in our community and across the nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DUSTIN BOUDREAUX, Chairman of the Pointe Coupee Parish Council, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Parish of Pointe Coupee and the Constitution and laws of the State of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim the month of **March 2023**, as **AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH** and do hereby urge all Americans to support this organization and its noble humanitarian mission.

Unanimously carried.

PROCLAMATION DECLARING MARCH 21-27, 2023 AS AG WEEK IN POINTE COUPEE PARISH

Motion by Mr. Soulier and seconded by Mr. Bazile:

WHEREAS, agriculture has played, and continues to play, a vital role in Pointe Coupee Parish; and

WHEREAS, Pointe Coupee is one of the most diverse agricultural parishes in the state; and

WHEREAS, we encourage our teachers to express the importance of agriculture with activities and lessons for our students throughout the year, especially during Ag Week; and

WHEREAS, highlighting the specific crops grown in our parish, and to teach our students where their food comes from and how its produced by planting a school garden, talking with local farmers and ranchers about their farms; and

WHEREAS, showing the students the economic impact agricultural has in our community and around the world; and

WHEREAS, showcasing our ag industry and the different careers involved such as chemists working at the sugar mill, entomologists that inspect the crops, veterinarians caring for cattle herds, conservationists helping to manage timberlands and CEOs running companies involved with agriculture.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DUSTIN BOUDREAU, Chairman of the Pointe Coupee Parish Council do hereby proclaim the week of **March 21-27, 2023**, as **AG WEEK** in Pointe Coupee Parish, and do hereby encourage all citizens to support and participate in activities celebrating thereof.

Unanimously carried.

PARISH PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Parish President Major Thibaut gave updates and PowerPoint presentation on the following: One retirement and no new hire; finances including sales tax, ad valorem tax, severance tax & utilities collections and permits fees; total revenues of \$4,388,068, total expenditures of \$2,263,944 and total excess of revenue of \$2,124,924 as of February 28, 2023; public works projects including Richey and Johnson Bayou drainage projects; 42 dogs & 12 cats at the animal shelter; bridge replacement projects; new concession and restrooms at PC Rec & sports program at park; upcoming events scheduled at multi-use; reduction in solid waste and bulky waste complaints; replacement of buoys in False River; surplus equipment being auctioned; improvements at the detention center; permits issued in February and planning & zoning.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no public comments.

PUBLIC HEARING ON AN INTRODUCED PROPOSED ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 2-121 OF THE POINTE COUPEE PARISH CODE OF ORDINANCES, RELATIVE TO AMENDING AND RE-ADOPTING THE PONTE COUPEE PARISH GOVERNMENT UTILITIES BILLING AND COLLECTION POLICY, AND THEREAFTER, DISCUSSION & CONSIDERATION OF THE ADOPTION

A hearing to obtain public input to a proposed ordinance to amend Section 2-121 of the Pointe Coupee Parish Code of Ordinances, relative to amending and re-adopting the Pointe Coupee Parish Government Utilities Billing and Collection Policy, and further provide with respect thereto was conducted at 5:51 p.m., Tuesday, March 14, 2023 at the Meeting Room, Courthouse Annex 2, 160 East Main Street, New Roads, Louisiana.

There were no objections received orally or written to the ordinance.

Motion by Mr. Soulier and seconded by Mr. Gaspard:

RESOLVED, That the proposed ordinance to amend Section 2-121 of the Pointe Coupee Parish Code of Ordinances, relative to amending and re-adopting the Pointe Coupee Parish Government Utilities Billing and Collection Policy, and otherwise provide with respect thereto be adopted by the Pointe Coupee Parish Council.

The Chairman called for a roll call vote that resulted as follows:

YEAS: Messrs. Gaspard, LaCoste, Soulier, Watkins, Bazile, Bergeron and Boudreaux.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Mr. Jarreau.

On a vote of 7-0-1, the motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING ON AN INTRODUCED PROPOSED ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 10-17 OF THE POINTE COUPEE PARISH CODE OF ORDINANCES, RELATIVE TO RE-ESTABLISHING THE DOMICILE OF GAS UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 2 OF POINTE COUPEE PARISH, AND THEREAFTER, DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF THE ADOPTION

A hearing to obtain public input to a proposed ordinance to amend Section 10-17 of the Pointe Coupee Parish Code of Ordinances, relative to re-establishing the domicile of Gas Utility District No. 2 of Pointe Coupee Parish, and further provide with respect thereto was conducted at 5:52 p.m., Tuesday, March 14, 2023 at the Meeting Room, Courthouse Annex 2, 160 East Main Street, New Roads, Louisiana.

There were no objections received orally or written to the ordinance.

Motion by Mr. Bergeron and seconded by Mr. Soulier:

RESOLVED, That the proposed ordinance to amend Section 10-17 of the Pointe Coupee Parish Code of Ordinances, relative to re-establishing the domicile of Gas Utility District No. 2 of Pointe Coupee Parish, and otherwise provide with respect thereto be adopted by the Pointe Coupee Parish Council.

The Chairman called for a roll call vote that resulted as follows:

YEAS: Messrs. Gaspard, LaCoste, Soulier, Watkins, Bazile, Bergeron and Boudreaux.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Mr. Jarreau.

On a vote of 7-0-1, the motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING ON AN INTRODUCED PROPOSED ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 2-6 OF THE POINTE COUPEE PARISH CODE OF ORDINANCES, RELATIVE TO AMENDING AND RE-ADOPTING THE POINTE COUPEE PARISH GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL POLICY MANUAL, AND THEREAFTER, DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF THE ADOPTION

A hearing to obtain public input to a proposed ordinance to amend Section 2-6 of the Pointe Coupee Parish Code of Ordinances, relative to amending and re-adopting the Pointe Coupee Parish Government Personnel Policy Manual, and further provide with respect thereto was conducted at 5:53 p.m., Tuesday, March 14, 2023 at the Meeting Room, Courthouse Annex 2, 160 East Main Street, New Roads, Louisiana.

There were no objections received orally or written to the ordinance.

Motion by Mr. Soulier and seconded by Mr. Bazile:

RESOLVED, That the proposed ordinance to amend Section 2-6 of the Pointe Coupee Parish Code of Ordinances, relative to amending and re-adopting the Pointe Coupee Parish Government Personnel Policy Manual, and otherwise provide with respect thereto be adopted by the Pointe Coupee Parish Council.

The Chairman called for a roll call vote that resulted as follows:

YEAS: Messrs. Gaspard, LaCoste, Soulier, Watkins, Bazile, Bergeron and Boudreaux.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Mr. Jarreau.

On a vote of 7-0-1, the motion carried.

RECOMMENDATION(S) FROM PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION:

APPROVAL OF A SPECIAL USE PERMIT REQUEST FOR A SNOWBALL STAND AT 8204 ISLAND ROAD, VENTRESS, LOUISIANA IN SECTION 32, TOWNSHIP 5 SOUTH & RANGE 10 EAST FOR TIM GARRETT

Motion by Mr. Bergeron and seconded by Mr. LaCoste:

RESOLVED, That a special use permit for a snowball stand located at 8204 island Road, Ventress, LA in Section 32, Township 5 South & Range 10 East for Tim Garrett be approved.

Unanimously carried.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE(S):

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE POINTE COUPEE PARISH CODE OF ORDINANCES, RELATIVE TO ALTERING THE GEOGRAPHIC BOUNDARIES OF WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 1 OF POINTE COUPEE PARISH, AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH. (PUBLIC HEARING 4/25/23)

NOTICE OF INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE AND PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a proposed ordinance to amend the Pointe Coupee Parish Code of Ordinances, relative to altering the geographic boundaries of Waterworks District No. 1 of Pointe Coupee Parish, and providing for other matters in connection therewith, and otherwise provide with respect thereto has been introduced before the Pointe Coupee Parish Council, and that a public hearing will be held relative thereto at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 25, 2023 at the Meeting Room, Courthouse Annex, 160 East Main Street, New Roads, Louisiana, after which said ordinance may be considered for adoption. All interested persons are urged to attend.

RESOLUTION(S):

DECLARING THE INTENT TO ALTER THE GEOGRAPHIC BOUNDARIES OF WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 1 OF POINTE COUPEE PARISH; AUTHORIZING PUBLICATION OF A NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING; AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH

Motion by Mr. Bergeron and seconded by Mr. Watkins:

A resolution declaring the intent to alter the geographic boundaries of Waterworks District No. 1 of Pointe Coupee Parish, Louisiana; authorizing the publication of a Notice of Public Hearing; and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

WHEREAS, Waterworks District No. 1 of the Parish of Pointe Coupee, State of Louisiana (the "District") has applied for and was allocated grant funding for repairs and improvements to its water system under the State of Louisiana Water Sector Program (the "Water Sector Program"); and

WHEREAS, the Water Sector Program has granted approval of the funding to the District conditioned upon the consolidation of the water systems of the District and False River Water Works Corporation ("False River"); and

WHEREAS, to accomplish the foregoing, the District desires to acquire the existing waterworks system of False River pursuant to the provisions of La. R.S. 33:3815(A); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to a resolution adopted by the District on January 31, 2023, the District has requested that this Pointe Coupee Parish Council (the "Parish Council"), acting as the governing authority of the Parish of Pointe Coupee, State of Louisiana, alter the geographic boundaries of the District such that it shall encompass the entirety of the water system currently belonging to False River; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with La. R.S. 33:3811, it shall be necessary for the Parish Council to hold a public hearing prior to the alteration of the District's geographic boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the Parish Council desires to declare its intent to alter the geographic boundaries of the District and to provide for the publication of the Notice of Public Hearing in connection therewith;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Parish Council, as follows:

SECTION 1. It is the intent of this Parish Council that the geographic boundaries of the District be altered to include the territory described on Exhibit A hereto.

SECTION 2. This Parish Council will hold a public hearing in connection with the alteration of the geographic boundaries of the District at a special meeting to be held on April 25, 2023; provided, however, that the Chairman in his discretion is authorized to set a different date for said public meeting and revise the Notice of Public Hearing attached hereto as Exhibit A and the publication dates thereof accordingly.

SECTION 3. The form of the Notice of Public Hearing attached as **Exhibit A** hereto, including the description of the proposed additional territory, is hereby approved and said Notice of Public Hearing shall be published once per week for four (4) consecutive weeks in *The Pointe Coupee Banner*, with the first publication date being not less than thirty (30) days prior to the date of the public hearing.

This resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Messrs. Gaspard, LaCoste, Soulier, Watkins, Bazile, Bergeron and Boudreaux.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Mr. Jarreau.

ABSTAINING: None.

On a vote of 7-0-1-0, motion carried

SPECIAL MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED BY COUNCIL:

DISCUSSION & CONSIDERATION OF SOLID WASTE CONTRACT

Parish President Thibaut commented on a proposal from Pelican Waste & Debris for a fuel adjustment for the collection and disposal of solid waste in the parish, due to rising cost of fuel. He discussed a three or four-year extension and amendment to the current contract, and presented four options for consideration of the council. The options included the choices of once or twice a week collection and price increase. After discussion, the council will review the options presented for further review at a later date.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, NOTICES, MEETINGS, ETC.

There were not announcements, notices, meetings, etc.

Motion by Mr. Watkins and seconded by Mr. Soulier, the meeting adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

Gerrie P. Martin
Council Clerk

Dustin Boudreaux
Chairman