

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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May 9, 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, May 9, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.

Presiding: Mayor Leslie Draper

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

Members Absent: Romaro Turner

Town Attorney: Present

Town Clerk: Present

AGENDA ITEM 1,2,3: CALL TO ORDER, PRAYER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

AGENDA ITEM 4: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilman Bell and seconded by Alderwoman Kennedy to amend the agenda by adding the introduction of the 2022-2023 budget (Ordinance No.05-2022-02)1 as agenda item 7A. 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.

A motion was made by Councilman Gautreaux and seconded by Alderman Wright to accept the agenda 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: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Alderman Kennedy and seconded by Alderman Wright that the minutes from the last meeting be accepted. All present voted as follows:

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

The motion was carried.

AGENDA ITEM 6: PAYMENT OF BILLS

A motion was made by Councilman Kennedy and seconded by Alderman Gautreaux to pay the bills. All present voted as follows:

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

The motion was carried.

AGENDA ITEM 7: INTRODUCTION OF THE CROSS-CONNECTION ORDINANCE

A motion was made by Alderman Gautreaux and seconded by Alderman Wright that the Cross-Connection Ordinance (No. 05-2022-01) be introduced and a public hearing be held on June 13, 2022 at 5:30 PM. All Present voted as follows

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

The motion was carried.

AGENDA ITEM 7A: INTRODUCTION OF THE 2022-2023 BUDGET

A motion was made by Alderman Bell and seconded by Alderman Wright that the 2022-2003 Budget Ordinance (No. 05-2022-02) be introduced and a public hearing be held on June 13, 2022 at 5:45 PM. All Present voted as follows

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

The motion was carried.

AGENDA ITEM 8: UPDATE ON TREE DISPOSAL SITE ON TIBBS ST.

Mr. Carter informed the council that most of the material had been taken away using a roll-off dumpster. Mr. Carter said tat as soon as all of the debris are hauled away, the Town of Simmesport can apply to DEQ for a permit to burn wood. Until that time, the Town will continue to have to haul off debris to the parish landfill.

AGENDA ITEM 9: DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- A. TOWN ENGINEER- Not present**

B. UTILITY DEPARTMENT- Charles Carter: Mr. Carter informed the Council that the Louisiana Department of Health has recommended several improvements be made to our water system. There is work to be done at the water wells and the water tower on Highway 1 must be inspected.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Kennedy and seconded by Alderman Wright to get two quotes for the necessary repairs and improvements to the water wells. 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.

C. SEWER PLANT- Charles Carter: Mr. Carter let the council know that there were still several lift stations that needed either a new or rebuilt second pump. Mr. Carter said he was awaiting final drawings on the upgrades to the sewer plant so that those can begin.

D. STREET DEPARTMENT- Dana Smith: Dana Smith said the streets department was continuing to cut grass and patch potholes where it could. He also alerted the Council that the eastbound lane of Mission near the intersection of Murphy LaCour Dr. has begun to wash out underneath the roadbed. Mr. Smith said this could potentially cause the road to crack and collapse if it is not addressed.

E. FIRE DEPARTMENT- Dana Smith: Chief Smith said there had been mostly medical calls during the month of April. He also added that the Fire Department will be having a Jambalaya fund raiser on June 18.

F. POLICE DEPARTMENT-Chief Daniel Firmin: Not Present

G. TOWN CLERK – Dacia Adams: Mrs. Adams reported that we were still waiting on the 2019-2020 audit to be finalized by our auditors. Day to day operations are steady including utility bills, permits and tax receipts.

H. TOWN ATTORNEY- Kirk LaCour: Attorney LaCour informed the Council that there was only one lawsuit in federal court. As of the meeting he had still planned to hold Town Court even though it fell on Memorial Day.

AGENDA ITEM 10: DELEGATION TIME

Ms. Dedra Mack asked the Town Council about having a Juneteenth Parade that would go from the Avoyelles Port to Ehrhardt Park. After a lengthy discussion and several options were submitted. There was no conclusion or decision made. Ms. Mack was informed by the council she could return with an organized plan to present to the council.

AGENDA ITEM 11: ADJOURN

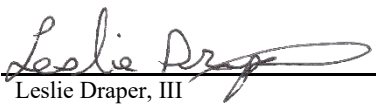
Further, Mayor Draper told of his intention to remodel/refresh the Town Hall.


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