

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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December 8, 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, December 8, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

Presiding: Mayor Pro Temp Patrick Wright

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

Council Members Absent:

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 Dupar and seconded by Alderman Bell 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 Bell and seconded by Councilman Dauzat 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.

AGENDA ITEM 6: PAYMENT OF BILLS

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

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

The motion was passed.

AGENDA ITEM 7: PRESENTATION OF PROSPECTIVE POLICE OFFICERS

Three prospective police officers were presented to the board; John Bourgoyne, Mashini Ziyad, and Rasim Fredericks. After questioning the candidates, Alderman Bell asked if we could afford all three police officers. Town Clerk Gwen Barr said we could afford to hire two. Mayor Pro Tems Patrick Wright asked who was actually hiring the officers since the Mayor was not at the meeting. Town Clerk Gwen Barr said Joel Robideaux, the fiscal administrator was hiring the new officers. Alderman Bell asked that any new officers be drug tested before being hired. Alderman Bell asked if background checks had been done on all of the prospective officers. Police Clerk Nicole Bonnette assured the Council they were.

AGENDA ITEM 8: AVOYELLES PARISH LITTER OFFICER AGREEMENT

The litter abatement officer for the Avoyelles Parish Police Jury was not present. Town Clerk Gwen Barr presented a contract to have the officer to enforce littering in Simmesport.

A motion was made by Councilman Dauzat and seconded by Councilman Gautreaux to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the Avoyelles Parish Police Jury litter abatement officer to write tickets in the town limits of Simmesport. 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 ITEMS 9: DEPARTMENT UPDATES

A. FISCAL ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE: Joel Robideaux – absent

Town Clerk Gwen Barr said that a budget will be presented at the next meeting.

B. UTILITY DEPARTMENT STREETS

Mr. Dana Smith reported that there were many water leaks that needed to be repaired. He also said that a gas leak behind Christ the King Church was repaired. Mr. Smith said that he is waiting on word from Delta Engineering on grants they applied for to repair and upgrade our water and sewer systems. Alderman Wright also suggested Mr. Smith contact DOTD about the water leak on Highway 105.

C. SEWER DEPARTMENT

D. ENGINEERS: DELTA ENGINEERING

Town Clerk Gwen Barr said that she was contacted by Delta to inform us that all of the necessary paperwork for the grants has been submitted to Baton Rouge to the appropriate agencies.

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E. FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mr. Eric Rusk gave an update on the new fire station. Mr. Ruck also said that the next Saturday at 2 PM there will an event for the children at the fire station.

F. POLICE DEPARTMENT

Officer Boullard said the officers are patrolling as usual. He also stated that the Christmas Train event went off without a hitch and thanked the other agencies for their help.

G. TOWN CLERK

Ms. Gwen Barr said we received a notice from the IRS that there were unpaid taxes from 2023 and 2024. She said that Mr. Robideaux and Town Attorney Kirk LaCour were handling the situation and that Kirk LaCour had power of attorney for the Town of Simmesport. A meeting will be held with the IRS in Alexandria to find out details and work on paying these back taxes. Ms. Barr also said that the former administration signed a 5-year contract with Axon for body cams and TASERS. The contract was for \$13, 344 annually. However, years 3,4, and 5 were never paid. Ms. Barr said Mr. Robideaux and Attorney LaCour were addressing this situation with Axon. Utility Clerk Tonya Terrell said the disconnect list was down to 42 people this month. Last month was the first month cutoffs were done in the same month the bills were sent out.

H. TOWN ATTORNEY

The Town Attorney was absent.

ITEM 10: ALDERMAN REPORTS

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| A. District 1: Glenn Gautreaux | Councilman Gautreaux had no issues to report. |
| 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. |

ITEM 11: PUBLIC COMMENT

Mrs. Jennifer Gautreaux, representing the RISE organization, thanked the Town and all those who participated in the annual Christmas Parade.

A citizen asked the council to rent the Senior Center for the afternoon of January 3, 2026. A motion was made by Alderman Bell and seconded by Alderman Dauzat to allow use of the Senior Center on January 3, 2026. All those 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.

Kirby Thompson asked the Council to rent the Senior Center for January 10, 2026.

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A motion was made by Alderman Bell and seconded by Alderman Dauzat to allow use of the Senior Center by Kirby Thompson on January 10, 2026. All those 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.				

A portable building was moved on MLK without a permit. The owner of the building was requesting permission to move the building where it was so she could get electricity to the building. Alderman Dupar stated that Attorney LaCour, at a prior meeting, said he would amend the current trailer/movable building ordinance. Mr. Dupar said the current ordinance stated the Council's permission was required after the permit process had started. Councilman Dupar said he felt the Council permission should come before the permit process begins. Councilman Gautreaux stated he felt an inspector needed to be assigned so that the building could be inspected.

A motion was made by Alderman Bell and seconded by Alderman Dupar to allow the portable building to remain after obtaining the trailer permit. 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.				

ITEM 12: 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