

**Minutes
Special Meeting
115 N. Thomson Ave, Iowa, LA 70647
July 27, 2026**

Mayor Watkins and Town Council met in Special session this date in compliance with all requirements as to notice.

Mayor Watkins called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Mayor Watkins called roll. Present Mayor Douglas Watkins; Council Members, Gerald Guidry, Daniel Hennigan, Vernessa Guillory, Joe Becnel, and Julie Fontenot.

Also, there were present Elsie Lane, Chief of Police Keith Vincent and about 8 people.

Invocation was said by Council Member Joe Becnel, followed by the pledge.

It was moved by Daniel Hennigan, seconded by Julie Fonenot to amend agenda to add:

1c. Transfer of Juanita Cox from part-time to full-time Dispatcher as Asst. Dispatch Supervisor.
Motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Daniel Hennigan, seconded by Julie Fontenot to adopt amended agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Watkins read the first item on the agenda. Chief Vincent came forward. Upon the recommendation of Chief Vincent the following action was taken:

- a. It was moved by Daniel Hennigan, seconded by Julie Fontenot to promote Brandy Simon from Assistant Dispatch Supervisor to Dispatch Supervisor. The motion passed unanimously.
- b. It was moved by Daniel Hennigan, seconded by Julie Fontenot to promote Brent Quibodeaux from Patrolman to Sergeant. Motion passed unanimously.
- c. It was moved by Daniel Hennigan, seconded by Julie Fontenot to promote Juanita Cox from part-time to full-time dispatcher as the Assistant Dispatch Supervisor. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Watkins read the second item on the agenda, Motion to adopt Resolution 2026-08, a resolution to declare property as surplus and assign to LPS Municipal Surplus property program for online sale. Chief Vincent stated that these are surplus vehicles. Chief Vincent stated that the plan is, since this revenue is not in the existing budget as revenue and he needs to get a car. He is going to take the funds from this and purchase a vehicle and they should likely wash each other. He further said, when y'all do the amendment that y'all are probably planning on doing. I am going to take these funds and go get a vehicle. It was moved by Daniel Hennigan, seconded by Joe Becnel to adopt Resolution 2026-08, A Resolution to declare property as surplus and assign to LPS Municipal Surplus property program for online sale. Mayor Watkins asked if there were any questions or concerns. None were made. Mayor Watkins made a recommendation to the Chief. He said to make sure we are doing this properly in the way you are describing it that we clear it with the attorney on the proper procedures.

Resolution 2026-08
A Resolution to Declare Property as Surplus and Assign to
LPS Municipal Surplus Property Program for Online Sale

Council Meeting Date: July 27, 2026

Agenda item: Surplus Property

Presented by: Mayor Watkins

Be it resolved:

1. The Town of Iowa declares that the following property used by the Iowa Police Department is no longer needed by the Town and is declared surplus property and is assigned to LaMATS through the LPS Surplus Property Program, 6767 Perkins Rd., Baton Rouge, LA 70808 to be auctioned online. The listed property will be viewable and will be auctioned online at www.lamats.net/surplus commencing the day of publication of this resolution for no fewer than 7 days until sold or withdrawn.

Description

1. 2020 Ford Explorer: VIN# 1FMSK7BH7LGC28681
2. 2020 Ford Mustang: VIN# 1FA6P8TH1L5168782
3. 2017 Ford F-150: VIN# 1FTEW1EP0HKD56707
4. 2019 Ford F-150 Police Responder: VIN# 1FTEW1P46KKD16514

The Town of Iowa reserves the right to evaluate and to accept the highest bid if deemed to be the fair market value or to relist the unsold item.

Instructions

(Lake Charles American Press, Jackie.martz@americanpress.com) and forward to the LPS Municipal Surplus Property Program Administrator for listing and publication claire@lamats.net

ATEST:

Cynthia Mallett, MMC

Mayor Watkins read the third item, Introduction of Ordinance 2026-08, an Ordinance rescinding Ordinance No. 2026-05, An Ordinance Annexing certain property into the corporate limits of the Town of Iowa, Louisiana, in accordance with the provisions of the Revised Statutes of the State of Louisiana, Title 33, Section 172, following the petition of Progressive Merchants, Inc. and due advertisement. Council Member Julie Fontenot asked why it was being requested to be rescinded. Mayor Watkins said item #5 explains the reason. Ms. Johnson asked about what property this was. Mayor Watkins explained it was located on the north side of the Interstate.

Mayor Watkins read item four, Motion to table, without date, approval of adoption of Ordinance 2026-07, An Ordinance annexing certain property into the corporate limits of the Town of Iowa, Louisiana, in accordance with the Provisions of the Revised Statutes of the State of Louisiana, Title 33, Section 172, following the JATKY LLP and due advertisement, introduced at regular meeting July 13, 2026. It was moved by Daniel Hennigan, seconded by Vernessa Guillory. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Watkins read item five, Motion to approve engagement letter for the services of Becker & Hebert Law Firm in regard to the lawsuit entitled Calcasieu Parish Police Jury vs Town of Iowa and any additional annexation issues and related matters as may become necessary and authorize Mayor Watkins to execute said engagement. Mayor Watkins asked if there were any questions. There were no questions. It was moved by Joe Becnel, seconded by Gerald Guidry. Motion passed unanimously.

With no further business to discuss, it was moved by Joe Becnel to adjourn, seconded by Julie Fontenot. Motion passed unanimously at 7:10.

Douglas N. Watkins, Mayor

Attest:

Cynthia Mallett MMC, Town Clerk