

Minutes of the Livingston Parish Council
Livingston, Louisiana
October 12, 2023

The Livingston Parish Council met in a regular session duly called, advertised, and convened at its regular meeting place, at the Governmental Building in the Parish Council Chambers, located on 20355 Government Boulevard, Livingston, Louisiana, on Thursday, October 12, 2023, at the hour of six o'clock (6:00) p.m. with the following Livingston Parish Council members present:

Maurice "Scooter" Keen	Gerald McMorris
John Wascom	Randy Delatte
Erin Sandefur	Shane Mack

Tardy: Tracy Girlinghouse, Jeff Ard

Absent: Garry Talbert
Parish President Layton Ricks
Christopher Moody, Parish Legal Counsel

Also present: Mark Harrell, representing for the Parish President in his absence

***Councilman Tracy Girlinghouse was recognized at 6:03 p.m.*

The chair called the meeting to order.

The chair asked the public to please mute or turn off their cell phones.

The chair announced that Public Input would be accepted from any member of the audience wishing to address an agenda item and explained the procedure to be called upon.

The chair addressed agenda item number 7, "Presentations:" and announced that he had a Proclamation to be read aloud if okay with Councilman Delatte. The chair read the proclamation as follows:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Dr. Warren D. Richard's own proclamation of family is evident through his wife Dr. Jacqueline Tillman and three children; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Warren D. Richard has served as the pastor of Galilee Missionary Baptist Church of Springfield, La. for 30 years and at Progressive Missionary Baptist Church of Geismar, La. For 27 years; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Warren D. Richard received his Bachelors of Science in Psychology and Political Science from Southern University, Baton Rouge, La.; Masters and Doctorate in Theology from the Lord's Outreach International School of Theology, Lake Charles, La.; PHD in Divinity from The Lord's Outreach; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Warren D. Richard currently serves as the Chancellor of Nehemiah's School of Theology in Springfield and Geismar, La.; and

THEREFORE, BE IT KNOWN AND REMEMBERED, that I, Layton Ricks, Parish President, and the Livingston Parish Council, governing authority of the Parish of Livingston, State of Louisiana, represented by:

Jeff Ard, District 1	Erin Sandefur, District 5
Garry Talbert, District 2	Gerald McMorris, District 6
Maurice "Scooter" Keen, District 3	Tracy Girlinghouse, District 7
John Wascom, District 4	Randy Delatte, District 8
Shane Mack, District 9	

to commemorate a lifetime of devotion and service to ministry, do hereby proclaim Sunday, October 22, 2023, as

“Dr. Warren D. Richard Day”
Throughout the Parish of Livingston

SIGNED AT LIVINGSTON, LOUISIANA, this the 12th day of October 2023.

\s\ John Wascom

John Wascom, Council Chairman

\s\ Layton Ricks

Layton Ricks, Parish President

The chair addressed agenda item number 8a, “Adopt the Minutes of the September 28, 2023, regular meeting of the Livingston parish Council”.

LPR NO. 23-422

MOTION was made by Tracy Girlinghouse and duly seconded by Shane Mack to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the September 28, 2023, regular meetings of the Livingston Parish Council and adopt as written.

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: MR. KEEN, MR. WASCOM, MR. MCMORRIS, MR. GIRLINGHOUSE,
MR. DELATTE, MR. MACK

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: MR. ARD, MR. TALBERT

ABSTAIN: MS. SANDEFUR

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had carried and was adopted.

The chair addressed agenda item number 9, “**Introduction of ordinance:** Split Precincts 5, 21 and 24C and establish boundaries – Jared Andrews, Registrar of Voters” and stated that anytime precincts get too many voters in one precinct, they are required to split them. He thought it to be over 2,000.

The chair requested that the Deputy clerk read the ordinance by title as follows:

L.P. ORDINANCE 23-36

AN ORDINANCE TO CREATE NEW VOTING PRECINCTS BY DIVIDING
AN EXISTING PRECINCT INTO TWO (2) PRECINCTS.

LPR NO. 23-423

MOTION was offered by Tracy Girlinghouse and duly seconded by Shane Mack to publish the ordinance by title in the Official Journal in accordance with the legal mandates and set a Public Hearing for Thursday, October 26, 2023 at the hour of six o’clock (6:00) p.m. at the Parish Council Chambers in the Governmental Building located at 20355 Government Boulevard, Livingston, Louisiana, at which time comments will be received on the proposed ordinance prior to a Council vote.

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: MR. KEEN, MR. WASCOM, MS. SANDEFUR, MR. MCMORRIS,
MR. GIRLINGHOUSE, MR. DELATTE, MR. MACK

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: MR. ARD, MR. TALBERT

ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had been carried and was adopted on the 12th day of October 2023.

The chair addressed agenda item number 10, “Parish President’s Report”, having no business he moved to agenda item number 11 a - c, “Grants Department:”

- a. Adopt a Resolution authorizing the parish president to execute the contract between the Livingston Parish Council and Southern Underground of Louisiana, the responsible low bidder for the ARPA funded Town of Killian Austin Street Water Line Replacement Project
- b. Adopt a Resolution authorizing the parish president to execute the contract between the Livingston Parish Council and Arbour Construction, LLC, the responsible low bidder for the ARPA funded South Woodcrest Drive Drainage Improvements Project
- c. Adopt a Resolution authorizing the parish president to execute the contract between the Livingston Parish Council and M&J Civil Construction, LLC., the responsible low bidder for the ARPA funded Jason Drive Drainage Improvements

Mark Harrell, on behalf of the Grant’s Department, said that the project did come over budget as had been allocated, but that the Town of Killian has sent a letter stating that they will cover any overages. They wished to move forward.

LPR NO. 23-424

MOTION was made by Randy Delatte and duly seconded by Shane Mack authorizing the parish president to execute the contract between the Livingston Parish Council and Southern Underground of Louisiana, the responsible low bidder for the ARPA funded Town of Killian Austin Street Water Line Replacement Project.

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: MR. KEEN, MR. WASCOM, MS. SANDEFUR, MR. MCMORRIS,
MR. GIRLINGHOUSE, MR. DELATTE, MR. MACK

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: MR. ARD, MR. TALBERT

ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had carried and was adopted on October 12, 2023.

Mark Harrell, on behalf of the Grant’s Department, said that the project did also come over budget as had been allocated, but that Denham Springs has sent a letter stating that they will cover any overages. The chair added that he spoke with the mayor who was very excited, and thanked Mr. Harrell for his work on that.

LPR NO. 23-425

MOTION was made by Maurice “Scooter” Keen and duly seconded by Tracy Girlinghouse authorizing the parish president to execute the contract between the Livingston Parish Council and Arbour Construction, LLC, the responsible low bidder for the ARPA funded South Woodcrest Drive Drainage Improvements Project.

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: MR. KEEN, MR. WASCOM, MS. SANDEFUR, MR. MCMORRIS,
MR. GIRLINGHOUSE, MR. DELATTE, MR. MACK

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: MR. ARD, MR. TALBERT

ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had carried and was adopted on October 12, 2023.

Mark Harrell stated that they’ve (City of Denham Springs) obligated to cover the overages.

LPR NO. 23-426

MOTION was made by Tracy Girlinghouse and duly seconded by Gerald McMorris authorizing the parish president to execute the contract between the Livingston Parish Council and M&J Civil Construction, LLC., the responsible low bidder for the ARPA funded Jason Drive Drainage Improvements.

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: MR. KEEN, MR. WASCOM, MS. SANDEFUR, MR. MCMORRIS,
MR. GIRLINGHOUSE, MR. DELATTE, MR. MACK

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: MR. ARD, MR. TALBERT

ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had carried and was adopted on October 12, 2023.

The chair addressed agenda item number 12, “Public Hearing and Adoption of L.P. Ordinance No. 23-35: Acquire Immovable Property pursuant to the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Project Number FEMA-4277-DR-LA-0131- Livingston Parish located at 29400 South Anne Drive, Walker, La 70785 (Ordinance submitted for introduction by the Parish Grants Department)”.

The chair asked the Deputy clerk, Caroline Lockhart, to read the proposed ordinance by title as follows:

L. P. ORDINANCE NO. 23-35

AN ORDINANCE TO ACQUIRE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY FOR THE PARISH OF LIVINGSTON PURSUANT TO THE HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM PROJECT NUMBER FEMA-4277-DR-LA-0131- LIVINGSTON PARISH.

- 1. Homeowner: Jack Allen, Jr.
Address: 29300 South Anne Drive
Walker, LA 70785
Appraised Value: \$409,342.00
Amount Offered: \$409,342.00
Legal Description: Lot Number 9, Block 4 of Suburban Land Tracts

Councilman Girlinghouse stated that this was in his district and made the motion followed by Councilman Delatte. Councilman McMorris spoke (inaudible), and the chair replied that the address was supposed to be 29300. Deputy Clerk, Caroline Lockhart noted that everything was published in the newspaper correctly, but the last agenda had it wrong. This was clarifying. Councilman Keen replied “housekeeping”.

The chair opened the Public Hearing and asked if there was anyone present who wished to comment on this specific ordinance.

Having none, the chair closed the Public Hearing and noted that it was with the correct address of 49300 and asked if correct. Councilman Girlinghouse corrected it as 29300 which the chair replied, “29300 South Anne Drive.”

LPR NO. 23-427

The following ordinance which was previously introduced in written form required for adoption at a regular meeting of the Livingston Parish Council on September 28, 2023, a summary thereof having been published in the Official Journal together with a notice of public hearing which was held in accordance with said public notice, was brought up for final passage on October 12, 2023, on Motion of Tracy Girlinghouse and seconded by Randy Delatte:

L.P. ORDINANCE NO. 23-35

AN ORDINANCE TO ACQUIRE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY FOR THE PARISH OF LIVINGSTON PURSUANT TO THE HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM PROJECT NUMBER FEMA-4277-DR-LA-0131-

LIVINGSTON PARISH.

1. Homeowner: Jack Allen, Jr.
 Address: 29300 South Anne Drive
 Walker, LA 70785

 Appraised Value: \$409,342.00
 Amount Offered: \$409,342.00
 Legal Description: Lot Number 9, Block 4 of Suburban Land Tracts

YEAS: MR. KEEN, MR. WASCOM, MS. SANDEFUR, MR. MCMORRIS,
 MR. GIRLINGHOUSE, MR. DELATTE, MR. MACK

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: MR. ARD, MR. TALBERT

ABSTAIN: NONE

And the ordinance was declared adopted on the 12th day of October 2023.

(The above and foregoing ordinance, upon final approval by the President, or the Council in case of veto by the President, shall be published in full in the Official Journal by the Clerk of the Council within fifteen (15) days of its adoption and shall be recorded in full in the Livingston Parish Council Ordinance Book No. 5)

The chair addressed agenda item Addendum A-1, “Introduction of Ordinance: An Ordinance to acquire immovable property for the Parish of Livingston pursuant to the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Project Number FEMA-4277-DR-LA-0131-Livingston Parish.

- Homeowner: Kristy Allen
Address: 29400 South Anne Drive
 Walker, LA 70785

Appraised Value: \$257,981.00
Amount Offered: \$257,981.00
Legal Description: Lot 10-A, Block 3, Suburban Land Tracts

The chair requested that the Deputy clerk read the ordinance by title as follows:

L.P. ORDINANCE 23-37

An Ordinance to acquire immovable property for the Parish of Livingston pursuant to the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Project Number FEMA-4277-DR-LA-0131-Livingston Parish.

- Homeowner: Kristy Allen
Address: 29400 South Anne Drive
 Walker, LA 70785

Appraised Value: \$257,981.00
Amount Offered: \$257,981.00
Legal Description: Lot 10-A, Block 3, Suburban Land Tracts

LPR NO. 23-428

MOTION was offered by Tracy Girlinghouse and duly seconded by Maurice “Scooter” Keen to publish the ordinance by title in the Official Journal in accordance with the legal mandates and set a Public Hearing for Thursday, October 26, 2023 at the hour of six o’clock (6:00) p.m. at the Parish Council Chambers in the Governmental Building located at 20355 Government Boulevard, Livingston, Louisiana, at which time comments will be received on the proposed ordinance prior to a Council vote.

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: MR. KEEN, MR. WASCOM, MS. SANDEFUR, MR. MCMORRIS,
 MR. GIRLINGHOUSE, MR. DELATTE, MR. MACK

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: MR. ARD, MR. TALBERT

ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had been carried and was adopted on the 12th day of October 2023.

NOTE: agenda item Addendum A-2, “Correction of address for Agenda item number 12: ”Public Hearing and Adoption of L.P. Ordinance No. 23-35:To Acquire Immovable Property pursuant to the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Project Number FEMA-4277-DR-LA-0131-Livingston Parish located at 29400 29300 South Anne Drive, Walker, LA 70785 (for Jack Allen, Lot Number 9, Block 4 of Suburban Land Tracts, Appraised Value: \$409,342.00, Amount Offered: \$409,342.00).

Correct address of 29300 South Anne Drive was introduced at the September 28, 2023, regular meeting of the Livingston Parish Council and Notice of Introduction and Public Hearing Published in the Official Journal with the correct address on Thursday, October 5, 2023.”* **was addressed above under agenda item Addendum A-1.

The chair noted that Councilman Ard had entered the meeting and then he addressed agenda item 13, “Adopt resolution to authorize a waiver of Section “125-176, “Definitions” to allow a third address on a two-point two (2.2) acre tract for Katherine Hano and Paige Moya being located on 29869 Catholic Hall Road, Hammond, LA 70403 in Council District 9 – Shane Mack”.

Councilman Mack stated that there were three trailers on the property and one to his understanding was vacant and that the unlivable trailer was going to be replaced with another. He noted that this was contingent upon an affidavit stating that it’s only for family and not for rental property. He wanted to make the motion that it be approved based on those conditions.

LPR NO. 23-429

MOTION was offered by Shane Mack and duly seconded by Randy Delatte to authorize a waiver of Section “125-176, “Definitions” to allow a third address on a two-point two (2.2) acre tract for Katherine Hano and Paige Moya being located on 29869 Catholic Hall Road, Hammond, LA 70403 in Council District 9.

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: MR. ARD, MR. KEEN, MR. WASCOM, MS. SANDEFUR, MR. MCMORRIS,
MR. GIRLINGHOUSE, MR. DELATTE, MR. MACK

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: MR. TALBERT

ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had been carried and was adopted on the 12th day of October 2023.

The chair addressed agenda item 14, “Adopt a resolution to authorize a waiver of Section 125-37 “Minor Subdivisions”, to allow seven (7) lots on a servitude located on Oliver Wheat Road, in Council District 8 – Randy Delatte”.

Public Input: Ross Kinchen, 19144 Florida Blvd., Albany, La. 70711, stated that the waiver would be for a total of eight (8) lots instead of seven (7) as stated on the agenda. He added that the waiver would be for the three additional ones since the limit is five (5). The average lot size is 4.8 acres with new homes on the front part as this is a second part of the project that they are working on. They needed the waiver to put the extra lots on the back side of the property.

Deputy Clerk, Caroline Lockhart, interjected “That’s for a total of eight (8) lots” and the Council concurred.

LPR NO. 23-430

MOTION was offered by Randy Delatte and duly seconded by Gerald McMorris to authorize a waiver of Section 125-37 “Minor Subdivisions”, to allow eight (8) lots on a servitude located on Oliver Wheat Road, in Council District 8.

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: MR. ARD, MR. KEEN, MR. WASCOM, MS. SANDEFUR, MR. MCMORRIS,
MR. GIRLINGHOUSE, MR. DELATTE, MR. MACK

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: MR. TALBERT

ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had been carried and was adopted on the 12th day of October 2023.

The chair addressed agenda item 15, “Adopt a resolution to authorize a waiver of Section 125-37, “Requirements for Minor Subdivisions”, for the number of lots on a servitude located off Bailey Lane for Kathy Thibodeaux in Council District 2 – Garry Talbert (deferred from September 28, 2023, meeting)”.

Councilman Keen advised that he had spoken to Councilman Talbert who was in favor and asks that the Council passes it.

LPR NO. 23-431

MOTION was offered by Maurice “Scooter” Keen and duly seconded by Tracy Girlinghouse to authorize a waiver of Section 125-37, “Requirements for Minor Subdivisions”, for the number of lots on a servitude located off Bailey Lane for Kathy Thibodeaux.

YEAS: MR. ARD, MR. KEEN, MR. WASCOM, MS. SANDEFUR, MR. MCMORRIS,
MR. GIRLINGHOUSE, MR. DELATTE, MR. MACK

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: MR. TALBERT

ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had been carried and was adopted on the 12th day of October 2023.

The chair addressed agenda item 16, “Request for the installation of culverts at the railroad tracks of Lloyd Stewart Road and Dan Pierson Road – Randy Delatte
a.Canadian Railroad requirements”

Councilman Delatte stated that this project had been worked on for four or more years. He saw paperwork that needed to be completed by engineers and asked to remove it from the agenda.

The chair addressed agenda item 17, “Adopt a resolution to authorize a temporary permit for two (2) years to place electricity for a travel trailer for Jerica Stewart and Marie McAlister located at 28092 LA Highway 40 West, Independence, LA 70433 in Council District 9 - Shane Mack.”

Councilman Mack stated that they had a travel trailer and would like to live in it while they saved to build a house. Councilwoman Sandefur asked if a timeline was given as she wished to clarify due to receiving a lot of questions. Councilman Mack added “as soon as possible”.

LPR NO. 23-432

MOTION was offered by Shane Mack and duly seconded by Tracy Girlinghouse to authorize a temporary permit for two (2) years to place electricity for a travel trailer for Jerica Stewart and Marie McAlister located at 28092 LA Highway 40 West, Independence, LA 70433 in Council District 9.

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: MR. ARD, MR. KEEN, MR. WASCOM, MS. SANDEFUR, MR. MCMORRIS,
MR. GIRLINGHOUSE, MR. DELATTE, MR. MACK

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: MR. TALBERT

ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had been carried and was adopted on the 12th day of October 2023.

The chair addressed agenda item 18, “Board (re)appointment(s)/Resignation(s):

- a. Fire Protection District No. 12 board appointments – Jeff Ard
 - i. Assign bank signatories”

Councilman Ard stated that he’d like to add three people to the board. He noted that, once established, they are able to cash checks at the bank.

LPR NO. 23-433

MOTION was by Jeff Ard and duly seconded by Shane Mack to appoint:

- Wayne Westbrook to Fire Protection District No. 12, this board appointment will be for a two (2) year term that will expire on January 1, 2025
- Lea McDonald to Fire Protection District No. 12, this board appointment will be for a two (2) year term that will expire on January 1, 2025
- Jessie Glascock to Fire Protection District No. 12, this board appointment will be for a two (2) year term that will expire on January 1, 2024

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: MR. ARD, MR. KEEN, MR. WASCOM, MS. SANDEFUR, MR. MCMORRIS,
MR. GIRLINGHOUSE, MR. DELATTE, MR. MACK

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: MR. TALBERT

ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had been carried and was adopted on the 12th day of October 2023.

The chair addressed agenda item 19, “Committee Reports, a. Finance committee” and called upon Councilman Tracy Girlinghouse who chaired the Finance Committee at the last meeting in the absence of Randy Delatte, Finance committee chairman. Councilman Girlinghouse stated that they got the budget and that he had updated (speaking of the council meeting that followed the September 28, 2023, Finance Committee meeting).

The chair addressed agenda item number 19b, “Committee Reports, Ordinance committee: Possible recommendation(s) of Ordinance(s) introduction(s)” and called upon Councilman Shane Mack, Ordinance committee chairman.

Councilman Mack reported that the Ordinance committee had not met in the recent weeks, but had plans to meet on October 24, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

The chair addressed agenda item number 20, "District Attorney's Report" and Mr. Chris Moody advised that he had no report.

Councilman McMorris thanked everyone who attended the Outdoor Expo given by Colyell Baptist Church at the Gerald C. Keller Gymnasium in French Settlement. He spoke of the revival going on at his church and that a friend of his was saved. In close, he wished all running for elected offices luck and knew how stressful it could be on both them and their spouses.

Councilman Keen asked that everyone please do their civic duty and go vote.

Councilman McMorris asked that people please vote for Amendment No. 2 to keep churches open during the pandemic without government intervention.

Councilman Girlinghouse wished to add roads to the overlay list. The chair allowed a brief discussion on lifting the agenda. A decision was made to wait until the next meeting. Councilman Girlinghouse wished to echo what Mr. Keen had said and asked that everyone go out to vote as it was one of the few freedoms that we had left and that we should exercise it.

The chair replied, "The more people that show up to vote, the stronger our democracy is."

Having no further business, a motion to adjourn was requested until the next regular meeting being scheduled on Thursday, October 26, 2023, at the hour of six o'clock (6:00) p.m. in Livingston, Louisiana.

LPR NO. 23-434

MOTION was offered by Randy Delatte and duly seconded by Maurice "Scooter" Keen to adjourn the October 12, 2023, regular meeting of the Livingston Parish Council.

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: MR. ARD, MR. KEEN, MR. WASCOM, MS. SANDEFUR, MR. MCMORRIS,
MR. GIRLINGHOUSE, MR. DELATTE, MR. MACK

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: MR. TALBERT

ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had been carried and was adopted and that the meeting was adjourned.

\s\ Angie Cornett
Angie Cornett, Deputy clerk

\s\ John Wascom
John Wascom, Council chairman

The audio and video for this meeting may be found in its entirety on the Livingston Parish Council's YouTube page at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=07r0cBQp_XE

It may also be found on the Livingston Parish Council's website at:

<https://www.livingstonparishcouncil.com/>

If you have any questions, please contact the Livingston Parish Council office at (225)686-3027.