

Town of Bernice
Council Meeting
April 14, 2026

Mayor Mildred Ferguson and the Town Council met in regular session on April 14, 2026, 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; Police Officer Arica Thompson; Dena Lee, Banner News; Pepper Green; and citizens.


Mildred Ferguson called the meeting to order. Amy Pesnell led the prayer. Lana Patton called the roll. Karen Hall made a motion, with Lanell Clubbs seconding the motion to approve the previous minutes. Vote was unanimously approved.

Amy Pesnell made a motion with Gene Terral seconding the motion to approve the Zoning Commission's recommendation to approve a zoning change from residential to commercial for the property located at 925 Hwy 167 South in Bernice, LA, and owned by Greenland & Investments, LLC. Vote was unanimously approved.

Mayor Ferguson reported on activities in the town saying on Saturday that the Union Museum will host the Joy Ride with participants touring various historical properties around the parish. Mayor Ferguson stated that Bernice graduates will be honored on May 19th. Mayor Ferguson also informed the council that the LMA District B meeting will be held in Haynesville on June 24th at 6:00 p.m.

Police Chief Larry Jones reported on activities of the Police Department. Chief Jones recommended to the Council that Courtney Johnson be hired as a full-time patrol officer. Karen Hall made a motion with Lanell Clubbs seconding the motion to approve the recommendation pending a psychological evaluation, drug test, and qualifying with a weapon. Vote was unanimously approved. Chief Jones recommended to the council that Aaron Morris be hired as a full-time patrol officer. Joanna Ward made a motion with Gene Terral seconding the motion to approve the recommendation pending a psychological evaluation, drug test, and qualifying with a weapon. Vote was unanimously approved. Chief Jones recommended that Sherika Parnell be hired as a full-time patrol officer. Chief Jones stated that she is Post Certified. Joanna Ward made a motion with Lanell Clubbs seconding the motion to approve the recommendation pending a psychological evaluation and drug test. Vote was unanimously approved.

Karen Hall made a motion with Amy Pesnell 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
Ferguson


Approve: Mayor Mildred