



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING
6:00 P.M., MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2009
CARENCRO CITY HALL
CARENCRO, LOUISIANA**

Mayor Glenn L Brasseaux called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Councilman Antoine Babineaux led the Pledge of Allegiance which was followed by a moment of silent prayer.

Attendance: Councilmen Antoine Babineaux, L.J. Boudreaux, Coach Allen Conque, and J.L. Richard. Absent: Councilwoman Kim Guidry

Mayor Brasseaux announced that: (1) the City has entered the "Cleanest City" contest with Councilman L.J. Boudreaux and his wife Cel Boudreaux as chairpersons for this event; (2) the Council of Governments (COG) Meeting will be March 19, 2009, at 6 p.m. at the former Paul Breaux building,(now know as the WD Smith Career Center) on 18th Street, and (3) the Regional Mayors' Day will be May 31, 2009, in Rayne from approximately 3 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. and to please RSVP will City Clerk, Gwen Gravouia.

Mayor Brasseaux requested that a discussion item be added to the agenda under L.2. to authorize Mayor Glenn L. Brasseaux to enter into contract with the low bidder on the Waterline Project upon approval of the City Engineer and, should the low bid exceed the budget amount of one hundred, fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000), to authorize the Mayor to call a Special Meeting of the Carencro City Council for Monday, March 30, 2009, at 12 p.m. (noon). Bid opening will be at 10 a.m. on Thursday, March 26, 2009 at city hall.

Upon motion by Councilman Babineaux and seconded by Councilman Conque, motion to add this item to the agenda was approved.

The Mayor updated the Council regarding the negotiation with Core Construction, the low bidder on the Water Plant Project who granted the City an additional extension of forty-five days through May 15, 2009, to secure funding for the over-budget amount of the low bid for construction on this project.

Mayor Brasseaux will be in Washington D.C. on April 20, 2009, so he asked that Mayor Pro Tempore Conque, to conduct the April meeting.

LGG Councilmen Purvis Morrison and Jay Castille were attending a meeting of the LCG and could not attend our meeting. However, they are going to promote the overlaying of University Avenue to begin on the North side of Carencro and going towards Pinhook. City Engineer Glenn McCall was attending this meeting to represent the City of Carencro since the Mayor and Council could not attend.

With some minor problems being ironed out, Allied Waste has distributed the trash receptacles for the automated trash pickup. Trash pick-up from these new cans will not commence until April 1, 2009. The first pick up for those who live East of Interstate 49 will be April 1, 2009; for those on West of Interstate 49, the first pickup will be April 2, 2009. Mayor Brasseaux introduced Ms. Pat Cravins who is running for the vacancy in District 24 Senate seat. She presented her background and shared some of her ideas and asked for support in the upcoming election.

Mayor Brasseaux recognized the representatives from the US Army Corps of Engineers (Mark Wingate, Durund Ilzey, David Ulm, and Gerry Slattery) who presented the progress on the long-term Drainage Project of the Beau Basin area. The main point to remember is that there is \$3.2 million in federal money set aside for construction costs once the actual plan has been approved, a rare occurrence in this type of project.

In order to get final approval for the "locally preferred plan", the city must, within the next couple of months, commit to spending an additional \$145,000 to finalize the "locally preferred plan". Once this preferred plan is approved, then the City will have to contribute a matching portion of \$1,120,000 (35 % of the \$3.2 million) for the construction. The Council agrees that in the best interest of the city and its drainage problems, the \$145,000 should be allocated but is concerned about having the \$1 plus million for construction available.

Before any final decision can be made by the Council, Mayor Brasseaux and City Manager Lloyd Rochon will continue to work with the Corps of Engineers and other sources of revenue in seeking these other sources of funds for the city's portion of the construction costs. Also, the City will look for support from Lafayette Consolidated Government which originally supported this project at its inception.

The project is needed to relieve drainage problems in the City of Carencro. The process has been long and has cost the City some money to date. But with \$3.2 million in federal funding ready for construction, it could be a huge loss to the city to not spend additional money to obtain final approval to get the plan ready for construction.

The Council has committed to making a decision by the June regular meeting of the City Council after further meetings regarding the construction costs once the plan is approved. The Corps of Engineers is committed to seeing this project through to completion and will help the City with informing its citizens about the project.

The approval of the minutes of the February 16, 2009, Regular Meeting of the Carencro City Council was considered. Upon motion of Councilman Boudreaux and seconded by Councilman Babineaux, the motion was approved.

The approval of the minutes of the March 10, 2009, Special Meeting of the Carencro City Council was then considered. Upon motion of Councilman Babineaux and seconded by Councilman Boudreaux, the motion was approved.

Before hearing from department heads regarding their monthly reports, the Mayor updated the Council on the water and wastewater projects for which the City is seeking funding from the government's stimulus package. Funds are available in the form of grants and low-interest rate loans through DEQ Revolving Loan Fund (0.95% rate) and DHH Revolving Loan Fund (3.95% loan rate). The City will need to prioritize needed projects for wastewater through DEQ and water projects through DHH in seeking these sources of funding.

Chairman of the P.A.R.C. Commission, Murray Conque, was recognized to consider two appointments for P.A.R.C. commissioners. Both are City Council appointees.

To fill the unexpired term of Alfred Sinegal which ends December 1, 2010, P.A.R.C. recommended Ms. Sara Menard who has been involved with CAYSI and has been the Treasurer for two years. Councilman Conque stressed the point that CAYSI is part of the LCG Parks and Recreation Department while P.A.R.C. is funded from one-third of a 1% sales tax from the City of Carencro. P.A.R.C. then contributes funds to support the CAYSI program.

Upon motion by Councilman Boudreaux and seconded by Councilman Richard, the motion was approved to appoint Ms. Menard.

The second recommendation by P.A.R.C. was to appoint Mr. Tom Myers to fill the unexpired term of L.J. Boudreaux which expires December 1, 2009. Mr. Myers is active in attending City Council meetings and has also been attending P.A.R.C.'s meetings and is well informed on activities in Carencro.

Upon motion by Councilman Babineaux and seconded by Councilman Conque, the motion was approved to appoint Mr. Myers.

The Mayor on behalf of the Council expressed their appreciation for these two citizens donated their time and experience to fill these two positions.

To help decide how to develop recent land purchase by the P.A.R.C., a survey will be developed to seek input from Carencro Citizens on what they would like to see in Carencro. The Mayor offered to help circulate those surveys by mailing to our utility customers which will reach the greatest number of citizens. It will be up to our citizens to let the P.A.R.C. Commission and in turn the City Council, know their vision of how best to develop this land and future park and recreation developments.

Murray then gave an update on the Mercredi Show which will begin the 2009 season on Wednesday, April 1, 2009, at 6 p.m. at Pelican Park. Jackie Callier and the Cajun Cousins will be playing. The spring season will run for seven consecutive Wednesdays from April 1. The show has grown in popularity, as well as in the support from the business community. Twenty businesses have donated \$500 to help defray the cost of the concerts which are free to the public.

INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

Ordinance No. 2008-001 An ordinance of the Carencro City Council amending the Code of Ordinances deleting Article III, Guidelines for Certain Developments, Chapter 54, Sections 54-181 thru Section 54-186.

This ordinance was necessary to correct some conflicts regarding buffer zones and green belts in regards to certain "obnoxious" land uses that were created with the passage of Ordinance 2008-018-A Performance Land Use Ordinance. Specifically, this deals with what types of trees are to be planted in buffer and greenbelt zones.

Upon motion of Councilman Richard and seconded by Councilman Conque, motion to introduce was approved.

Ordinance No. 2008-002 An ordinance of the Carencro City Council authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Town of Melville for the donation of a 2003 Chevrolet Impala VIN # 2G1WF55K339407720.

This vehicle belonged to the Carencro Police department. Typically, these vehicles have high mileage and the residual value is usually less than \$500.

With no further comments and upon motion by Councilman Babineaux and seconded by Councilman Boudreaux, the motion to introduce was approved.

Ordinance No. 2008-003 An ordinance of the Carencro City Council authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Lafayette Consolidated Government for the donation of two (2) 2002 Chevrolet Impala VIN # 2G1WF55F429337028 and 2G1WF55KX29316071 for use by the City Marshall's office, said vehicles are no longer needed for public purposes.

Again, these vehicles belonged to the Carencro Police Department with a low residual value. The City of Carencro is offering this act of donation for the Auxiliary department of the LCG's Marshal's office which does not have funding for vehicles.

With no further comments and upon motion by Councilman Babineaux and seconded by Councilman Boudreaux, the motion to introduce was approved.

Ordinance No. 2008-004 An ordinance of the Carencro City Council authorizing the publication of a "Notice of Intention" to create the I-49 Corridor Economic Development District, State of Louisiana and to levy a 1.00% sales and use tax and a 1.00% hotel occupancy tax therein, under the authority of Part II, Chapter 27 of Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended (LA. R.S. 33:9038.31 ET SEQ); and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

The introduction of this ordinance is the initial step in the process to establish an "Economic Development District (EDD)", officially titled the "I-49 Corridor Economic Development District, State of Louisiana", by publishing, at a minimum of fourteen days before final adoption of this intent of the City Council to develop this EDD.

The 1% sales tax collected from the EDD would be set aside for improvements of roads and infrastructure servicing the EDD. Since monies would be held in a trust fund for infrastructure projects servicing this District, other funds that may have been used would be freed to fund projects outside this district.

Establishing an EDD has been a way to successfully provide infrastructure for economic development in that district. Examples of the success of Economic Development Districts, also known as "Tax Incremental Finance Districts (TIF Districts), can be seen by looking at the City of Scott along I-10 corridor; Broussard along the Albertson Parkway area, and Lafayette along Louisiana Avenue where the newest Target store is located.

Upon motion by Councilman Conque and seconded by Councilman Richard, the motion to introduce this ordinance was approved.

There were no ordinances to be presented for final adoption.

RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were considered:

A Resolution of the Carencro City Council amending the 2008/2009 Operating Budget providing an additional \$16,077.00 for the Police Storage Building.

After comments were heard and upon motion by Councilman Richard and seconded by Councilman Conque, the resolution was approved.

A Resolution of the Carencro City Council authorizing the disposal of a surplus vehicle which is no longer needed for public purposes was for a 1998 Ford Crown Victoria, Vin # ending in 3986.

After comments were heard and upon motion by Councilman Babineaux, seconded by Councilman Boudreaux, the resolution was approved.

The request for a public hearing regarding the division of property by Amos John Reed of property formerly of Mannie A. Sonnier, a single family residential development, into 3 lots located in Section 35, Township 8 South, Range 4 East, Lafayette Parish, City of Carencro, Louisiana. (Located on Walter Drive) was withdrawn as per letter from Michael J. Breaux and Associates, Inc. dated February 16, 2009 which was received at city hall on March 16, 2009.

The added item to the agenda was then considered. Mayor Brasseaux asked the Council to authorize him to sign a contract with the low bidder on the Waterline Extension Project after review by the city engineer, Glenn McCall. The Mayor also requested, in the event the low bidder was over-budget, that a Special Meeting be held on March 30, 2009, at noon at City Hall to consider further steps needed to secure a vendor for this project.

Upon motion by Councilman Richard and seconded by Councilman Boudreaux, the motion was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Brasseaux opened the meeting for public comments:

Councilman Conque asked for clarification on the new trash pickup for the automated collection. The new trash containers should not be used until the week of March 28 through April 4. First pickup date for the East side of I-49 will be April 1 and for the West side of I-49, April 2 will be the first pickup day. The color of the paper upon which the notice was printed detailed the day of the week trash will be collected.

Murray Conque asked about the newsprint article regarding animal control costs. Mayor Brasseaux checked with several LCG Council members who confirmed that the article was incorrect on most points. The Mayor's understanding is that Carencro's share for animal control will be approximately \$40,000 a year, not \$7,000 as reported in the newspaper. Mayor Brasseaux stressed that Carencro is willing to pay its share of the cost but he expects the citizens of Carencro to receive its share of the service for that cost.

After further comments from the public, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. upon motion by Councilman Richard and seconded by Councilman Boudreaux; motion approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Candice L Baque, CMDC
Certified Municipal Deputy Clerk
City of Carencro