

GENERAL MEETING
TOWN OF MAURICE MINUTES
Wednesday, August 19, 2026

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 Alderman Troy Catalan led the Pledge of Allegiance

Roll call of officers

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

Absent: Alderman Jonathan Schlicher

Also present: Erica Arceneaux; Nichole Bonin; Shakyla Cormier; Joan Methvin; Kimberly Guidry; Richard Meche, Maintenance Supervisor; Chief Guy Nerren; Ricky Lafleur, Legal Advisor; Nick Sonnier, Sellers & Associates; David Landry, Fire Chief; Wayne Theriot; Kelly Hardy; Troy Menard; John Dayries; Sammy Hebert; Chad Rousset; Warren Rost; Tony Hardy; Jesse Trahan; Samantha Irvin; Hunter DeVillier; John Sonnier; Jacob Desomeaux; Thomas J. Foshee III; McWayne Potier

Motion: Landry-Lalande/Catalan moved, seconded and carried to enter the Public Hearing. Yay- All Present

Public Hearing for the Purpose of:

Present Ordinance 26-8A Annexation of LA Hwy 92 East- Ricky Lafleur presented the Ordinance to enlarge the boundaries of the Town of Maurice along LA Hwy 92 East for discussion. Boundary details were previously questioned and discussed when the ordinance was introduced. No Council and no public comments.

Present Ordinance 26-8 Authorizing Mayor to Sell Improvement Only at 107 W. Corine Street- Lafleur presented the Ordinance and gave a brief description of the property where the improvement is located with a minimum bid of \$5000. Wayne Theriot asked about the workshop on the property. Arsement advised all improvements on the property are included in the minimum bid price. Kelly Hardy asked about the bid process and was advised the details would be published in the newspaper and online. Warren Rost asked about the process if the minimum bid is not met. Arsement advised the Town would readvertise for bids at an agreed upon price by Council members until the minimum amount was met which could take several months. No Council and no other public comments.

Motion: Landry-Lalande/M. Trahan moved, seconded and carried to close the Public Hearing. Yay- All Present

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

Approval of the July 15, 2026, General Meeting Minutes- No public comment

Motion: Landry-Lalande/Catalan moved, seconded and carried to accept the July 15, 2026, General Meeting Minutes as presented. Yay-All Present

Agenda Approval- No public comment

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

Alesha Henry- Firework Ordinance Variance-Hunter DeVillier requested a variance to the Town's Firework Ordinance for December 12, 2026, at 8pm on behalf of Mendoza Ford. He also advised the would be an event for anything over rice prior to the firework show. Scott Trahan expressed concerns regarding a potential burn ban for the area and was advised the Fire Marshal would regulate the cancellation of the show if a burn ban was issued. Discussion was held. No public comments

Motion: Catalan/Landry-Lalande moved, seconded and carried granting a variance to the Town's Firework Ordinance for Mendoza Ford on December 12, 2026. Yay- Landry-Lalande, Catalan, M. Trahan, S. Trahan; Absent- Schlicher

Sammy Hebert- Mr. Hebert advised he has an issue with Maurice Police Officers blocking his parking lot during traffic stops. Nerren advised he had previously sent out an email in his department addressing the issue and officers expressed concern to Nerren about their safety. Arsement asked if department policy could be implemented to help regulate traffic stops at all businesses in Town. Nerren was working towards a resolution and would consider implementing a regulation policy. Complaints by business owners have also been made to Troop I regarding troopers parking at businesses during their traffic stops. Discussion was held

Ricky Lafleur- Mr. Lafleur advised Mayor's Court was going well. The issue with junk vehicles in Victoria Manor was resolved. Discussion was held

Nick Sonnier, Sellers & Associates- Louis Pvt Lane Dedication- Sonnier presented letters from residents who owned property along Louis Pvt Lane dedicating the ROW and utility easement to the Town of Maurice. The item was discussed last month. No public comments

Motion: Landry-Lalande/M. Trahan moved, seconded and carried to accept the Louis Pvt Lane Dedication- Yay- Catalan, M. Trahan, S. Trahan, Landry-Lalande; Absent-Schlicher

Final Adoption Ordinance 26-8A Annexation of LA Hwy 92 East- Sonnier introduced Ordinance 26-8A Annexation of LA Hwy 92 East. No public comments

Motion: M. Trahan/Catalan moved, seconded and carried to introduce Ordinance 26-8A Extending and Enlarging the Limits and Boundaries of the Town of Maurice and Including an Area Known as LA Hwy 92 East and Defining the Entire Boundaries of the Town of Maurice as Changed by the said Addition and set for Public Hearing to be held on August 19, 2026, at 6pm in the Town of Maurice General Meeting Room located at 405 Lastie Avenue, Maurice LA 70555. Yay- M. Trahan, S. Trahan, Landry-Lalande, Catalan; Absent- Schlicher

Autumn Park Extension Construction Improvements and Final Plat Approval- Sonnier advised the subdivision is located off Soop Rd. The developer was trying to get early approval to save time later. Sellers & Associates conducted an inspection and provided a letter with extensive items needing to be addressed by the developer. Sonnier advised the developer has built multiple subdivisions. He was not concerned about the items being addressed and recommended approval. Thomas J. Foshee let Council members know he will address the items as soon as possible. Discussion was held. No public comment

Motion: Landry-Lalande/S. Trahan moved, seconded and carried to approve the Autumn Park Extension Construction Plans and Final Plat contingent upon the developer completing the punch list items from Sellers & Associates in the letter dated August 19, 2026. Yay- S. Trahan, Landry-Lalande, Catalan, M. Trahan; Absent- Schlicher

Updates- Sonnier advised the new Water Tower is nearing completion. The disinfection process needed to be done before putting the tower online. He advised the contractor was over their contract time. This will be discussed further once the work is complete. Discussion was held

Chief Nerren, Police Chief-Updates- Nerren advised he would like to have the speed limit changed on South Lafayette Street to 25 mph along the entire length of the street. A small portion of the street is 35 mph. Council members thought lowering the speed was a good idea. Arsement suggested widening the turn at the curve right at South Lafayette Street and asked Sonnier to investigate the possibility of widening the area and what it would take. John Dayries asked if a public announcement would be made regarding the reduced speed. Nerren advised at the least, warnings would be given for a period of time. Discussion was held. No public comments

Motion: Landry-Lalande/Catalan moved, seconded and carried to adjust the speed limit on South Lafayette Street to 25 mph. Yay- S. Trahan, Landry-Lalande, Catalan, M. Trahan; Absent – Schlicher

Updates- Nerren advised the officers at the Academy are doing well. One officer will be getting some one-on-one training to assist with the firearms portion. Arsement asked about money being returned to the Town if Officers don't complete the program or quit later. Nerren advised a portion of the cost of the academy was normally returned and Lafleur advised money paid in salaries could not be recouped by the Town. Discussion was held.

Richard Meche, Maintenance Supervisor- July 2026-8,668,000 gallons of water produced; 7,354,352 gallons of water sold; 1,313,648 gallons of water Unmetered; 15%. Brandon Bearb passed the water treatment and water production tests but will have to retake the water distribution test. Meche advised that overall Mr. Bearb did well. Maintenance started cleaning and clearing the new Maurice Park property. Discussion was held.

Mayor Neil Arsement- Introduction of an Ordinance Repealing and Replacing Existing Water Utility Ordinances and Adopting a Comprehensive Water Utility Ordinance for the Town of Maurice- Arsement requested a public hearing be set and advised the ordinance compiled 23 existing ordinances to make finding information for everyone easier. The total disconnect/reconnect charges would also be reduced from \$100 to \$75. Discussion was held. No public comments.

Motion: S. Trahan/Landry-Lalande moved, seconded and carried to set an Ordinance Repealing and Replacing Existing Water Utility Ordinances and Adopting a Comprehensive Water Utility Ordinance for the Town of Maurice for Public Hearing to be held at the Town of Maurice General Meeting Room, located at 405 Lastie Avenue, Maurice LA 70555, on September 16, 2026, at 6pm. Yay- Landry-Lalande, Catalan, M. Trahan, S. Trahan; Absent- Schlicher

Final Approval of Ordinance 26-8 Authorizing Mayor to Sell Improvement Only- Arsement asked for approval consideration of the ordinance to sell the improvements only, located at 107 W. Corine Street. No Council and no public comments.

Motion: Catalan/M. Trahan moved, seconded and carried to approve Ordinance 26-8 Authorizing the Mayor to Sell Immovable Property Only located at 107 W. Corine Street. Yay- Catalan, M. Trahan, S. Trahan, Landry-Lalande; Absent- Schlicher

Authorize Mayor to Enter into a Contract to Purchase Property located at 110 James Street- Arsement advised the owners of the property wanted to give the Town first option to purchase the property before listing it for sale. Arsement felt the property would be a good addition for potential expansion of the water system at a later date. An appraisal was obtained at a price of \$72,000. Discussion was held. No public comments

Motion: M. Trahan/S. Trahan moved, seconded and carried Authoring Mayor Arsement to Enter into a Contract to Purchase Property located at 110 James Street. Yay- M. Trahan, S. Trahan, Landry-Lalande, Catalan; Absent- Schlicher

Sales Tax Report- June 2026 sales tax is \$152,673.78 which decreased 1.5% from last year. Arsement advised sales tax collections are strong despite the minor decrease and attributed it to residents going on summer vacations. He thanked residents for supporting local businesses.

Updates- Framing of the new City Hall started, and the project is moving along. Work for the pond at Maurice Park will begin in a few weeks.

Council Concerns- Landry-Lalande congratulated everyone who qualified for the upcoming election on November 3, 2026, and asked residents to go out and vote.

Motion: Landry-Lalande/M. Trahan motioned, seconded and carried to adjourn at 7:17 pm. Yay- All Present

Nichole G Bonin, Assistant Clerk

Neil Arsement, Mayor