

GENERAL MEETING
TOWN OF MAURICE MINUTES
Wednesday, October 15, 2025
The General Meeting of the Officials of the Town of Maurice was opened by Mayor Neil Arsement at 6:00 p.m.
at the Maurice Municipal Building, 405 Lastie Ave., Maurice, Louisiana

Mayor Arsement led the assembly in Prayer and Alderwoman Megan Landry-Lalande led the Pledge of Allegiance

Roll call of officers

Present: Mayor Neil Arsement; Alderwoman Megan Landry- Lalande; Alderman Troy Catalon; Alderman Jonathan Schlicher; Alderman Matthew Trahan; Alderman Scott Trahan

Absent: None

Also present: Melanie Denais; Joan Methvin; Nichole Bonin; Shakyla Cormier; Erica Arceneaux; Nick Sonnier, Sellers & Associates; Richard Me che, Maintenance Supervisor; Chief Guy Nerren; J. Ricky Lafleur, Legal Advisor; Marc Duhon Jr, McWayne Potier Sr

Mayor Arsement asked Council members and Chief Nerren to recognize budget to actual financial statements included in their monthly binders

Approval General Meeting Minutes of September 17, 2025- No Council nor public comments

Motion: Landry-Lalande/Schlicher moved, seconded and carried to accept the minutes of September 17, 2025, as submitted and unread. Yay-All Present

Agenda Approval- Scott Trahan asked to add item 2-b-1. JBADT Preliminary Plat Approval. No public comment

Motion: S. Trahan/M. Trahan moved, seconded and carried to accept the agenda to add JBADT Preliminary Plat Approval. Yay- All Present

J. Ricky Lafleur- Amend Grass Ordinance- Lafleur would like to update the Grass Maintenance Ordinance to simplify wording and procedures and advised Council members needed to consider a Public Hearing if interested in updating the Ordinance. Arsement asked if landscaping could be included in the amendment. Lafleur advised the ordinance allows for regulating all grass and weeds out of compliance. Arsement advised rodents have become an issue especially near subdivisions and businesses located near properties not being maintained. Catalon advised some of the properties containing pipelines are not being properly maintained. Lafleur would provide a draft ordinance in a couple weeks. Discussion was held. No public comments

Motion: M. Trahan/Catalon moved, seconded, and carried to set a Public Hearing in the Town of Maurice Meeting Room located at 405 Lastie Avenue, Maurice LA 70555 at 6pm, to update the Grass Ordinance. Yay- M. Trahan, S. Trahan, Landry-Lalande, Catalon, Schlicher; Nay- None

Lafleur advised he acted as Magistrate for the October Mayors Court. Everything went well.

Nick Sonnier, Sellers & Associates- Resolution Requesting Financial Assistance from State of LA Fiscal Year 26-27 Capital Outlay Program- Sonnier advised the standard Resolution was necessary for financial assistance from the Capital Outlay Program. The resolution allows Sellers & Associates to apply and Mayor Arsement to sign authorization to apply for funds. Discussion was held. No public comments.

Motion: Landry-Lalande/Schlicher moved, seconded, and carried to adopt the Resolution Requesting Financial Assistance from State of LA Fiscal Year 26-27 Capital Outlay Program. Yay- S. Trahan, Landry-Lalande, Catalon, Schlicher, M. Trahan; Nay- None

Elaine Corners Final Plat Approval- Sonnier presented the Final Plat for Elaine Corners to Council members contingent upon the developer addressing comments from Sellers & Associates in the letter dated October 15, 2025. The bank required the Final Plat approval and recordation prior to releasing funds to the Developer for the project. Council members had questions about the right of way and utility easements. Discussion was held. No public comments.

Motion: Landry-Lalande/M. Trahan moved, seconded, and carried to approve Final Plat for Elaine Corners contingent the developer address comments by Sellers & Associates in the letter dated October 15, 2025. Yay- Landry-Lalande, Catalon, Schlicher, M. Trahan, S. Trahan; Nay- None

JBADT Preliminary Plat Approval- Sonnier presented the Preliminary Plat for JBADT for the development of the additional property near Nunu's. The DOTD Traffic Study was submitted for review and there are plans to build a road to Town standards. The Town would consider assisting with funding the J-Turn to near the businesses in the area. Mark Duhon discussed plans for the new development. The Developer would be responsible for the funding of the road and would likely contribute funds to building the J-Turn as well. Schlicher had questions regarding the drainage. Discussion was held. No public comments.

Motion: Landry-Lalande/Catalon moved, seconded, and carried to approve the Preliminary Plat for JBADT Investment Properties.

Yay- Catalon, Schlicher, M. Trahan, S. Trahan, Landry-Lalande; Nay- None

Updates- Sonnier advised Glenn Lege was delayed on work schedule, but the Town is in line for drainage work at the Maurice Park. McGuire Iron will work on New Water Tower during the winter. Schlicher asked about a logo for the new water tower, and it was advised money was included in construction totals. Arsement asked Council members for logo ideas.

Chief Nerren, Police Chief- Updates- Officer Irvin to finish the Police Academy on October 24th. The new officer is doing well. The officers working are incurring a lot of overtime hours due to staff shortages. Officers will patrol subdivisions on Halloween.

Richard Meche, Maintenance Supervisor- September 2025- 10,099,000 gallons of water produced; 9,302,528 gallons of water sold; 796,472 gallons of water unmetered; 7%. Meche and Mayor Arsement purchased a laser to set ditch grades in Town. The Town experienced low water pressure due to a break near the water tower. Water was purchased from Vermilion Waterworks for about 10-12 minutes while the repair was completed. Meche advised he and Mayor Arsement are looking at purchasing mulch to surround the Maurice Park playground equipment. Fixtures and handicap bars were installed in Maurice Park restrooms. Homecoming cleanup went well thanks to Chief Nerren getting assistance from VPSO inmates. Discussion was held

Mayor Arsement-Rotary Club MOU- Arsement explained the program provides decorative flags with a Veteran sponsorship. A memorandum had to be signed for Maurice to participate. Flags with sponsored Veterans would be displayed for 3 years from Memorial Day to the 4th of July. Arsement asked for names of Veterans from the Maurice area needing sponsorship. Discussion was held. No public comments

Motion: Landry-Lalande/Schlicher moved, seconded, and carried to sign the Memorandum of Understanding with the Rotary Club of Abbeville to participate in the Rotary Hometown Heroes Program. Yay- Schlicher, M. Trahan, S. Trahan, Landry-Lalande, Catalon; Nay- None

Amend Occupational License Ordinance- Arsement advised he was interested in amending the Occupational License Ordinance to update the fees to the allowable state rates and consider increasing the flat fee for Alcohol Licenses. These fees help provide funding to the General Fund. With the growth of the Town, he felt an increase was necessary to help increase the General Fund. He asked Council members to consider a Public Hearing to discuss amendments. Discussion was held. No public comments.

Motion: M. Trahan/S. Trahan moved, seconded, and carried to set a Public Hearing in the Town of Maurice Meeting Room located at 405 Lastie Avenue, Maurice LA 70555 at 6pm, to amend the Occupational License Ordinance and discuss fees. Yay- M. Trahan, S. Trahan, Landry-Lalande, Catalon, Schlicher; Nay- None

Sales Tax Update- August 2025 sales tax is \$146,013.84 which is up 47% from last year. Arsement asked residents continue supporting local businesses or shop online and thanked everyone for continuing to support the local community businesses.

Updates- Electricians at Maurice Park should finish work on restrooms by the end of the week. Plans to reveal the restrooms to the public were discussed. Landry-Lalande asked about a pavilion and was advised it is still part of the park design. Acadiana Contractors will assist with the pavilion. Please report any vandalism to authorities. Arsement wished Happy Halloween to everyone. He also asked Council members to begin thinking about reconstructing E. Vincent Street and suggested taking on the project in sections beginning with the drainage and then moving to the culverts, then the roadway. The estimated cost of reconstruction is 2.5 million dollars. Arsement also asked Council members to begin thinking about the Town's 2025 Christmas dates, events, and collection of letters to Santa.

Council Concerns: Landry-Lalande asked about signs. Schlicher extended thanks for the Maurice Park restroom facility. Schlicher asked if power would be available for events. Arsement will work on a fee schedule for special events. Matthew Trahan advised vandals are breaking streetlights throughout Town.

Motion: Landry-Lalande/Schlicher moved, seconded and carried to adjourn at 7:29 pm. Yay- All Present

s/Nichole G. Bonin
Nichole G Bonin, Assistant Clerk

s/Neil Arsement
Neil Arsement, Mayor