

Town of Bernice  
Council Meeting  
May 13, 2025

Mayor Mildred Ferguson and the Town Council met in regular session May 13, 2025, in the Council Room of the Town Hall with the following present: Gene Terral, Amy Pesnell, Karen Hall, Joanna Ward, and Lanell Clubbs.

Also present: Town Attorney Joe Cusimano; Lana Patton, Town Clerk; Police Chief Larry Jones; Dena Lee, The Banner; Jo Ann Wilson; Robert Owen; Erica Thompson; and citizens.

Mayor Ferguson called the meeting to order. Amy Pesnell led the prayer. Lana Patton called the roll. Amy Pesnell made a motion with Lanell Clubbs seconding the motion to approve the previous minutes. Vote was unanimously approved. The Council was presented with financial reports.

Joann Wilson addressed the council regarding dogs causing problems for her and others. Discussion was made about solution for the problem.

Mayor Ferguson held a Public Meeting regarding Proposed Ordinance 424 to set salaries where she asked for discussion. After the Public Meeting Karen Hall made a motion with Amy Pesnell seconding the motion to adopt Ordinance No. 424 amending the compensation of the Mayor, Aldermen, Clerk, and Town Attorney of the Town of Bernice. Votes were as follows: Yeas: Terral, Pesnell, Hall, Ward, Clubbs. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

Mayor Ferguson updated the council on activities of the town saying the 2025 Bernice area graduates will be honored on May 20<sup>th</sup> at the RMMC Meeting Room. Mayor Ferguson also said that the Abundant Life Church will be holding a revival in town from May 13<sup>th</sup> through May 16<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Ferguson also announced that the Town Hall will be closed on May 26<sup>th</sup> for Memorial Day. Mayor Ferguson said that the Union Parish Library will be hosting a Summer Reading Program while also announcing that the Dart Meeting will be held May 14<sup>th</sup>.

Police Chief Larry Jones updated the Council on the activities of the Police Department. Chief Jones recommended to the Council that a 2005 Crown Victoria and a 2015 Ford Explorer be declared as surplus property and advertised for sealed bids. Joanna Ward made a motion to approve the recommendation with Amy Pesnell seconding the motion. Vote was unanimously approved. Police Chief Larry Jones recommended to the Council

that Erica Thompson and Robert Owen be hired as part-time patrol officers for the Bernice Police Department. Gene Terral made a motion with Karen Hall seconding the motion to approve the recommendation. Vote was unanimously approved.

Joanna Ward made a motion with Lanell Clubbs seconding the motion to approve payment of bills. Vote was unanimously approved.

Gene Terral made a motion to adjourn with Karen Hall seconding the motion.

  
Attest: Lana Patton, Town Clerk

  
Approve: Mayor Mildred Ferguson