

**MUNICIPAL MINUTES, TOWN OF CHURCH POINT, STATE OF LOUISIANA**

**REGULAR MEETING JULY 1<sup>ST</sup> 2019**

**ATTENDANCE**

**MAYOR:** Ryan "Spanky" Meche

**ALDERMEN:** Christine Semien (Ward 1), Kim Cormier (Ward 2), Pat O'Pry (Ward 3), Chris Lebas (Ward 4),  
Errol "Slu" Comeaux (Ward 5)

**CHIEF OF POLICE:** Dale Thibodeaux

**TOWN ATTORNEY:** Brad Andrus

**MUNICIPAL CLERK:** Rowdy Latiolais

**ABSENT:** None

**COMMENCEMENT**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Meche called the Regular Council Meeting to order.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE**

Prayer led by Alderman Chris Lebas / Pledge led by Alderman Pat O'Pry

**READING AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

It was moved by O'Pry, seconded by Comeaux to accept the minutes as written.

Vote: All in favor

*Minutes unanimously accepted.*

**APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT**

It was moved by Comeaux, seconded by O'Pry to accept the May 2019 financial report.

Vote: All in favor

*Financial report unanimously accepted.*

**OLD BUSINESS - COMMUNITY CENTER/PARK PAVILION/DEPOT PARK RENTAL AND RATES**

It was moved by Comeaux, seconded by O'Pry to accept the following proposal regarding rental prices of the community center and parks:

Community Center – \$150.00 Deposit, \$850.00 Rental, \$100.00 Prior Day Hold

Non-Profit Community Center Rental - \$50.00 Deposit, \$350.00 Rental (security not included)

Churches, Schools, Nursing Homes and Hospital Community Center Rentals - \$50.00 Deposit, \$150.00 Rental (security not included)

Large Pavilion - \$50.00 Deposit, \$250.00 Rental

Non-Profit Large Pavilion Rental - \$50.00 Deposit, \$100.00 Rental

Churches, Schools, Nursing Homes and Hospital Large Pavilion Rentals - \$50.00 Rental

Non-Profit & Benefit Large Pavilion Rental - \$50.00 Deposit, \$100.00 Rental

Small Pavilion & MLK Park – No Charge

Depot Park - \$50.00 Permit Fee, \$200.00 Farmers Market or Likewise Functions

Vote: All in favor

*Rental and rates unanimously approved*

#### **NEW BUSINESS – FINANCE**

It was moved by O’Pry, seconded by Semien to approve a resolution and allow mayor signing authority for a ninety day loan for two street department trucks totaling \$38,944.11 to be paid out of the street fund.

Vote: All in favor

*Resolution unanimously approved*

It was moved by Comeaux, seconded by Lebas to approve a lease for a backhoe loader for the street department.

Vote: All in favor

*Lease unanimously approved*

It was moved by Cormier, seconded by Semien to approve a resolution and allow mayor signing authority for a ninety day loan for a sewer line cleaner totaling \$65,100.00 to be paid out of the sewer fund.

Vote: All in favor

*Resolution unanimously approved*

It was moved by O’Pry, seconded by Lebas to amend the budget in the amount of \$16,500 with approval of a mini excavator purchase in the amount of \$31,416.62 to be paid out of the sewer fund.

Vote: All in favor

*Budget amendment and purchase unanimously approved*

It was moved by Comeaux, seconded by Lebas to amend the budget in the amount of \$10,000 for Community Center repairs along with designating \$15,000 in capital outlay for next fiscal year's budget.

Vote: All in favor

*Budget amendment unanimously approved*

After the opening of three sealed bids, it was moved by Comeaux and seconded by Cormier to approve an air conditioner purchase for the Community Center in the amount of \$4,579.49 from Pat's Heating and Cooling.

Vote: All in favor

*Purchase unanimously approved*

It was moved by Lebas, seconded by O'Pry to approve the opening of a checking account designated for police maintenance and training.

Vote: All in favor

*Checking account unanimously approved*

It was moved by O'Pry, seconded Semien to approve a budget amendment in the amount of \$2,400 for police unit repairs.

Vote: All in favor

*Budget unanimously amended*

## **LAW ENFORCEMENT**

It was moved by Comeaux, seconded by Semien to approve the following appointments and removals recommended by Chief Thibodeaux:

Javonta Flugence hired as full time officer.

Jeffrey Paul Bourgeois added to reserve unit.

John Leger Jr. and Bryan Vidrine removed from the reserve unit.

Reserve officers Laine Primeaux, Ned Mauldin, Trey Venable, Holden Hare, Chris Ortego, Richard Waldron, Blake Richard, and Steven Hazel added to the part time list.

Vote: All in favor

*Appointments and removals unanimously approved*

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

It was moved by O'Pry, seconded by Semien to approve a \$16,000 budget for Royal Engineering to finalize the town's official boundary report.

Vote: All in favor

*Budget approved*

## LEGAL

It was moved by Comeaux, seconded by Cormier to approve the adoption of an ordinance amending section #020518 of the Church Point Code of Ordinances to add an ordinance notice placement on stakes on properties that are in violation of the town's long grass ordinance.

Vote: All in favor

*Ordinance unanimously approved; amendment posted in appendix*

It was moved by Cormier, seconded by Lebas to approve the adoption of an ordinance amending the parking violation fee from \$125.00 to a fine of \$25.00.

Vote: All in favor

*Ordinance unanimously approved; amendment posted in appendix*

It was moved by Lebas, seconded by Semien to approve a resolution officially referring to the Board of Aldermen as Town Council, officially referring to aldermen/women as councilmen/women, and officially referring to wards as districts.

Vote: YEAS: None; NAYS: Comeaux, O'Pry, Cormier; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None

*Resolution failed*

It was moved by O'Pry, seconded by Semien to approve the introduction of an ordinance adopting state statutes 13:2575, 13:2576, and 14:107.3 regarding blighted property.

Vote: All in favor

*Proposed ordinance introduced*

It was moved by Cormier, seconded by Semien to approve the introduction of an ordinance regulating the parking of vehicles and commercial vehicles on town streets and alleyways.

Vote: All in favor

*Proposed ordinance introduced*

It was moved by O'Pry, seconded by Comeaux to table the potential approval of a telecommunications contract with Cajun Broadband for the leasing of space on the town's water tower.

Vote: All in favor

*Decision tabled*

It was moved by Semien, seconded by O'Pry to approve a liquor license exemption for the OLSH Church event Autumnfest Under the Oaks to be held at 114 Bienvenu on October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

Vote: YEAS: Lebas, Cormier; NAYS: None; ABSTAIN: Comeaux

*Liquor license exemption approved*

It was moved by Semien, seconded by Comeaux to approved a liquor license exemption for Our Mother of Mercy Church’s annual bazaar to be held at 693 North Main on October 4, 5, and 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

Vote: All in favor

*Liquor license exemption approved*

It was moved by Comeaux, seconded by O’Pry to move the August council meeting date from the 5<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup> due to the LMA conference.

Vote: All in favor

*Council meeting rescheduled for August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019.*

**CLOSING**

It was moved by O’Pry, seconded by Cormier to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: All in favor

*Meeting adjourned*

**APPROVED AS TO AUTHENTICITY:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**RYAN MECHE, MAYOR**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**DATE**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**ROWDY LATIOLAIS, CLERK**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**DATE**

## APPENDIX

### ORDINANCE# 070119-1

#### AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE #020518 REGULATING PUBLIC NUISANCES WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE TOWN OF CHURCH POINT

In order to facilitate the interpretation of changes made to the above referenced ordinance, the following indicates words deleted by ~~placing lines through such words and/or letters~~ and indicates words added ***by underlining such words and/or letters, in italics and in bold print.***

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND THE BOARD OF ALDERMAN OF THE TOWN OF THE TOWN OF CHURCH POINT, in regular session, on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of July 2019 the above ordinance was amended and thus duly ordained and adopted to read as follows:

#### SECTION FOUR --NOTICES AND ORDERS

**Notice to person responsible.** Whenever the *code official* determines that there has been a violation of this ordinance or has grounds to believe that a violation has occurred, notice shall be given in the manner prescribed herein to the person responsible for the violation as specified in this code.

**Form.** Such notice shall be in accordance with all of the following:

1. Be in writing
2. Include a statement of the violation or violations and why the notice is being issued.
3. Include a correction order allowing 10 business days to bring the alleged nuisance violation into compliance with the provisions of this ordinance.

**Method of service.** Such notice shall be deemed to be properly served if a copy thereof is delivered in any of three ways as follows:

1. Delivered personally by placing such notice via a sticker, decal or the like on the junked vehicle or on the door of the home, building or property where such nuisance violation has occurred or
2. Sent by certified or first-class mail addressed to the last known address or
3. Attach such to the front door of the residence in question

Any order or notices required to be served on an occupant of the premises shall be considered served by mailing the same to the occupant at the physical address of the private property or by attaching the same to the front door of the residence in question

In those cases where service of notices or orders is to be made by mailing, service is complete upon the mailing and shall be proved by the certificate of the individual mailing such notice or order.

As an alternative to the foregoing manner of service, notices and orders may be served as provided in the Louisiana Code of Procedure.

**Unauthorized tampering.** Signs, tags or seals posted or affixed by the *code official* shall not be mutilated, destroyed or tampered with, or removed without authorization from the *code official*.

**Penalties.** *See violations section*

**Transfer of ownership.** It shall be unlawful for the *owner* of any *dwelling unit* or structure who has received a compliance order or upon whom a notice of violation has been served to sell, transfer, mortgage, lease or otherwise dispose of such *dwelling unit* or structure to another until the provisions of the compliance order or notice of violation have been complied with, or until such *owner* shall first furnish the grantee, transferee, mortgagee or lessee a true copy of any compliance order or notice of violation issued by the *code official* and shall furnish to the *code official* a signed and notarized statement from the grantee, transferee, mortgagee or lessee, acknowledging the receipt of such compliance order or notice of violation and fully accepting the responsibility without condition for making the corrections or repairs required by such compliance order or notice of violation.

Upon failure of the owner or agent having charge of a property to cut and destroy weeds within ten (10) days after service of a notice of violation **by way of placing a sign with stakes on such property notifying owner or agent that he is in violation of the towns nuisance ordinance which makes it illegal for ones grass to be longer than 12 inches in height** shall be subject to prosecution in accordance with the penalties section made part hereof. Upon failure to comply with the notice of violation, any duly authorized employee of the jurisdiction or contractor hired by the jurisdiction shall be authorized to enter upon the property in violation and cut and destroy the weeds growing thereon, and the costs of such removal shall be paid by the owner or agent responsible for the property. In the exercise of the authority herein granted, the governing authority may provide for the removal of such abandoned junk vehicles by the municipality for the collection of the cost of removal, not to exceed two hundred dollars (not including private towing company fees), from the owner of the material and, among other things, may require, but not by way of limitation, that any vacant lot or portion of any occupied lot used for the storage of junk, as herein defined, shall be surrounded or enclosed by a board fence or other enclosure.

**The charges, costs and expenses which may be incurred by the town for the cutting, destruction or removal of noxious weeds or grass or other deleterious, unhealthy or noxious growths on any sidewalks or banquettes and on any lot, place or area within the town shall, to the extent of the actual costs thereof to the town, be a charge, cost or expense of the property abutting the sidewalks or banquettes or of the lot, place or area, and the owner thereof. No such work shall be undertaken by the town until the owner of the lot, place or area, or the owner of the abutting property where the weeds or growths are to be removed, as shown on the last assessment roll of the city, has an opportunity of doing the work himself within at least five days after notice has been given him by registered mail, addressed in accordance with the tax rolls of the town.**

**If, after the cutting, destruction or removal of such noxious weeds, grass or other deleterious, unhealthy or noxious growths or accumulations by the town after due notice as provided accordingly, the cost or expense thereof has not been paid within ten days, the tax collector of the town shall furnish the owner, as shown on the last assessment roll of the town, by registered mail, a written statement showing the cost or expense incurred for the work, and the place or property on which the work was done. If the statement is not paid within one month thereafter, the amount thereof shall be included in and form part of the taxes due by the owner of such property, and when collected, shall be credited to the general fund of the town.**

Said Ordinance having been introduced on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June, 2019, by Alderman Comeaux, notice of public hearing having been held, the title having been read and the Ordinance considered, a motion was offered by Comeaux, seconded by Cormier and the following result was had:



YEAS: O'Pry, Lebas, Semien

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

SUSTAINED: None

Whereon the presiding officer declared the Ordinance duly adopted on this 1<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2019.

The Ordinance shall become effective upon the mayor's signing such and the publishing of such in the Church Point News.

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**RYAN MECHE, MAYOR**

ATTEST:

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**ROWDY LATIOLAIS, TOWN CLERK**

**ORDINANCE# 070119-2**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 16-36 OF THE CHURCH POINT CODE OF ORDINANCES**

**ENTITLED *PARKING IN VIOLATION OF SIGNS; PENALTY***

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMAN OF THE TOWN OF CHURCH POINT**, proceeding under its legal authority to perform certain actions that are in the best interest of the town of Church Point and further pursuant to the laws of the State of Louisiana hereby state the following:

**WHEREAS**, the Church Point Board of Alderman hereby desires to amend *Section 16-36* of the Church Point Code of Ordinances entitled *Parking in Violation of Signs, Penalty* to change the parking violation fee from \$125.00 or five days in jail to a fine of \$25.00.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Mayor and Board of Alderman of the Town of Church Point, Louisiana, acting as the governing authority thereof hereby amends Section

16-36 of the Church Point Code of Ordinances entitled *Parking in Violation of Signs, Penalty* to read as follows: *(To facilitate the interpretation of changes by way of amendments made to this ordinance, the following indicates words deleted by dashes ~~through such words~~ and indicates words added by such words **being in bold** and underlining such words.)*

**E. Any person who violates the provisions of this Section, or if the offender is a minor, any parent, guardian, or person with legal responsibility for such minor, shall, upon conviction, ~~be subject to a fine not to exceed one hundred twenty five dollars or five days in jail.~~ BE SUBJECT TO A FINE OF \$25.00.**

This ordinance having been submitted to a vote in regular session assembled of the Mayor and Alderman of the Town of Church Point, Louisiana, the vote thereon being as follows:

MOTION: Cormier

SECOND: Lebas

YEAS: Comeaux, O’Pry, Semien

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

This ordinance was introduced on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June, 2019 and declared adopted on this 1<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2019.

THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE UPON THE MAYOR’S SIGNING SUCH AND PUBLISHING OF SUCH IN THE CHURCH POINT NEWS.

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RYAN MECHE, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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ROWDY LATIOLAIS, CLERK

