

**MINUTES  
POINTE COUPEE PARISH COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MEETING  
September 26, 2023**

The Pointe Coupee Parish Council met in special session at 6:11 p.m. Tuesday, September 26, 2023, at the Courthouse Annex in the Parish Council Meeting Room, New Roads, Louisiana.

Chairman Boudreaux called the meeting to order and directed Administrative Assistant Sharoneca Lockett 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.

CONSIDER AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

There were no amendments to the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no public comments.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE(S):

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE III, SECTION 6-27.1, OF CHAPTER 6 OF THE POINTE COUPEE PARISH CODE OF ORDINANCES IN REGARD TO THE REGULATION OF CONSTRUCTION OF STRUCTURES ALONG FALSE RIVER; TO REQUIRE PERMITS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH (PUBLIC HEARING OCTOBER 24, 2023)

NOTICE OF INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE AND PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a proposed ordinance to amend Article III, Section 6-27.1, of Chapter 6 of the Pointe Coupee Parish Code of Ordinances in regard to the regulation of construction of structures along False River; to require permits 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, October 24, 2023 at the Parish Council 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.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION TO IMPOSE A MORATORIUM ON NEW SOLAR FARM PERMIT APPLICATIONS

Mr. Steve Loupe of Glynn question whether the parish conducted negotiations or presented tax incentives to the barge company prior to their leaving the parish. In response to Mr. Loupe, Parish President Major Thibaut explained the efforts made by the parish to keep the Kirby Barge Line in the parish.

Councilman Bergeron presented the following resolution for approval of council, and explained his reason for wanting a moratorium in place:

Chairman Boudreaux commented that this resolution would not affect the current application submitted by NextEra. He voiced his concerns and felt the moratorium is not warranted at this time.

President Thibaut commented and voiced his concerns against placing a moratorium on solar farms in the parish. He reported that he was not aware of any other companies, besides NextEra wanting to place a solar farm in the parish.

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

WHEREAS, Pointe Coupee Parish has in place a permitting process for solar farms to be operated in the parish; and

WHEREAS, there is one solar farm under construction and another solar farm permit under consideration; and

WHEREAS, to better evaluate the impact of further solar farm operations on the health, safety and economy of Pointe Coupee Parish, there is a need to impose a moratorium on the consideration of any further permits other than those already issued or for which a permit has been formally applied; and

WHEREAS, a moratorium on the consideration of solar farm permits for a period of ten years will provide an opportunity for the Pointe Coupee Parish Government to evaluate the positive or negative impacts of solar farms on the health, safety and economy of Pointe Coupee Parish.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Pointe Coupee Parish Council that no solar farm permits, the application for which was initially submitted after September 21, 2023, shall be considered by the Pointe Coupee Parish Council until September 21, 2033.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Pointe Coupee Parish Council that the moratorium shall not prohibit a prior application from being reconsidered if it was initially rejected, nor shall the moratorium prohibit the consideration of an amendment to an existing permit.

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

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

NAYS: Mr. Boudreaux.

ABSENT: Mr. Jarreau.

On a vote of 6-1-1, the motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Bazile and seconded by Mr. LaCoste, the meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

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Gerrie Martin  
Council Clerk

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Dustin Boudreaux  
Chairman