

GENERAL MEETING
TOWN OF MAURICE MINUTES
Wednesday, September 16, 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 the Pledge of Allegiance

Roll call of officers

Present: Mayor Neil Arsement; Alderman Troy Catalon; Alderman Jonathan Schlicher; Alderman Matthew Trahan; Alderman; Scott Trahan

Absent: Alderwoman Megan Landry-Lalande

Also present: Erica Arceneaux; Nichole Bonin; Joan Methvin; Kimberly Guidry; Richard Meche, Maintenance Supervisor; Ricky Lafleur, Legal Advisor; Joe Trahan; Nick Sonnier, Sellers & Associates; Wayne Theriot; John Dayries; Chad Roussel; Jacob Desormeaux; Jeff Landry

Motion: Schlicher/Catalon moved, seconded and carried to enter the Public Hearing. Yay- All Present

Public Hearing for the Purpose of:

Present Ordinance 26-9 An Ordinance of the Town of Maurice, Louisiana Adopting a Comprehensive Water Utility Ordinance; Consolidating and Reenacting the Town's Regulations Governing Water Service, Connections, Meters, Rates, Deposits, Billing, Delinquencies, Disconnection, Reconnection, Leaks, Tap Fees, Miscellaneous Charges, and Enforcement; Repealing the Prior Water Utility Ordinances Identified Herein; and Otherwise Providing with Respect Thereto Repealing and Replacing Ordinance No's. O-76-7B, 80-9-A, 92-11B, 93-8-A, 94-10A, 94-10B, 98-2-B, 05-11-A, 06-4E, 7-4A, 07-5-A, 07-11-A, 09-4A, 09-8, 11-9C, 12-5, 13-10, 18-2, 24-6D, 24-6E, 24-11, 25-8, 26-4- Lafleur presented the ordinance and discussed the changes made when consolidating all previous ordinances. Arsement advised there was a disconnect fee of \$50 and a reconnect fee of \$50. The new ordinance reestablishes the disconnect fee at \$75 with no additional reconnection fee. It also clarifies the disconnect date of 15 business days. Schlicher questioned the grace period for payments. Lafleur advised that payments can come in through 11:59 on the 15th business day without penalty. Anything after that would warrant the \$75 fee but adding the fee for payments coming in until City Hall opens would be an administrative decision. Nichole Bonin advised the Town's Utility Clerk can add a message on Paystar indicating additional fees due beyond the 15th business day. Arsement will look at how fees can be added as timely as possible to limit confusion. No public comment

Motion: M. Trahan/Schlicher 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 August 19, 2026, General Meeting Minutes- No public comment

Motion: Schlicher/Catalon moved, seconded and carried to accept the August 19, 2026, General Meeting Minutes as presented and unread. Yay-All Present

Agenda Approval- Scott Trahan requested to amend the agenda to add item 2-d. Revision of Villien Subdivision Tracts and Final Plat approval. No public comment

Motion: S. Trahan/Catalon moved, seconded and carried to amend and approve the agenda adding item 2-d. revision of tracts A, B, C of Ferdinand O. Villien Final Plat Villien Subdivision. Yay- All Present

Ricky Lafleur- Mr. Lafleur advised Mayor's Court went well with one business cited for selling alcohol without a local license and one traffic stop going to trial next month. There have been no recent grass compliance letters. Discussion was held

Nick Sonnier, Sellers & Associates- Resolution of Acceptance Elevated Water Tower Project- Sonnier presented Resolution 26-9 for approval to accept work by Maguire Iron, Inc on the Elevated Water Tower Project and advised there were no punch list items to complete. The new water tank is in service. Maguire Iron did go over their contract time which allows liquidated damages, and this will be addressed next month.

Motion: Catalon/M. Trahan moved, seconded and carried approving and authorizing Mayor Arsement to sign documents related to the Resolution 26-9 Acceptance of the 250,000 Elevated Water Storage Tank completed by Maguire Iron- Yay- M. Trahan, S. Trahan, Catalon, Schlicher; Absent-Landry-Lalande

Construction Plans and DIA Acceptance for Villien Subdivision Phase 1- Sonnier recommended approval of the DIA and Construction Plans for Villien Subdivision Phase 1 contingent upon the developer addressing comments made by Sellers & Associates in the letter dated September 16, 2026. Schlicher asked about the plat and servitude. Chad Roussel advised they are working on acquiring easements from landowners and questioned sidewalk and subsurface drainage. These items would be addressed later. Discussion was held. No public comment

Motion: M. Trahan/S. Trahan moved, seconded and carried accepting Construction Plans and DIA for Villien Subdivision contingent upon the developer addressing comments made by Sellers & Associates in the letter dated September 16, 2026. Yay- S. Trahan, Catalon, Schlicher, M. Trahan; Absent- Landry-Lalande

Capital Outlay Resolution- Sonnier presented Resolution 26-9A for approval. The resolution is accepted and signed yearly for the Town to receive available grant funds. The new resolution would cover the 2027-2028 Fiscal Year and is due by November 1, 2026. Discussion was held. No public comment

Motion: Schlicher/Catalon moved, seconded and carried to approve the Capital Outlay Resolution 26-9A Requesting Financial Assistance for Fiscal Year 2027-2028. Yay- Catalon, Schlicher, M. Trahan, S. Trahan; Absent- Landry-Lalande

Final Plat Acceptance with Revision of Tracts for Villien Subdivision- Sonnier presented revised tracts and the Final Plat of Villien Subdivision for approval contingent upon the developer addressing comments made by Sellers & Associates in the letter dated September 16, 2026. Catalon asked about changes to lot sizes. Chad Roussel advised the lot sizes would not change. Schlicher questioned acreage and was advised this was an item addressed in the letter from Sellers & Associates. Discussion was held. No public comments

Motion: S. Trahan/Schlicher moved, seconded and carried to approve the Final Plat with revisions of tracts A, B & C of the partition of property of Succession of Ferdinand O. Villien for Villien Subdivision contingent upon the developer addressing comments made by Sellers & Associates in the letter dated September 16, 2026. Yay- Schlicher, M. Trahan, S. Trahan, Catalon; Absent- Landry-Lalande

Updates- Sonnier advised Maguire Iron was over on their contract time delaying the initial completion of the Elevated Water Tank. Arsement advised the Town did not lose any revenue with the delay. Sonnier advised this would be discussed further and present any change orders next month. Discussion was held

Police Chief- Updates- Officer Joe Trahan spoke on behalf of Chief Nerren and advised one unit recently had a transmission replacement and is back on the road. Warnings about the speed limit decrease on South Lafayette were given for about 3 weeks. Officers are now issuing citations for those exceeding the new 25mph speed limit. Maurice Police Department would be hosting National Night Out on Tuesday, October 6, 2026, at Maurice Park from 6pm-8pm. The event will provide opportunities for residents to meet their local police department staff. Food, emergency response vehicle displays, K-9 demonstrations, and family fun to promote stronger community relationships will be provided. Everyone is welcome to attend. Catalon asked for extra patrol on E. Vincent due to increases in vehicle speeds.

Richard Meche, Maintenance Supervisor- August 2026- 10,907,000 gallons of water produced; 9,403,386 gallons of water sold; 1,503,614 gallons of water Unmetered; 13%. The Elevated Water Tank was filled, and everything went well with only minor issues to report. Meche advised controls would be put in place. The maintenance crew was preparing for the Homecoming Parade with clean-up to follow the morning after. Inmates and students are scheduled to assist with clean-up. The maintenance crew was able to remove and reinstall one of the new sewer pumps after the manufacturer successfully repaired a problem at no charge to the Town. Catalon questioned the Tower light. Meche advised this will be taken care of once the controls are in place. Schlicher concrete requirements at lift stations and was advised those with gravel were installed prior to updates to the subdivision ordinance requirement. Schlicher asked about smart meters and Catalon questioned having remote shut capability. Arsement advised this feature would be an additional cost and asked Meche to get information on cost. Scott Trahan questioned issues with lift station. Arsement advised the affected home was taken care of and he is working on a possible alert system.

Mayor Neil Arsement- Final Approval of Ordinance 26-9 Repealing and Replacing Existing Water Utility Ordinances and Adopting a Comprehensive Water Utility Ordinance for the Town of Maurice- Arsement presented the Ordinance for approval as discussed in the Public Hearing. No public comments.

Motion: Schlicher/S. Trahan moved, seconded and carried to adopt Ordinance 26-9 An Ordinance of the Town of Maurice, Louisiana Adopting a Comprehensive Water Utility Ordinance; Consolidating and Reenacting the Town's Regulations Governing Water Service, Connections, Meters, Rates, Deposits, Billing, Delinquencies, Disconnection, Reconnection, Leaks, Tap Fees, Miscellaneous Charges, and Enforcement; Repealing the Prior Water Utility Ordinances Identified Herein; and Otherwise Providing with Respect Thereto Repealing and Replacing Ordinance No's. O-76-7B, 80-9-A, 92-11B, 93-8-A, 94-10A, 94-10B, 98-2-B, 05-11-A, 06-4E, 7-4A, 07-5-A, 07-11-A, 09-4A, 09-8, 11-9C, 12-5, 13-10, 18-2, 24-6D, 24-6E, 24-11, 25-8, 26-4. Yay- Schlicher, M. Trahan, S. Trahan, Catalon; Absent- Landry-Lalande

Approval for Mayor to Enter into a Revised Fee Agreement with J. Ricky Lafleur- Arsement asked Council members to consider authorization for him to sign a revised fee agreement with the Town's Attorney, J. Ricky Lafleur. He hadn't requested an increase in over 3 years. Discussion was held. No public comments.

Motion: S. Trahan/Schlicher moved, seconded and carried Authoring Mayor Arsement to sign and accept a new fee agreement with J. Ricky Lafleur as presented in the amount of \$250 per hour. Yay- M. Trahan, S. Trahan, Catalon, Schlicher; Absent- Landry-Lalande

Sales Tax Report- July 2026 sales tax is \$153,953.06 which increased 21.1% from last year. Arsement advised sales tax collections are strong and thanked residents for supporting local businesses and shopping online.

Updates- Woodbriar Senior Living asked that no one is allowed to be on the property selling items or politicking for elections. Prior approvals must go through the administration for all visitors that do not have family or friends residing in the facility. Arsement asked for the community to report any Peddler without a valid Town of Maurice occupational license. Construction on the New City Hall is moving along. So far 2 sealed bids have been received to purchase the home on Town property located on W. Corine Street. The closing on the Town's purchase of the property at 110 James Street was completed. Next month Arsement will present the home located on the property to be auctioned off. First Turn offered carts for Council members to ride in the Homecoming Parade. The Town is working on getting an ordinance together to regulate Airbnb's and rentals. Although in favor of some rentals, Arsement doesn't want the Town to turn into a rental community.

Council Concerns- Schlicher advised Wildlife and Fisheries will begin stocking the pond at Maurice Park in the Spring of 2027 if it is ready.

Motion: Schlicher/Catalon motioned, seconded and carried to adjourn at 7:12 pm. Yay- All Present

Nichole G Bonin, Assistant Clerk

Neil Arsement, Mayor