

**TOWN OF GRAND ISLE  
REGULARLY SCHEDULED TOWN MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2022  
1:00 P.M.**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Pro Temp Brian Barthelemy who led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. Leonard Ray followed with a prayer. Roll call was as follows:

PRESENT: Council Members – Melissa Pizani, Kelly Besson Jr., Lan Tivet,  
Brian Barthelemy, Captain Walter Theriot Jr.  
ABSENT: Council Member – Elgene Gary

Motion by Council Member Lan Tivet seconded by Council Member Melissa Pizani and unanimously agreed to open agenda.

Motion by Council Member Lan Tivet seconded by Council Member Kelly Besson Jr. and unanimously agreed to remove from agenda a resolution authorizing and directing the town attorney to seek a resignation.

Motion by Council Member Lan Tivet seconded by Council Member Melissa Pizani and unanimously agreed to add a resolution authorizing the Department of Environmental Affairs to provide services for demolition.

Motion by Council Member Lan Tivet seconded by Council Member Kelly Besson Jr. and unanimously agreed to close agenda.

Rene Wilkinson was recognized and reports on the following: Wanted the public to be aware that when making a claim for insurance document everything that was damaged.

Motion by Council Member Melissa Pizani seconded by Council Member Kelly Besson Jr. and unanimously agreed to accept the minutes of February 9, 2022 regular scheduled meeting.

Captain Walter Theriot Jr. was recognized and reports on the following: No reports for this meeting.

Joseph Chauvin with GIS Engineering was recognized and reports on the following projects: 1.) FEMA updates – 2020 Hurricane Season work in progress. 2021 Hurricane season assessments are complete. Road assessments and drainage assessments pending. 2.) Grand Isle Vicinity Breakwaters, CPRA updates – USACE has advertised construction of the rock breakwaters near Caminada Pass. Bid opening is March 14, 2022. USACE is finalizing the project information report for repair of Ida damages. USACE is surveying along beach. Waiting on implementation guidance for the \$3 million (Disaster relief appropriations). This is for the new study to re-evaluate the entire GI and Vicinity project. 3.) Mayor requested coordination FEMA and GOHSEP on waterway debris removal. Grand Isle roads and drainage GIS completed survey of 79 streets.

Ronnie Sampey was recognized and reports on the following projects: 1.) Medical Lane house that is being used by the GI garden club was demolished. 2.) Working on getting Boy Scouts to come and assist in cleaning up 90\* West Park. 3.) Trailer enhancement program closed. Still have some supplies if anyone needs.

Weldon Danos with Grand Isle Port Commission was recognized and reports on the following projects: 1.) Hurricane Ida Update – LA dried Shrimp company will reopen sometime in April 2022. GIPC office building one bid submitted for repair. Evaluating all options. 2.) Grand Isle WiFi – GIPC property not feasible. 3.) PAL Annual Conference is being held in New Orleans, March 7-8, 2022.

## RESOLUTION NO. 2812

A resolution authorizing the Department of Environmental Affairs to provide services for the demolition of damaged private structures and removal of debris resulting from Hurricane Ida from private property where such debris represents an immediate threat to life, public health, or safety or the economic recovery of the community at large, upon authorization from the property owner and the concurrence of the Jefferson Parish Director of Inspection and Code Enforcement or the Town of Grand Isle Building Inspector; and authorizing the town to initiate a request for reimbursement from FEMA for Private Property Debris Removal.

**WHEREAS**, Hurricane Ida struck Grand Isle as a Category 4 Hurricane on August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, on August 29, 2021 the President of the United States declared that a major disaster exists in the State of Louisiana and ordered Federal aid to supplement State, tribal, and local recovery efforts in the areas affected by Hurricane Ida beginning on August 26, 2021, and continuing; and

**WHEREAS**, the town declared a local state of emergency related to Hurricane Ida on August 26, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, Hurricane Ida caused substantial damage within the town, including widespread damage to private structures, which structures may pose an immediate threat to public health and safety and the economic recovery of the community at large; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Fact Sheet entitled "Debris Removal from Private Property" dated October 5, 2018, FEMA states that debris removal from private property remains the responsibility of the property owner. However, when disaster-related debris presents a threat to public health and safety, a jurisdiction may act to abate the threat and ensure its economic recovery, FEMA may provide funding for debris removal from private property and has established a process for reviewing and approving private property debris removal; and

**WHEREAS**, Town of Grand Isle exercised police power and provides municipal services, including solid waste collection (including bulk waste pick-up, and other waste pick-up) and code enforcement, including building code enforcement to any such private property; and

**WHEREAS**, the town has obtained, or will obtain prior to conducting demolition and debris removal activities, right-of-entry agreements specific to private property debris removal from the private persons and/or entities that own the property upon which demolition and debris removal activities will be conducted, and therefore has the legal authority to perform demolition and/or private property debris removal on such property; and

**WHEREAS**, the town hereby finds that the demolition of structures substantially damaged by Hurricane Ida and the removal of disaster-generated debris from private property in Town of Grand Isle is in the best interest of the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Town of Grand Isle, upon authorization from the property owner and the concurrence of the Jefferson Parish Director of Inspection and Code Enforcement or the Town of Grand Isle Inspector.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town of Grand Isle Council of Grand Isle, Louisiana, acting as governing authority of said town:

**SECTION 1.** That the Department of Environmental Affairs is hereby authorized to provide services for the demolition of damaged private structures and removal of debris resulting from Hurricane Ida from private property where such debris represents an immediate threat to life, public health, or safety or the economic recovery of the community at large, upon authorization from the property owner and the concurrence of the Jefferson Parish Director of Inspection and Code Enforcement or the Town of Grand Isle Building Inspector; and authorizing the town to initiate a request for reimbursement from FEMA for Private Property Debris Removal.

**SECTION 2.** Prior to initiating any demolition or debris removal from private property, the Department of Environmental Affairs will be required to obtain certification from the Director of Inspection and Code Enforcement or the Town of Grand Isle Building Inspector that such property presents an immediate threat to life, public health, safety, or to the economic recovery of the community at large.

**SECTION 3.** Furthermore, prior to conducting any demolition or debris removal activities from private property, the Department shall first obtain approval from FEMA.

Motion by Council Member Kelly Besson Jr. seconded by Council Member Lan Tivet and unanimously agreed.

Vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Melissa Pizani, Kelly Besson Jr., Lan Tivet, Brian Barthelemy  
ABSENT: Elgene Gary  
NAYS: none

The resolution was declared to be adopted on this the day 23<sup>rd</sup> of February, 2022.

Motion by Council Member Lan Tivet seconded by Council Member Melissa Pizani and unanimously agreed to adjust the gas department budget.

Motion by Council Member Kelly Besson Jr. seconded by Council Member Melissa Pizani unanimously agreed to approve preliminary plat for Candies Realty No 2 subdivision of Lot B-8, T21S, T22S, R24E, R25E, Grand Isle, Louisiana.

Council Member Lan Tivet reached out to DOTD concerning the sides of Highway 1. Talking about maybe letting the golf carts on highway and lowering the speed limit. Chief Resweber speaking about the 37 states that allow golf carts on highway, but they have alternate routes. Discussion of the problems are mostly UTV's.

Joint motion to follow the Jefferson Parish Holiday Schedule and close Town Hall on February 28, 2022.

Council Member Melissa Pizani request/report: 1.) Post office no date for repairs completed. 2.) Grand Isle School state inspection was not passed. March 3, 2022 will open school. 3.) Request that the Town of Grand Isle do the Easter Egg hunt this year on April 16, 2022.

Council Member Lan Tivet request/report: 1.) The Louisiana Gulfcoast Billfish Classic is the first event in this series!!! Be sure to come check it out at the Hurricane Hole Marina April 25-May 1, 2022. This is the Super Bowl of Sportfishing!

Council Member Brian Barthelemy request/report: 1.) Pile up debris along side of roads for pick up. 2.) FEMA will not fund pickup concrete. 3.) Asphalt crushed from the state to repair wash outs. 4.) Contractors with new construction debris will not be picket up by our town contractor. 5.) Baseball and softball fields will get some assistance from Entergy. Jefferson Parish Recreation will design parks.

Chief Stephen Resweber asked for consideration to remove Judge Bigelow for Mayor's Court. Council Member Kelly Besson Jr. will talk to our town attorney how this request is done.

Motion by Council Member Lan Tivet seconded by Council Member Melissa Pizani and unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting at 2:12 p.m.

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Brian Barthelemy, Mayor Pro Temp  
Town of Grand Isle

ATTESTED:

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Janet Scardino, Secretary  
Town of Grand Isle