

TOWN OF SIMMESPOT

M A Y O R T E D T U R N E R

DISTRICT I
GLENN GAUTREAUX

DISTRICT III
CHARLES DUPAR



DISTRICT II
ALVIN DAUZAT

DISTRICT IV
SHERMAN BELL

ALDERMAN AT LARGE
PATRICK WRIGHT

372 Mission Dr
P.O. Box 145

www.simmesporthla.com
townofsimmesporthla@simmesporthla.com

Simmesporth, LA 71369
(318) 941 - 2493

May 12, 2025 Regular Town Meeting Minutes

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Simmesport held at the Simmesport Town Hall on Monday, May 12, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

Presiding: Mayor Ted Turner

Council Members Present: Glenn Gautreaux, Patrick Wright, Alvin Dauzat, Charles Dupar

Council Members Absent: Joel Robideaux, Sherman Bell

Town Attorney: Kirk LaCour

Town Clerk: Gwen Barr

Fiscal Administrator:

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

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

AGENDA ITEM 4: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Alderman Dauzat and seconded by Alderman Wright to accept the agenda. All present voted as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell			X	
Alderman Gautreaux	X			
Alderman Dauzat	X			
Alderman Dupar	X			
Alderman Wright	X			

The motion was passed and the agenda was accepted as amended.

AGENDA ITEM 5: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Dupar and seconded by Councilman Dauzat to accept the minutes for the December Council meeting. All present voted as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell			X	
Alderman Gautreaux	X			
Alderman Dauzat	X			
Alderman Dupar	X			
Alderman Wright	X			

The motion was passed and the minutes accepted.

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AGENDA ITEM 6: PAYMENT OF BILLS

A motion was made by Councilman Wright and seconded by Councilman Dupar to pay the bills. All present voted as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell			X	
Alderman Gautreaux	X			
Alderman Dauzat	X			
Alderman Dupar	X			
Alderman Wright	X			

The motion was passed.

AGENDA ITEM 7: PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

AGENDA ITEM 8: RESOLUTION 05-2025-01: A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE DISIGNATION OF A CORRIDOR CROSSING LOUISIANA AS PART OF UNITED STATES BICYCLE ROUTE 90 (USBR90)

A resolution supporting the creation of a bicycle route through Louisiana as part of US Bicycle Route 90 was presented. This would designate LA Highway 1 through Simmesport as part of this route. This resolution in support of a bill being presented to the Louisiana Legislature.

A motion was made by Alderman Gautreaux and seconded by Alderman Wright to pass Resolution 05-2025-01, a resolution to support the designation of a corridor crossing Louisiana as part of United States Bicycle Route 90. Those present voted as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell			X	
Alderman Gautreaux	X			
Alderman Dauzat	X			
Alderman Dupar	X			
Alderman Wright	X			

The resolution passed.

AGENDA ITEM 9: DEPARTMENT UPDATES

A. FISCAL ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE: Joel Robideaux

Fiscal administrator Joel Robideaux was absent

Mr. Robideaux gave the basis of his report during the public discussion.

B. UTILITY DEPARTMENT STREETS

Dana Smith said the rain had hampered grass cutting, but they were beginning to cut tomorrow. He also said there were several water leaks that needed to be addressed. There was one leak in particular that may require shutting the water system down for a short time to repair the leak. Mr. Smith also said he was called out to the side of the train derailment in Hamburg to locate our gas lines. As of the time of the meeting the gas system does not have to be shut off.

C. SEWER DEPARTMENT

Absent

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D. ENGINEERS: MEYER, MEYER, LaCROIX & HIXON, INC.

A representative from Meyer, Meyer, LaCroix & Hixon was not at the meeting.

E. FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire representative was absent from the meeting.

F. POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Fayazz said the department has collected fines of over \$40,000. Chief Fayazz said the department is now fully staffed. He said there was a total of 54 reports and only 6 accidents in the last four months. The chief thanked the Mayor and clerical staff for their help in getting the police department what they needed to function.

G. TOWN CLERK

Ms. Barr told the council that she is still compiling the past debt we have. She said as she finds outstanding invoices she adds them to the list. She did say that the Town has begun paying off some of its past due debt. She said we have begun paying the attorneys fees from a past lawsuit and the bill for the auditors. Ms. Barr also said we were in the process of catching up on the reports that need to be filed for the gas system to get us back in compliance.

Trinitra Turner appeared before the Council requesting use of the Senior Center for a graduation celebration.

A motion was made by Alderman Dupar and seconded by Alderman Wright to give pass allow Trinitra Turner to rent the Senior Center for a graduation celebration. Those present voted as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell			X	
Alderman Gautreaux	X			
Alderman Dauzat	X			
Alderman Dupar	X			
Alderman Wright	X			

The motion passed.

H. TOWN ATTORNEY

Attorney Kirl LaCour said the settlement agreement with MPERS was sent to their offices and we were waiting on acceptance. A citizen asked about the ball field behind Riverside Elementary School. Mr. LaCour said the School Board took back management of that field. When asked about the basketball court and ball fields at the Port, Attorney LaCour said the Avoyelles Parish Port Commission was in charge of those facilities. Alderman Dauzat asked about an agreement between the Town of Simmespert. Attorney LaCour said he was waiting for specifics on the generator and the terms of the agreement.

I. PORT COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE

Andre Webb is the Town of Simmespert's voting representative on the Avoyelles Parish Port Commission. He asked the Town of Simmespert to not put his name on the agenda unless he is notified beforehand. Mr. Webb addressed the possibility of an anhydrous ammonia plant coming to the Port of Avoyelles. He said the Port Commission was considering the proposal put forth by Kajamy Energy for a plant producing

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anhydrous ammonia using only water and solar power. Mr. Webb said he would like to see a town-wide meeting to get the input of the people of Simmesport on whether or not the citizens of Simmesport would support an ammonia plant.

ITEM 12: ALDERMAN REPORTS

- A. **District 1: Glenn Gautreaux** Councilman Gautreaux had no issues to report.
- B. **District 2: Alvin Dauzat** Councilman Dauzat reported that he was able to get Elder Wood to donate wood to replace the seats on the picnic tables at the park. He said that since RISE was a non-profit organization, Elder Wood donated the wood. Councilman Dauzat asked for volunteers to help repair the tables in the parks.
- C. **District 3: Charles Dupar** Councilman Dupar had no issues to put forth.
- D. **District 4: Sherman Bell** Absent
- E. **District 5: Patrick Wright** Councilman Wright had no issues to put forth.

ITEM 11: ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion was made by Alderman Dupar and seconded by Alderman Dauzat 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, and the meeting was adjourned.

Ted Turner

Ted Turner
Mayor

Gwen Barr
Gwen Barr
Town Clerk