

# TOWN OF BERNICE COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

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- I. Call to Order.....Mayor Ferguson
- II. Prayer.....Gene Terral
- III. Roll Call..... Lana Patton
- IV. Approve Previous Minutes.....Mayor Ferguson
- V. Town Updates.....Mayor Ferguson
- VI. Police Department.....Chief Jones
- VII. Fire Department.....Chief Murphey
- VIII. Payment of Bills.....Mayor Ferguson
- IX. Adjournment.....Gene Terral

Lana Patton, Town Clerk/Tax Collector  
Town of Bernice  
P. O. Box 633  
Bernice, LA 71222

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance, please contact Lana Patton at 318-285-9071, describing the assistance that is necessary. The Town of Bernice is an Equal Opportunity Provider.

Town of Bernice  
Council Meeting  
December 9, 2025

Mayor Mildred Ferguson and the Town Council met in regular session on December 9, 2025, in the Council Room of the Town Hall with the following present: Amy Pesnell, Karen Hall, Joanna Ward, and Lanell Clubbs with Gene Terral being absent.

Also present: Town Attorney Joe Cusimano; Lana Patton, Town Clerk; Police Chief Larry Jones; Police Officer Arica Thompson, Dena Lee, The Banner; and citizens.

Mayor Ferguson called the meeting to order. Karen Hall led the prayer. Lana Patton called the roll. Joanna Ward made a motion with Amy Pesnell seconding the motion to add to the agenda, the subjects of approving the previous minutes, Resolution authorizing the Town of Bernice to utilize an Administrative Consultant to Administer the LCDBG Program, and a Resolution authorizing the Town of Bernice to assume responsibility for all legal fees related to the LCDBG Clearance Program FY 2026 Program. Vote was unanimously approved. Karen Hall made a motion with Amy Pesnell seconding the motion to approve the previous minutes. Vote was unanimously approved.

A Public Hearing was held regarding an Ordinance to Amend the 2025 Budget for the Town of Bernice and the Bernice Volunteer Fire Department. Karen Hall made a motion with Joanna Ward seconding the motion to approve Ordinance No. 425 to Amend the 2025 Budget for the Town of Bernice and the Bernice Volunteer Fire Department. Roll call votes were as follows: Yeas: Pesnell, Hall, Ward, Clubbs. Nays: None. Absent: Terral. Abstain: None.

A Public Hearing was held regarding an Ordinance to Set the 2026 Budget for the Town of Bernice and the Bernice Volunteer Fire Department. Karen Hall made a motion with Joanna Ward seconding the motion to approve Ordinance No. 426 to Set the 2026 Budget for the Town of Bernice and Bernice Volunteer Fire Department. Roll call votes were as follows: Yeas: Pesnell, Hall, Ward, Clubbs. Nays: None. Absent: Terral. Abstain: None.

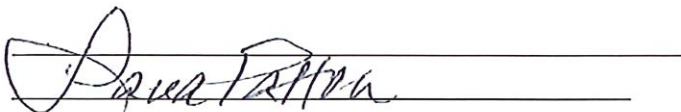
Joanna Ward made a motion with Karen Hall seconding the motion to approve the renewal of 2026 Liquor Licenses for JDMC Enterprises (Bernice Liquor); Tamara Saba (Tony's Stop 2); Tamara Saba (Tony's Daiquiris); and Bottle Club License for The Lounge LLC. Vote was unanimously approved.

Lanell Clubbs made a motion with Karen Hall seconding the motion to approve a resolution authorizing the Town of Bernice to utilize Brighter Day Solution, Administrative Consultants, to administer the LCDBG Program. Vote was unanimously approved. Joanna Ward made a motion with Karen Hall seconding the motion to approve a resolution assuming responsibility for all legal fees related to the LCDBG Clearance Program FY 2026 Program. Vote was unanimously approved.

Mayor Ferguson gave town updates saying the Bernice Country Christmas will be held this Saturday with the parade starting at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Ferguson also said that the Wreaths Across America Ceremony will be held at the Bernice Cemetery at 10:00 a.m. Saturday. Mayor Ferguson announced that a celebration for Erlene Sherman, age 102, will be held at Friendship Baptist Church on December 13<sup>th</sup>.

Police Chief Larry Jones reported on the activities of the Police Department. Chief Jones recommended that Asian Jackson be hired as a part-time patrol officer. Lanell Clubbs made a motion with Joanna Ward seconding the motion to approve the recommendation. Vote was unanimously approved.

Amy Pesnell made a motion to adjourn with Karen Hall seconding the motion. Vote was unanimously approved. Amy Pesnell made a motion to adjourn with Karen Hall seconding the motion.



Attest: Lana Patton, Town Clerk



Approve: Mayor Mildred Ferguson