

GENERAL MEETING
TOWN OF MAURICE MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING

Wednesday, June 3, 2026

The Special 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 Michael Roy 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: Erica Arceneaux; Police Chief Guy Nerren; Legal Ricky Lafleur; Michael Roy, John S. Dowling & Company

Motion: Schlicher/Landry-Lalande moved, seconded, and carried to approve the agenda as presented. Yay- All Present

Preliminary Budget- Mike Roy of John S Dowling & Company presented preliminary numbers amending the operating budget of revenues and Expenditures for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, and gave a brief explanation of financial changes. Mr. Roy also presented preliminary numbers regarding the proposed operating budget of revenues and expenditures for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2026, and ending on June 30, 2027. Landry-Lalande asked if the proposed budget for salaries included anniversary or merit raises. Arsement advised proposed salary numbers included the 2% anniversary raises and a salary for an additional administrative position once the New City Hall is complete. Landry-Lalande had questions about professional expenses in the General Fund and asked that the line item read professional services instead. She also questioned the advertising costs. Arsement explained professional expenses included invoices for plan reviews and inspections by the Town's CBO, services from the Town's engineers and Town attorney services. Projected expenses were higher due to reviews and inspections of several commercial projects and many subdivision homes reviewed and built last year. Roy will look at changing the line item's name. Arsement also advised advertising expenses include all publications for the Town. LMA is currently fighting for changes in advertising requirements that are burdening municipal budgets. Arsement explained numbers from the capital outlay line item which included Maurice Park, the New City Hall, street improvements which included the J-turn project. Arsement advised expenses for the Police Department included training and care for the new canine officer. Other large expenses for the General Fund included property insurance which Arsement is currently working to get reduced by removing unnecessary coverages. Schlicher questioned a line item in 75 Sales Tax for \$130,000 and was advised the amount was allocated for the water tower expansion property but was not used. The Town's Utility account funded this purchase. Additionally, transfers are not being made from 75 Sales Tax to Utility. The Town's Utility Fund is currently sustaining itself. 89 Sales Tax is not growing yet, but funds from this account help support the Police Department's yearly budget. As sales tax increases, the fund balance should increase; however, growth in the Police Department could affect the balance. The Town's Utility Fund revenues decreased due to grant funding changes with the near completion of the new Elevated Water Tank project. Roy explained revenues and expenses in the Town's Utility Fund are recorded like a business. Assets such as the Town's utility systems are depreciated on a yearly basis. Capital improvements in the Utility Fund included money for a truck, trailer, a portion of the New City Hall. Arsement also allocated money for new water meter heads and pressure sensors to assist with early leak detection. He is working to get more information and pricing for the project. Schlicher circled back with questions regarding public safety salaries in the General Fund. Arsement explained that salaries included money for an additional officer and anniversary raises. He also advised Ordinances to Amend the current budget and adopt the new budget must be set for public hearing. No further discussion

Introduce an Ordinance to Amend the Operating Budget for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, and set for Public Hearing at the June 17, 2026, General Meeting- No further discussion was held, and no public comments were made.

Motion: Schlicher/Landry-Lalande moved, seconded and carried to introduce an Ordinance to Amend the Operating Budget for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, and set for Public Hearing at 6:00pm, Wednesday, June 17, 2026, at the Municipal Building located at 405 Lastie Avenue, Maurice, Louisiana 70555.
Yay- Catalon, Schlicher, M. Trahan, S. Trahan, Landry-Lalande; Nay- None

Introduce an Ordinance to Adopt the Operating Budget for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, and set for Public Hearing at the June 17, 2026, General Meeting- No further discussion was held, and no public comments were made.

Motion: S. Trahan/Landry-Lalande moved, seconded and carried Introduce an Ordinance to Adopt the Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, and set for Public Hearing at 6:00pm on Wednesday, June 17, 2026, at the Municipal Building located at 405 Lastie Avenue, Maurice, Louisiana 70555.
Yay- Schlicher, M. Trahan, S. Trahan, Landry-Lalande, Catalon; Nay- None

Motion: Schlicher/Landry-Lalande moved, seconded, and carried to adjourn at 6:53pm. Yay- All Present

Nichole G Bonin, Assistant Clerk

Neil Arsement/Mayor