

**SPECIAL MEETING
AUGUST 28, 2023
7:00 P.M.**

The Mayor and Councilmen of the Town of Jean Lafitte met in a Special Meeting with the following members present: Mayor Kerner Jr., Councilman Bartholomew, Councilman Creppel, Councilman Darda, Councilman Kerner and Councilman Smith. Mayor Kerner presided calling the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. asking everyone to rise and pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

Councilman Bartholomew was notified by phone on August 25, 2023 at 2:16 p.m. by the Town Clerk.

Councilman Creppel was notified by phone on August 25, 2023 at 2:17 p.m. by the Town Clerk.

Councilman Darda was notified by phone on August 25, 2023 at 2:19 p.m. by the Town Clerk.

Councilman Kerner Jr. was notified by phone on August 25, 2023 at 2:18 p.m. by the Town Clerk.

Councilman Smith was notified by phone on August 25, 2023 at 2:25 p.m. by the Town Clerk

State Representative Timothy Kerner discussed his commitment to the commercial fishermen and the legislation he passed and his commitment to future legislation for fishermen.

Kindra Anderson and Tracie Kuhn spoke about the challenges the fisherman continue to face.

Mayor Timothy Kerner Jr. confirmed his continued fight for the Commercial Fisherman and the major issues they endure.

RESOLUTION #2301

On a motion by Councilman Bartholomew and seconded by Councilman Creppel the following resolution was adopted:

A resolution urging the U.S. Secretary of Commerce and the U.S. Trade Representative to implement the existing measure to limit the overall volume of imported shrimp in America in order to ensure the survival of our domestic wild caught shrimp harvesters and American's access to wild harvested shrimp from domestic waters; and urging the commissioners of the International Trade Commission, when considering imports to include all forms of shrimp from all countries; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.

WHEREAS, the influx of imported shrimp into America has resulted in the catastrophic collapse of the domestic shrimp industry; and,

WHEREAS, many boat owners/operators have been docked thereby creating significant challenges to our local economy and the countless individuals who rely on this sector; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Gulf of Mexico has historically been a thriving hub for shrimp production, with rich waters and a favorable climate creating optimal conditions for shrimp stocks and harvest, and

WHEREAS, import shrimp now dominates cold storage, distribution hubs and the American market at a level that voids the margin of the market the domestic harvesters are able to fulfill; and

WHEREAS, if action is not taken, not only will small family fishing business owners go under but, also businesses with which we conduct commerce with will go under.

Furthermore, working waterfront and land-based fishery infrastructure will be lost, thereby losing access to this wild caught food source; and

WHEREAS, the consequences of the inundation of imported shrimp into our markets has caused immense disruption and economic instability for our local shrimp producers, including risk of closure or already being shut down. The loss also extends to the loss of livelihoods and the socio-economic wellbeing of the communities reliant of this industry.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Jean Lafitte a municipal corporation domiciled in the Parish of Jefferson acting as governing authority of said town, urges the U.S. Secretary of Commerce and the U.S. Trade Representative to implement the existing measures to limit the overall volume of imported shrimp in America in order to insure the survival of our domestic wild caught shrimp harvesters and America's access to wild harvested shrimp from domestic waters; and urging the Commissioners of the International Trade Commission, when considering imports, to include all forms of shrimp from all countries.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town of Jean Lafitte is asking Jefferson Parish and local Municipalities to consider passage of this resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be forwarded to all of the following:

- All Commissioners of the International Trade Commission
- The U.S. Secretary of Commerce, The Honorable Gina Raimondo
- The U.S. Trade Representative, The Honorable Katherine Tai
- U.S. Senator John Kennedy
- U.S. Senator Bill Cassidy
- U.S. Representative Steve Scalise
- U.S. Representative Troy Carter
- U.S. Representative Julia Letlow
- U.S. Representative Garrett Graves
- U.S. Representative Clay Higgins
- U.S. Mike Johnson
- Governor John Bel Edwards
- State Representative Timothy Kerner

YEAS: 5

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 0

Councilman Bartholomew
Councilman Creppel
Councilman Darda
Councilman Kerner, Jr.
Councilman Smith

RESOLUTION #2302

On a motion by Councilman Bartholomew and seconded by Councilman Darda the following resolution was adopted:

A resolution supporting the efforts of State Representative Timothy Kerner to ask the Governor and Congress to limit the imported shrimp in the United States to ensure the survival of our local Shrimp Fishermen and Shrimp Industry.

YEAS: 5

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 0

Councilman Bartholomew
Councilman Creppel
Councilman Darda
Councilman Kerner, Jr.
Councilman Smith

RESOLUTION #2303

On a motion by Councilman Creppel and seconded by Councilman Bartholomew the following resolution was adopted:

A resolution asking Governor Edwards to declare an Emergency Declaration of Disaster for the Shrimping Industry.

YEAS: 5 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0
Councilman Bartholomew
Councilman Creppel
Councilman Darda
Councilman Kerner, Jr.
Councilman Smith

RESOLUTION #2304

On a motion by Councilman Creppel and seconded by Councilman Bartholomew the following resolution was adopted:

A resolution granting permission to Mayor Timothy Kerner Jr. to work with local fisherman to determine a date for the local shrimp fishermen to sell their wild catch at the Jules Nunez Market.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Jean Lafitte a municipal corporation domiciled in the Parish of Jefferson acting as governing authority of said town:

YEAS: 5 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0
Councilman Bartholomew
Councilman Creppel
Councilman Darda
Councilman Kerner, Jr.
Councilman Smith

No further business was discussed. On a motion by Councilman Bartholomew and seconded by Councilman Creppel the meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Town Clerk