

TOWN OF SIMMESPORT

MAYOR TED TURNER

DISTRICT I
GLENN GAUTREAUX

DISTRICT III
CHARLES DUPAR



ALDERMAN AT LARGE
PATRICK WRIGHT

DISTRICT II
ALVIN DAUZAT

DISTRICT IV
SHERMAN BELL

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November 10, 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, November 10, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

Presiding: Mayor Pro Temp Patrick Wright
Council Members Present: Patrick Wright, Alvin Dauzat, Charles Dupar, Sherman Bell
Council Members Absent: Glenn Gautreaux
Town Attorney: Kirk LaCour
Town Clerk: Gwen Barr
Fiscal Administrator: **absent**

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

Mayor Ted Turner was absent so Mayor Pro Temp Patrick Wright 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 Bell and seconded by Alderman Dauzat to approve 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				

The motion was passed.

AGENDA ITEM 5: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Dauzat and seconded by Councilman Bell to accept the minutes for the September 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				

The motion was passed and the minutes accepted.

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AGENDA ITEM 6: PAYMENT OF BILLS

A motion was made by Councilman Bell and seconded by Councilman Dauzat to pay the bills. Councilman Wright, presiding stated there was a bill he wanted to see that was not presented in the list provided to the Council. Councilman Dupar then made a motion to table the approval of the bills, which was not seconded. The motion to table died for lack of a second. The original motion to pay the bills was voted on. All present voted as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Alderman Gautreaux	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
Alderman Dauzat	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Alderman Dupar	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Alderman Wright	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The motion was passed.

AGENDA ITEM 7: PUBLIC COMMENT

- The Holiday Train was scheduled to make a stop in Simmesport on December 3. The Town of Simmesport asked the Council for permission to close North Live Oak from 1 PM to 3:30 PM. A motion was made by Councilman Bell and seconded by Councilman Dauzat to close North Live Oak St from 1 PM to 3:30 PM. All present voted as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Alderman Gautreaux	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
Alderman Dauzat	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Alderman Dupar	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Alderman Wright	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

AGENDA ITEM 8: ORDINANCE 10-2025-02: AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH MINIMUM HIRING STANDARDS FOR POLICE OFFICERS

After much discussion about the legal nature of the ordinance, it was agreed the ordinance would need to be reworked. The board stated that the purpose of the ordinance was to ensure that the Council knows who is hired and to ensure that those officers pass a background check and are POST certified. A motion was made by Councilman Duazat and seconded by Alderman Bell to table the introduction of Ordinance 10-2025-02, An Ordinance to Establish Minimum Hiring Standards for Police Officers. All those present voted as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Alderman Gautreaux	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
Alderman Dauzat	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Alderman Dupar	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Alderman Wright	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The motion passed and the introduction of the ordinance was tabled.

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AGENDA ITEMS 9: ORDINANCE 10-2025-03: AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH PROCEDURES FOR EMPLOYEE TIME KEEPING

Attorney LaCour said that there was an incorrect statement of law in the text of the ordinance. Attorney LaCour also said that the proposed ordinance, because it delays with employee time, is fiscal in nature and therefore infringes upon the Fiscal Administrator's duties.

AGENDA ITEM 10: ORDINANCE 10-2025-04: AN ORDINANCE TO COORDINATE WITH THE LOUISIANA STATE POLICE FOR VIOLENT CRIMES COMMITTED WITHIN TOWN LIMITS

Attorney LaCour stated that the Louisiana State Police will determine on a case-by-case basis whether or not they will accept the case to investigate. Attorney LaCour also stated that a certified detective, Mansura Police Chief John Johnson, was contracted by the Town of Simmesport to be the detective. Councilman Patrick Wright, presiding, stated that if the State Police are called, they will come. Attorney LaCour stated he spoke to the District Attorney and the DA said the State Police determine if they will investigate a case. Attorney LaCour said that the Town of Simmesport cannot require the State Police to take any case.

A motion was made by Alderman Bell and seconded by Alderman Dauzat to table the introduction of Ordinance 10-2025-04, An Ordinance to Coordinate with the Louisiana State Police for Violent Crimes Committed Within Town Limits. All present voted as follows:

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

The motion was passed and the introduction of the ordinance tabled.

11. DISCUSSION OF THE SIMMESPORT TRAILER ORDINANCE 05-2018-03

Alderman Wright, presiding, wanted to know who moved the small building from Yellow Bayou Park to the Town Hall. Attorney LaCour stated that the Mobile Home ordinance did not apply to this building because it was Town property. Alderman Bell said that the Council did not approve the expenditure for moving the building. Attorney LaCour said the cost was approved by the fiscal administrator. Alderman Dauzat stated that he wanted to make certain the Ordinance was enforced. Town employee Rene Whitmore stated that the ordinance probably needed to be amended to make the process more clear as to what the trailer owner needs to do and what the Town is required to do. Alderman Dauzat suggested the Council form a committee to determine what changes needed to be made to the ordinance.

A motion was made by Alderman Dauzat and seconded by Alderman Bell to form a committee to recommend changes to the Trailer Ordinance (05-2018-03). All present voted as follows:

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

The motion passed.

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AGENDA ITEM 13: DEPARTMENT UPDATES

A. FISCAL ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE: Joel Robideaux – absent

B. UTILITY DEPARTMENT STREETS

Mr. Dana Smith reported that the water valve to Riverside Elementary School has been repaired.

C. SEWER DEPARTMENT

D. ENGINEERS: DELTA ENGINEERING

Marcus Guillory from Delta Engineering Group addressed the council and said they were looking for grant opportunities to help repair and upgrade infrastructure. Marcus said they worked with Representative Deshotel's office to get \$25,000 to replace pumps at the sewer plant. They also said they worked on a water leak survey which resulted in a project of approximately \$330,000 that has been submitted to the State. He said they also put in a Capital Outlay request for the water leaks. Marucs also said they are planning to apply for money through the Water Sector Program to address both water and sewer issues. Mr. Guillory also recommended we apply for the LGAP and CWF grants, which are smaller, but can be used to address certain problems. The Council thanked Mr. Guillory and Delta Engineering for their help and work on these projects.

E. FIRE DEPARTMENT

Ms. Karen Gautreaux said the substation is on hold for a short time.

F. POLICE DEPARTMENT

Attorney LaCour said outstanding case files are being finished up and are near ready to submit to the District Attorney.

G. TOWN CLERK

Mrs. Tonya Terrell went through the October disconnect list. She said that the initial list had 169 people on the cut-off list. The Town put out door hangers and removed the people on payment plans. By doing this the Town was able to remove all but 58 people from the cutoff list. The total utilities collected for the month of October was \$41, 294.51.

H. TOWN ATTORNEY

Attorney LaCour said that the docket for the November Court will be large. He also said that because of the Thanksgiving Holiday, court will be held on November 17. There are currently no outstanding lawsuits.. Alderman Dauzat asked about the sale of the piece of Town property to the newly opened clinic. Attorney LaCour said he has not heard anything from the owners of the clinic. Alderman Dauzat also asked if there had been progress on an agreement with the Police Jury litter enforcement. Attorney LaCour said he had not received anything from the Police Jury. Mr. LaCour said that the consensus among the Council at the last meeting was that the litter cases were to be heard in Simmesport so that any fines or court costs would go to Simmesport.

ITEM 12: ALDERMAN REPORTS

- | | | |
|----|-----------------------------|---|
| A. | District 1: Glenn Gautreaux | Absent |
| B. | District 2: Alvin Dauzat | Councilman Dauzat has no issues. |
| C. | District 3: Charles Dupar | Councilman Dupar had no issues to put forth. |
| D. | District 4: Sherman Bell | Councilman Bell had no issues to put forth. |
| E. | District 5: Patrick Wright | Councilman Wright said he thinks the Council should be more informed. |

The Trinity Church asked to use the Senior Center on December 31 at noon. A motion was made by Alderman Bell and Seconded by Alderman Dauzat to allow the Trinity Church to use the Senior Center on December 21. All present voted as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell	X			

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Alderman Gautreaux			X	
Alderman Dauzat	X			
Alderman Dupar	X			
Alderman Wright				
The motion passed.				

Deronique Lott wanted to use the senior center on December 20. The Trinity Church asked to use the Senior Center on December 31 at noon.

A motion was made by Alderman Bell and Seconded by Alderman Dauzat to allow the Trinity Church to use the Senior Center on December 21. All present voted as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell	X			
Alderman Gautreaux			X	
Alderman Dauzat	X			
Alderman Dupar	X			
Alderman Wright				
The motion passed.				

Jamshad Fayyz, who appeared before the Council in a Marksville City Police uniform, said that when he was Chief of Police in Simmesport he sent an e-mail to have all Town employees drug tested and was denied. Officer Fayyaz said he e-mail Fiscal Administrator asking about this and said that he was sent an e-mail from Mr. Robideaux saying he would discuss these matters with the Mayor, Town Clerk and Town Attorney. He stated that he has started a petition to remove Mayor Turner from office because this administration has failed the people of Simmesport. He further stated that the Fiscal Administrator was charged by court order to be an administrator for the Town of Simmesport and that he has not done so.

ITEM 13: ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion was made by Alderman Bell 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				
The motion was carried, and the meeting was adjourned.				

Ted Turner
Mayor

Gwen Barr
Town Clerk