

TOWN OF SIMMESPORT

MAYOR LESLIE DRAPER III

DISTRICT I
GLENN GAUTREAUX



DISTRICT II
TIESHA KENNEDY

DISTRICT III
PATRICK WRIGHT

ALDERMAN AT LARGE
ROMARO TURNER

DISTRICT IV
SHERMAN BELL

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March 31, 2022 Regular Town Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Simmesport held at the Simmesport Town Hall on Thursday, March 31, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. **This meeting was live-streamed via the Town of Simmesport's Facebook page.*

Presiding: Mayor Leslie Draper

Members Present:, Tiesha Kennedy, Patrick Wright, Glenn Gautreaux

Members Absent: Romaro Turner, Sherman Bell

Town Attorney: Present

Town Clerk: Present

Mayor Draper called the meeting to order and gave the opening prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA ITEM 4 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Alderman Kennedy and seconded by Alderman Wright that the agenda be accepted as amended. All present voted as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT/ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell			X
Alderman Gautreaux	X		
Alderwoman Kennedy	X		
Alderman Turner			X
Alderman Wright	X		

The motion was carried.

AGENDA ITEM 5: COUNCIL MEMBERS PROJECTS

District I Alderman Gautreaux – Alderman Gautreaux wanted to keep his projects focused on infrastructure (i.e. roads, sewer, water and drainage). He talked about cleaning the water tower and getting pumps replaced in the sewer lift stations. He also mentioned the idea of getting a hot patch machine for making repairs on the asphalt roads. Alderman Gautreaux also said he would like to see missing and faded street signs replaced and would like to begin addressing blighted properties in town.

District II Alderwoman Kennedy – Alderwoman Kennedy first wants to improve the school zones. This would include putting speed bumps on Erhardt St and repairing the road on Hillside Dr. Alderwoman Kennedy also said she would like to see School Zone signs put up and/or replaced around Riverside Elementary School. Town Attorney Kirk LaCour said the Town of Simmesport would need to pass an ordinance to put speed bumps and he would get as sample of an ordinance to do that.

District III Alderman Wright – Alderman Wright wants to have the blighted property on Couvillion St. put on the next agenda. Town Attorney Kirk LaCour suggested that the Town needs to add an ordinance to allow the municipal court to hear blighted property cases. Mr. LaCour said he would explain the process in detail at the next meeting and asked to put that on the agenda. Alderman Wright suggested a spotlight be placed on Tibbs Blvd. near the maintenance shop. He also suggested that Highway 1 and Highway 105 (within the town limits) be cleaned up. Alderman Wright also wanted the Town to purchase 96-gallon trash cans for every utility customer in the city limits of Simmesport. The rest of the Council agreed and wanted the purchase of said trashcans put on the agenda for the next meeting.

Mayor Draper – Mayor Draper put copies of the Council works orders in each of their folders. The Mayor informed the Council that he hoped work to complete repairs on the VFW building would resume soon. He said that plans for Simmesport to create its own permitting office were in the works. Mayor Draper also informed the council that as of now the Town could not place any debris on it's burn pile. DEQ is requiring Simmesport to completely remove all debris from the site. To this end, the Town will rent a roll-off dumpster until all remaining debris are removed. The Mayor wanted to remind the public that it is illegal to dump at the site on Tibbs Blvd. and violators will be ticketed and fined. Mayor Draper also related his intention to remodel and reopen the Community Center on Mission Dr. next to the Town Hall. To begin this process, the Mayor said he would like to see a resolution passed at the next meeting. Mayor Draper also confirmed with Town Attorney Kirk LaCour that the COVID relief monies received from the federal government could be used to but new radios for the Police Department.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Kennedy and seconded by Alderman Wright that the Town of Simmesport but new radios for the Simmesport Police Department. All present voted as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT/ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell			X
Alderman Gautreaux	X		
Alderwoman Kennedy	X		
Alderman Turner			X
Alderman Wright	X		

The motion was carried.

Further, Mayor Draper told of his intention to remodel/refresh the Town Hall.

AGENDA ITEM 6: ADJOURN

A motion was made by Alderman Bell and seconded by Alderman Wright to adjourn. All present voted as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT/ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell			X
Alderman Gautreaux	X		
Alderwoman Kennedy	X		
Alderman Turner			X
Alderman Wright	X		

The motion was carried.

The meeting was adjourned.

Leslie Draper, III
Mayor

Dacia Adams
Town Clerk