

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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February 9, 2026 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, February 9, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Presiding: 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 Pro Tempore 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	X	_____	_____	_____

The motion was passed.

AGENDA ITEM 5: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Alderman Dupar and seconded by Alderman 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	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 Dupar and seconded by Councilman Dauzat 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: APPOINTMENT OF CODY JACKSON AS COMMISSIONER ON THE FIRE DISTRICT 2 BOARD

Fire District 2 is overseen by a board of commissioners appointed by the towns and villages in the district. Simmesport has nominated Cody Jackson as a commissioner for fire district 2. Questions arose about the resolution of the appointment and who would sign the paperwork. Alderman Bell stated that LMA told him that the Mayor Pro Tempore could not sign any paperwork in place of the Mayor unless the Mayor gave the Pro Tempore written authority to do so. Town Attorney Kirk LaCour said that the Pro Tempore had the authority to sign verifying that the appointment of Mr. Jackson to the Fire District 2 Board is the will of the Council. Mayor Pro Tempore Patrick Wright

A motion was made by Councilman Dauzat and seconded by Councilman Gautreaux appointment Cody Jackson as a commissioner on the Fire District 2 Board. No vote was taken. The motion failed.

AGENDA ITEM 9: RENTAL OF THE SENIOR CENTER

A motion was made by Councilman Dupar and seconded by Councilman Bell to not rent out the senior center until rules and regulations are established by the Town Council. 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 ITEMS 10: DEPARTMENT UPDATES

A. FISCAL ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE: Joel Robideaux

Town Clerk Gwen Barr said that Mr. Robideaux was working on a budget for the fiscal year 2026-2027. He was also in contact with an accounting firm to contract an audit for the Town of Simmesport.

B. UTILITY DEPARTMENT STREETS- Dana Smith

Mr. Dana Smith said there were not major problems with the water wells during the hard freeze. He said there were a few more water leaks they were working on. Alderman Dauzat asked if a list of problems to be addressed could be provided to the board.

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C. SEWER DEPARTMENT

D. ENGINEERS: DELTA ENGINEERING

A representative was not present.

E. FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mr. Eric Rusk said they had 8 medical calls and 9 fire calls. He said the Parish was in a burn ban at the moment and asked for people to be very careful. Alderman Dupar asked if Mr. Rusk was able to get a list of companies or people who could repair the nonfunctional hydrants. Mr. Rusk reported he had turned in a list to the Town Hall. Town Clerk Gwen Barr said the list had been sent to the Fiscal Administrator and he was going to get back to us.

F. POLICE DEPARTMENT

Officer Coutee said Mr. Linwood banks, who worked for us before wants to come back and work for us full time. Another officer named Evan Schultz also expressed interest in working for us. Officer Coutee also said the police officers were making a concerted effort to be visible at the school and especially at business that work late.

G. TOWN CLERK

Mrs. Tonya Terrell presented the disconnect list and showed that there were 38 people on the disconnect list amounting to \$3,026.66 in unpaid utility bills. She also summarized the amount collected by the utility system for the past two years. Collections have shown an increase.

H. TOWN ATTORNEY

Town Attorney Kirk LaCour said the IRS has not responded to his inquiry. He said the January court was well attended.

ITEM 10: ALDERMAN REPORTS

- A. **District 1: Glenn Gautreaux** Councilman Gautreaux had no issues to report.
- B. **District 2: Alvin Dautat** Councilman Dautat has no issues.
- C. **District 3: Charles Dupar** Councilman Dupar wanted an update on the agreement with the Parish litter abatement officer. Attorney LaCour asked when this agreement was signed because he had not reviewed it. Attorney LaCour said the abatement officer was supposed to provide him with an updated agreement and no agreement was authorized to be signed. He said Joel Robideaux did not authorize any agreement either. Mr LaCour said if an agreement has been signed, it has been signed without Joel Robideaux's authority as fiscal administrator. Mr. LaCour asked if the agreement had been signed. At issue was the fact that if the litter abatement officer wrote a ticket, all the fines and court costs would go out of town. Alderman Gautreaux asked if the Simmesport Police had written any littering tickets. Attorney LaCour said he did not know. Attorney LaCour said that the fiscal administrator Joel Robideaux is the only person who can execute contracts. Mr. LaCour said he needed to know if the contract with the litter abatement program was executed appropriately or if someone "misrepresented that the town was executing a contract". Mr LaCour said it was his understanding that there were to be further discussions about the nature of the contract but actual approval of the contract was never given. Councilman Dautat said that the Council voted on the measure in the December 2025 meeting and the actual contract went to the Mayor to sign. Mr. LaCour said the issue is if the agreement was legally entered into since the fiscal administrator was the only person who can approve contracts. He said if the agreement was not approved by the fiscal administrator and the abatement officer arrests someone in Simmesport without proper, legal, authority, the Town could be held liable on a 1983 claim for civil rights violations. During the ensuing

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conversations it was made clear to those assembled that the litter abatement officer will not pick up trash; he only there to investigate **who** littered.

D. District 4: Sherman Bell

Councilman Bell had no issues to put forth.

E. District 5: Patrick Wright

Councilman Wright had no issues.

ITEM 11: PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

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	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Alderman Gautreaux	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Alderwoman Kennedy	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Alderman Turner	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Alderman Wright	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The motion was carried, and the meeting was adjourned.

Ted Turner
Mayor

Gwen Barr
Town Clerk