

Minutes
Regular Meeting
115 N. Thomson Ave, Iowa, LA 70647
July 13, 2026

Before the meeting was called to order Mayor Watkins made comments.

- a. He commented sometimes motions are not picked up well on the recording. He requested when a motion is made that a roll call vote be taken and Mrs. Cindy will initiate the roll call vote.
- b. He reminded everyone that Thursday is the Town Hall meeting. The meeting is to get feedback on our Ordinances and what we go through to do ordinances. He mentioned we will be doing some animal control also.

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

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

Town Clerk Cynthia Mallett called roll. Present: Mayor Douglas Watkins, Council Members: Gerald Guidry, Daniel Hennigan, Vernessa Guillory, Joe Becnel, Julie Fontenot. A quorum was established.

Also, there were present Town Clerk Cynthia Mallett; Town Attorney Russell Stutes III, Chief of Police Keith Vincent and about 12 people.

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

It was moved by Daniel Hennigan, seconded by Vernessa Guillory to adopt the agenda. Roll call vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Daniel Hennigan, seconded by Vernessa Guillory to approve minutes, as submitted, for Regular Meeting June 8, 2026. Roll call vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Watkins read the first item on the agenda, motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss litigation. It was moved by Julie Fontenot, seconded by Gerald Guidry. Roll call vote was done, motion passed unanimously. Mayor and Council Members entered Executive Session at 7:04pm.

Mayor Watkins read the second item on the agenda, motion to reconvene open meeting. It was moved by Daniel Hennigan, seconded by Julie Fontenot. Roll call vote was taken, motion passed unanimously. The public meeting reconvened at 7:40pm.

Mayor Watkins read the third item on the agenda, Report on Finances. Cindy Mallett gave a report on the town's financials. She reported that this is the final month of the fiscal year financials. She stated that this financial is not complete because at the end of the fiscal year we must accrue certain expenditures and invoices that we are receiving and paying now. The final numbers will appear when we do our audit. The expenditures and revenues will increase on certain items for the month of June.

Mayor Watkins read the fourth item on the agenda, Brian Schexnayder to discuss the cutting of grass on his E. Second property. Mr. Schexnayder stated that he did not receive a notice. Mayor Watkins stated that we do have a copy of it here with signatures on it. Attorney Russell Stutes explained to Mr. Schexnayder it is a continuing obligation to keep the property maintained in accordance with the law. Daniel Hennigan stated that all we can do is look at the ordinance and say "Hey, do we need to adjust it to make sure it's a little clearer in the future or is it good as it is?" Daniel Hennigan said he understood and heard his concerns. He stated that he will look at the ordinance.

Mayor Watkins read the fifth item on the agenda, Patsy Johnson to discuss mobile homes. Mrs. Johnson stated that the reason she is here is in regards to her little trailer park. Mrs. Johnson asked that it be

grandfathered in. She stated that the way it stands now with the ordinances, if a hurricane comes and demolishes one and she moves it out, she can't move another one in. Mrs. Johnson stated her opinions on the ordinances and what got her going again was this last meeting in May. Attorney Stutes commented that it sounds like she is requesting a variance or something that she is planning for the future. He stated that the problem with that is the council can't give prospective variances. Attorney Stutes says he would have to look at that particular ordinance. Daniel Hennigan stated that the ordinance was on Attorney Stutes' desk. Attorney Stutes stated that he will get back with Daniel on this matter.

Mayor Watkins read the sixth item on the agenda, Motion to approve CEA between Town of Iowa, Iowa Police Department and Combined Anti-Drug Team (CAT). It was moved by Daniel Hennigan, seconded by Vernessa Guillory. Roll call vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Watkins read the seventh item on the agenda, Motion to approve the CEA by and between Calcasieu Parish School Board and Town of Iowa for Safe School Program. Daniel Hennigan asked Chief Vincent, stating that the CEA says two, just theoretically, if we only have one to start with, is it not mandatory that it's two, or is it the option for two? Chief Vincent confirmed that it is not mandatory. It was moved by Daniel Hennigan, seconded by Vernessa Guillory. Roll call was taken, motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Watkins read the eighth item on the agenda, Motion to approve issuance of High and Low liquor licenses Class B for Nelson Petro Fuel LLC d/b/a Charge Up 171, located at 103 E Hwy 90, Iowa, La 70647. It was moved by Joe Becnel, seconded by Julie Fontenot. Roll Call vote is as follows: Yeas: Gerald Guidry, Vernessa Guillory, Joe Benel, Julie Fontenot. Nay: Daniel Hennigan. Motion passed.

Mayor Watkins read item nine, Upon the recommendation of Beau Desormeaux, Engineer, Motion to approve Geotechnical Testing Laboratory, Inc's proposal to perform subsurface testing exploration for N Bowers Road Extension and Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements. Chief Vincent asked what specific road this was? Mayor Watkins responded, N. Bowers Road extension, emergency evacuation route. Chief Vincent then asked "What does that have to do with sewer expansion? Mayor Watkins explained we have an application with DEQ, for an expansion on the east side for the plant and while they are coring for the road it's cheaper for us to get the wastewater plant core. Mayor Watkins answered other questions, explaining the location of the core. It was moved by Daniel Hennigan, seconded by Vernessa Guillory. Roll call vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Watkins read item ten, Upon the recommendation of Beau Desormeaux, Engineer, Motion to approve Geo Engineers proposal to perform Environmental Services for N Bowers Road Extension. It was moved by Julie Fontenot, seconded by Joe Becnel. Roll Call vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Watkins read item eleven, Introduction to Ordinance 2026-07 An Ordinance annexing certain property into the corporate limits of the Town of Iowa, Louisiana, in accordance with the Provision of the Revised Statutes of the State of Louisiana, title 33, Section 172, following the petition of JATKY LLP and due advertisement. No Questions were asked and no comments were received.

Joe Becnel motioned to adjourn, seconded by Daniel Hennigan. Adjourned at 8:20 pm

Douglas N. Watkins, Mayor

Cynthia Mallett, MMC Town Clerk