

MINUTES
POINTE COUPEE PARISH COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
August 27, 2024

The Pointe Coupee Parish Council Executive Committee met in regular session at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, August 27, 2024, at the Courthouse Annex in the Parish Council Meeting Room, New Roads, Louisiana.

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

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

ABSENT: Mr. Jimmie Gaspard.

APPROVE MINUTES OF JULY 23, 2024 MEETING

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

RESOLVED, That the minutes of July 23, 2024 meeting of the Executive Committee be adopted as presented and published in the official journal.

Unanimously carried.

CONSIDER AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

There were no amendments to the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no public comments.

DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 4-2 OF CHAPTER 4 - ANIMAL CONTROL & KEEPING OF FOWL (PUBLIC HEARING 9/10/24)

Chairman Boudreaux explained the reason for the proposed amendments to Section 4-2 of Chapter 4 of the Pointe Coupee Parish Code of Ordinances, relative to animal control and keeping of fowl. He reported Councilman Soulier received complaints about chickens roaming on neighboring property that is a nuisance. The public hearing for this ordinance will be held at the council meeting in September.

President Thibaut suggested issuing a fine as enforcement for violation of chickens roaming-at-large to be placed in the ordinance.

DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 4-15 OF CHAPTER 4 - ANIMAL CONTROL & CITATION AND ADJUDICATION (PUBLIC HEARING 9/10/24)

Chairman Boudreaux commented on the proposed amendments to Section 4-15 of Chapter 4 of the Pointe Coupee Parish Code of Ordinances, relative to animal control & citation and adjudication, which will give the animal control officer the ability to issue citations. The public hearing for this ordinance will be held at the council meeting in September.

DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 22-19 OF CHAPTER 22 - SUBDIVISIONS & RESUBDIVISION OF RESIDENTIAL LOTS (PUBLIC HEARING 9/10/24)

Chairman Boudreaux recognized Councilman Bergeron who reviewed the proposed amendments to Section 22-19 of Chapter 22 of the Pointe Coupee Parish Code of Ordinances, relative to subdivisions & resubdivision of residential lots. The amendments will eliminate property owners having to obtain signatures/approval from surrounding neighbors to resubdivide their property. The public hearing for this ordinance will be held at the council meeting in September.

DISCUSSION OF PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR FIRST RESPONDERS

Assessor Jimmy Laurent reported and presented documents about the passage of ACT 179 of the 2023 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature and voters' approval that provide for an ad valorem tax exemption for certain first responders. Assessor Laurent gave a brief overview of the criteria and process for receiving the exemption, and currently 18 parishes have adopted and implemented the exemption. In closing, he reported the council will have to adopt an ordinance to approve and implement the exemption in the parish.

Assessor Laurent announced the board of review will be held at the September 10, 2024 meeting of the council to hear appeals recording assessments. He announced winning the Cleco appealed filed years ago.

PROVIDE UPDATES ON 2024 PROJECTED AD VALOREM TAX

Assessor Laurent provided updates on the projected ad valorem tax for 2024. He reported on the parish losing three of the six remaining barge companies in the parish, changes in oil and gas values, and being reassessment year will affect the ad valorem taxes in the parish.

UPDATE ON PARISH MASTER PLAN PROCESS

Parish President Thibaut briefly reviewed and presented an update on the vision development and outline for the Pointe Coupee Parish Master Plan prepared by CPEX. He reported on needing future input from the public and council in updating the current plan that is 15 years old.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, NOTICES, MEETINGS, ETC.

Chairman Boudreaux announced the parish office will be closed September 2, 2024 in observance of the Labor Day Holiday.

CONSIDER AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA

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

RESOLVED, That the agenda be amended for inclusion of the following:

- Discussion of blighted property process.

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

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

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Mr. Gaspard.

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

DISCUSSION OF BLIGHTED PROPERTY PROCESS

Director of Governmental Affairs & Communications Jeanne Hendrix gave a brief overview of changes made to the process for blighted property, relative to high grass, weeds, debris, and trash on property, excluding abandoned vehicles. She reported Ms. Ronell Roubique will continue to be the point of contact for this process, who will be assisted by Mr. Sal Gensua, when complaints are received.

Parish President Thibaut reported on advertising for RFPs for a contractor on demand to clean blighted property for the parish. In response to council, he reported agricultural property is exempt from complaints of blighted property.

Motion by Mr. Jarreau and seconded by Mr. Watkins, the meeting adjourned at 6:19 p.m.

Gerrie P. Martin
Council Clerk

Dustin Boudreaux
Chairman