



# City of Lake Charles

326 Pujo Street  
P.O. Box 1178  
Lake Charles, LA  
70602-1178

## Meeting Minutes City Council

*Luvertha August, Rodney Geyen, Mark Eckard,  
Ronnie Harvey Jr., John Ieyoub, Stuart Weatherford  
Council President: Craig Marks*

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Wednesday, February 5, 2025

5:30 PM

Council Chambers at City Hall

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### AGENDA FOR REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 5, 2025 TO BE TAKEN UP IN ACCORDANCE WITH RESOLUTION NO. 150-97, RULES FOR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF LAKE CHARLES, LOUISIANA

**CALL TO ORDER - Vice President, Luvertha August, presiding**

**INVOCATION - Rodney Geyen**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Mark Eckard**

#### ROLL CALL

**Present:** 6 - President or Presiding Officer Mark Eckard, John Ieyoub, Rodney Geyen, Stuart Weatherford, Luvertha August, and Ronnie Harvey Jr.

**Absent:** 1 - President or Presiding Officer Craig Marks

*Also present were Mayor Nicholas E. Hunter, David L. Morgan, City Attorney, John Cardone, City Administrator and Renee' P. DeVillie, Clerk of the Council.*

*Ms. August announced that Item 6 was being deferred until March 5, 2025 and Items 12, 15, 17 and 20 were being deferred until March 19, 2025. She further stated that Item 2 was deferred until April 19, 2025 and Items 10 and 13 were being deleted.*

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 15, 2025

**A motion was made that this item be approve the minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**For:** 6 - Eckard, Ieyoub, Geyen, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

**Against:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Marks

#### APPOINTMENTS

**1. 755-24**

An ordinance accepting the lowest responsive and responsible bid and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement to purchase one (1) aerial telescopic device body, for use by the Public Works Department, Communications and Traffic Division.

**Ms. August was appointed chairperson.**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS****2. 24-24**

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 520 McNabb Street, Mount Moriah Baptist Church of Lake Charles, Louisiana, owner.

**This item was deferred until the April 16, 2025 regular council meeting at the beginning of the meeting.**

**3. 706-24**

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 2018 Brooks Street, Beverly Pete, owner.

*Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and David Morgan, City Attorney, presented photographs and documentation showing proof of service which were made part of the record. There were no requests to speak on this item but Mr. Morgan stated that the owner requested the city demolish the structure. Mr. Harvey recommended time delays of 15/15 which were approved by the following vote.*

**A motion was made that this item be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**For:** 6 - Eckard, Ieyoub, Geyen, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

**Against:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Marks

Enactment No: 20213

**4. 801-24**

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 1103 Fournet Street, Ed Jackson (Estate), owner.

*Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and David Morgan, City Attorney, presented photographs and documentation showing proof of service which were made part of the record. Gary Jackson, 2335 Cline Street, Lake Charles, LA stated that he would like to city to demolish the structure. Mr. Harvey recommended time delays of 15/15 which were approved by the following vote.*

**A motion was made that this item be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**For:** 6 - Eckard, leyoub, Geyen, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

**Against:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Marks

Enactment No: 20214

**5. 802-24**

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 1814 Easton Street, Willie Lafleur and Josephine Lafleur, owners.

*Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and David Morgan, City Attorney, presented photographs and documentation showing proof of service which were made part of the record. Peggy Lafleur, 1723 5th Street, Lake Charles, LA requested additional time to complete a succession. Mr. Geyen recommended deferral until the April 2, 2025 council meeting, which was approved by the following vote.*

**This item was deferred until the April 2, 2025 regular city council meeting.**

**6. 809-24**

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 1717 Common Street, Mark Atlas Fruge and Dianne Gillert Fruge, owners.

**This item was deferred to the March 5, 2025 regular city council meeting at the beginning of the meeting.**

**7. 893-24**

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 727 King Street, Maxine Bilbo (Estate), owner.

*Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and David Morgan, City Attorney, presented photographs and documentation showing proof of service which were made part of the record. Veronica Newsome, 2221 17th Steet, Lake Charles, LA stated that she was going through a succession and requested additional time. Ms. August recommended deferral until the April 2, 2025 meeting, which was approved by the following vote.*

**A motion was made that this item be Deferred. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**For:** 6 - Eckard, leyoub, Geyen, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

**Against:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Marks

**8. 894-24**

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 412 South Shattuck Street (shed only), Charles Allen Tisdale, Jr., owner, subject to a tax sale to the State of Louisiana.

*Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and David Morgan, City Attorney, presented photographs and documentation showing proof of service which were made part of the record. There were no requests to speak on this item. Ms. August recommended time delays of 15/15 which were approved by the following vote.*

**A motion was made that this item be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**For:** 6 - Eckard, leyoub, Geyen, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

**Against:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Marks

Enactment No: 20215

**9. 895-24**

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 1005 North Booker Street (shed only), Otis Brannon, Sr., and Equilla Brannon, owners.

*Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and David Morgan, City Attorney, presented photographs and documentation showing proof of service which were made part of the record. There were no requests to speak on this item. Mr. Harvey recommended time delays of 15/15 which were approved by the following vote.*

**A motion was made that this item be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**For:** 6 - Eckard, leyoub, Geyen, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

**Against:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Marks

Enactment No: 20216

**10. 896-24**

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 1104 Tulane Street, Dwayne J. Rideaux, Jr. and Angela M. Rideaux, owners.

**This item was deleted at the beginning of the meeting. The property was demolished by the owner.**

**11. 897-24**

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 1121 South Elton Court, Addresses of Properties 6, LLC, owner.

*Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and David Morgan, City Attorney, presented photographs and documentation showing proof of service which were made part of the record. There were no requests to speak on this item. Council recommended time delays of 15/15 which were approved by the following vote.*

**A motion was made that this item be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**For:** 6 - Eckard, leyoub, Geyen, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

**Against:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Marks

Enactment No: 20217

**12. 898-24**

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 2445 Colletta Street, Carol Rae Shinnette and Michael J. O'Donoghue, owners, subject to a tax sale to the State of Louisiana.

**This item was deferred at the beginning of the meeting until the March 19, 2025 regular council meeting.**

**13. 899-24**

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 12 River Road (deck only), Patricia Lynn Harper, owner.

**This item was deleted at the beginning of the meeting. .**

**14. 900-24**

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 2725 East General Wainwright, Earnie Marie Verdin, owner, subject to a tax sale to the State of Louisiana.

*Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and David Morgan, City Attorney, presented photographs and documentation showing proof of service which were made part of the record. There were no requests to speak on this item. Mr. Geyen recommended time delays of 15/15 which were approved by the following vote.*

**A motion was made that this item be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**For:** 6 - Eckard, Ieyoub, Geyen, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

**Against:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Marks

Enactment No: 20218

**15. 901-24**

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 1108 6th Street (accessory structure only), Cynthia Marie King, owner.

**This item was deferred at the beginning of the meeting until the March 19, 2025 regular council meeting.**

**16. 902-24**

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 410 North Simmons Street, Pamela Marine Swain, owner, subject to a tax sale to the State of Louisiana.

*Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and David Morgan, City Attorney, presented photographs and documentation showing proof of service which were made part of the record. Pamela Swain, 410 North Simmons Street, Lake Charles, LA requested deferral. Mr. Harvey recommended deferral until April 2, 2025 which was approved by the following vote.*

**A motion was made that this item be Deferred. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**For:** 6 - Eckard, Ieyoub, Geyen, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

**Against:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Marks

**17. 903-24**

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 1301 Hunter Drive, Harry J. Cormier, Jr. (Estate) and Janice Cormier, owners.

**This item was deferred at the beginning of the meeting until the March 19, 2025 regular council meeting.**

**18. 904-24**

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 3301 South General Wainwright, Della Johns Thomas, Terry Glen Thomas, Kimberly Patrice Thomas Banks, Timothy Thomas, Delaney Thomas, Jerome Kent Thomas, Barry Welton Thomas, and Curley Ray Thomas, owners, subject to a tax sale to the State of Louisiana.

*Mr. Morgan requested deferral until the April 2, 2025 regular council meeting.*

**This item was deferred until the April 2, 2025 regular council meeting.**

**19. 905-24**

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 2305 Dewey Street, Brenda Faye Gobert, owner, subject to tax sale to State of Louisiana.

*Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and David Morgan, City Attorney, presented photographs and documentation showing proof of service which were made part of the record. There were no requests to speak on this item. Mr. Harvey recommended time delays of 15/15 which were approved by the following vote.*

**A motion was made that this item be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**For:** 6 - Eckard, leyoub, Geyen, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

**Against:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Marks

Enactment No: 20219

**20. 906-24**

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 2111(A) Elder Street, Bryan Eugene Beverly, owner.

**This item was deferred at the beginning of the meeting until the March 19, 2025 regular council meeting.**

**21. 907-24**

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of a structure located at 1608 Railroad Avenue, Juanita James, Macdonald James, Frank L. James, Jr., Earl James, Joseph A. Montgomery, Kevin M. Montgomery, and Kenneth W. Montgomery, owners, subject to a tax sale to the State of Louisiana.

*Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and David Morgan, City Attorney, presented photographs and documentation showing proof of service which were made part of the record. There were no requests to speak on this item. Ms. August recommended deferral to the March 5, 2025 regular council meeting, which was approved by the following vote.*

**A motion was made that this item be Deferred. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**For:** 6 - Eckard, leyoub, Geyen, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

**Against:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Marks



**ORDINANCES FOR FINAL ACTION**

**22. 652-24**

An ordinance accepting the lowest responsible bid and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for Fire Station No. 1 Restroom Renovations.

**Mr. Harvey made a motion to accept the recommended bid from Sam Istre Construction, in the amount of \$86,500.00 which was approved by the following vote:**

**For:** 6 - Eckard, Ieyoub, Geyen, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

**Against:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Marks

Enactment No: 20220

**23. 796-24**

An ordinance accepting the lowest responsible bid and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for Project No. CP3350 - Chennault AFB 12-Inch Water Loop.

**Mr. Weatherford made a motion to accept the recommended bid from Hackley Enterprises, LLC in the amount of \$700,014.49 which was approved by the following vote:**

**For:** 6 - Eckard, Ieyoub, Geyen, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

**Against:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Marks

Enactment No: 20221

**24. 797-24**

An ordinance accepting the lowest responsible bid and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for Project No. CP3323 - W. Prien Lake Road Sewer - Heard Road to Burton Lane.

**A motion was made by Mr. Ieyoub to accept the recommended bid from MPB Construction, LLC in the amount of \$1,047,716.00 which was approved by the following vote:**

Enactment No: 20222

**25. 841-24**

An ordinance accepting the lowest responsible bid and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for the purchase of asphaltic mixtures for cold application, under a twelve (12) month contract with the option to renew for an additional twelve (12) months, for use by the Public Works Department.

**Mr. Weatherford made a motion to accept the recommended bid for Category A - \$116.00/ton; Category B - \$144.12/ton and Category C- \$20.00/bag from Material Resources, Inc. which was approved by the following vote:**

**For:** 6 - Eckard, Ieyoub, Geyen, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

**Against:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Marks

Enactment No: 20223

**26. 842-24**

An ordinance accepting the lowest responsible bid and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for Project No. CP3259 - Mount Talbot Street Drainage Outfall Improvements.

**Mr. Harvey made a motion to accept the recommended bid from McManus Construction, LLC in the amount of \$262,412.00 which was approved by the following vote:**

Enactment No: 20224

**THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS MAY BE ADOPTED BY CONSENT****ROLL CALL**

**Present:** 7 - President or Presiding Officer Mark Eckard, John Ieyoub, Rodney Geyen, President or Presiding Officer Craig Marks, Stuart Weatherford, Luvertha August, and Ronnie Harvey Jr.

**Absent:** 0

**27. 25-25**

A resolution approving the reappointment of Shawn Caldwell as Chief of Police for the Lake Charles Police Department pursuant to Sec. 4-19 of the Charter for the City of Lake Charles, Louisiana.

*Wilford Carter, Sr., appeared to express his displeasure with the diversity within the Lake Charles Police Department and to report that citizens have made excessive force complaints to him. Mr. Marks and Mr. Harvey agreed that they have received complaints as well from citizens. After a brief discussion, Mr. Harvey made a motion to defer action on this matter until February 19, 2025 which was seconded by Mr. Marks. Mr. Ieyoub offered an amendment to the motion to state that during the interim Chief Caldwell would still continue his regular duties as Chief of Police. A meeting will be scheduled with the Administration, Council members and Representative Carter prior to the next meeting. The motion for deferral was approved by the following vote:*

**This item was Deferred on the Consent Agenda.failed**

**28. 26-25**

A resolution accepting Project No. DR017 - Hurricane Laura Storm Repairs - Ball Park Sports Lighting Repairs as substantially complete and authorizing the advertising of the 45-day lien period.

**This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda.**

Enactment No: 24-25

**29. 30-25**

A resolution accepting Project No. CP3415 - McNeese Water Treatment Plant - Back Up Power Improvements as substantially complete and authorizing the advertising of the 45-day lien period.

Enactment No: 25-25

**30. 31-25**

A resolution accepting Project No. CP3353 - Center East Water Treatment Plant - Pressure Filter Replacement as substantially complete and authorizing the advertising of the 45-day lien period.

**This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda.**

Enactment No: 26-25

**31. 32-25**

A resolution accepting Project No. CP3413 - Center East Water Treatment Plant - Back Up Power Improvements as substantially complete and authorizing the advertising of the 45-day lien period.

**This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda.**

Enactment No: 27-25

**32. 33-25**

A resolution authorizing the City of Lake Charles to advertise to receive sealed bids for Project No. CP2894 - Pujon Street Sewer Improvements between Ryan Street and Lakeshore Drive.

**This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda.**

Enactment No: 28-25

**33. 36-25**

A resolution authorizing the City of Lake Charles to advertise to receive sealed bids for Project No. CP3445 - Shell Beach Drive Bridge over Pithon Coulee Repair.

**This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda.**

Enactment No: 29-25

**34. 39-25**

A resolution authorizing the City of Lake Charles to advertise to receive sealed bids for Project No. CP3426 - Wastewater Treatment Plant A Operational Reliability Improvements - Collection System Hardening.

**This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda.**

Enactment No: 30-25

**35. 40-25**

A resolution authorizing the City of Lake Charles to advertise to receive sealed bids for Project No. CP3450 - Wastewater Treatment Plant A Operational Reliability Improvements - Lift Station Electrical Improvements.

**This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda.**

Enactment No: 31-25

**36. 43-25**

A resolution authorizing the City of Lake Charles to file applications with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) of the United States Department of Transportation for federal transportation assistance authorized by 49 U.S.C. 5307 and other FTA related federal statutes.

**This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda.**

Enactment No: 32-25

**Approval of the Consent Agenda**

**A motion was made including all the preceding items marked as having been adopted on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**For:** 7 - Eckard, Ieyoub, Geyen, Marks, Weatherford, August, and Harvey Jr.

**Against:** 0

**Absent:** 0

**THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES ARE FOR INTRODUCTION BY CONSENT AND WILL BE READ INTO THE RECORD THE DAY FOLLOWING THIS MEETING AT 9:00A.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN CITY HALL**

**37. 27-25**

An ordinance declaring the intent of the City of Lake Charles to acquire a full ownership interest in Eight (8) Parcels of Adjudicated Property pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statute 47:2236, and providing further thereto.

**Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Renee' P. DeVille, Clerk of the Council.**

**38. 28-25**

An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to purchase property located at 1415 Katherine Street from the record owner.

**Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Renee' P. DeVille, Clerk of the Council.**

**39. 29-25**

An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to purchase property located at 1417 Katherine Street/1103 North Lyons Street from the record owner.

**Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Renee' P. DeVille, Clerk of the Council.**

**40. 34-25**

An ordinance accepting the lowest responsible bid and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for Project No. CP2894 - Pujó Street Sewer Improvements between Ryan Street and Lakeshore Drive.

**Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Renee' P. DeVille, Clerk of the Council.**

**41. 35-25**

An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to allow more than ten percent (10%) cumulative increase for a change order for Project No. CP3423 - Wastewater Treatment Plant A Basin A-05 Sewer Rehabilitation.

**Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Renee' P. DeVille, Clerk of the Council.**

**42. 37-25**

An ordinance accepting the lowest responsible bid and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for Project No. CP3445 - Shell Beach Drive Bridge over Pithon Coulee Repair, and to amend the budget as necessary.

**Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Renee' P. DeVille, Clerk of the Council.**

**43. 38-25**

An ordinance accepting the lowest responsible bid and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for Project No. CP3426 - Wastewater Treatment Plant A Operational Reliability Improvements - Collection System Hardening, and to amend the budget as necessary.

**Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Renee' P. DeVille, Clerk of the Council.**

**44. 41-25**

An ordinance accepting the lowest responsible bid and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for Project No. CP3450 - Wastewater Treatment Plant A Operational Reliability Improvements - Lift Station Electrical Improvements, and to amend the budget as necessary.

**Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Renee' P. DeVille, Clerk of the Council.**

**45. 42-25**

An ordinance amending Chapter 20, Section 20-183 to designate the North Side of Mill Street from Ann Street to a point 215 feet East of Ann Street as parking for law enforcement.

**Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Renee' P. DeVille, Clerk of the Council.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**With no other business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:22 p.m.**

*I, RENEE' P. DEVILLE, do hereby certify that I am the duly qualified and acting Clerk of the Council of the City of Lake Charles, Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana.*

*I further certify that the above and foregoing constitutes a true and correct draft of the Minutes of a meeting of the City Council of said City, held on the 5th day of February, 2025.*

*WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my official signature and impressed hereon the official seal of said City, this 10th day of February, 2025.  
s/Renee P. DeVille, Clerk of the Council.*

*I, RENEE' P. DEVILLE, do hereby certify that I am the duly qualified and acting Clerk of the Council of the City of Lake Charles, Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana.*

*I further certify that the above and foregoing constitutes a true and correct copy of the Ordinances adopted at a meeting of the City Council of said city held on the 5th day of February, 2025.*

*WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my official signature and impressed upon the official seal of said City, this 10th day of February, 2025.  
s/Renee' P. DeVille, Clerk of the Council.*

*The City of Lake Charles fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Americans With Disabilities Act, and related statutes, executive orders, and regulations in all programs and activities. The City operates without regard to race, color, or national origin. Any person who believes him/herself or any specific class of persons, to be subjected to discrimination prohibited by Title VI and/or Americans with Disabilities Act may by him/herself or by representative file a written complaint with the City of Lake Charles. The City's Title VI Coordinator/ADA Coordinator may be reached by phone at (337) 491-1440, the Mayor's Action Line at (337) 491-1346, or contact the appropriate Department Head.*