

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN TAKEN AT A REGULAR TOWN MEETING HELD ON AUGUST 15, 2017 AT 6:00 P.M. AT THE ARNAUDVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER LOCATED AT 271 GUIDROZ STREET, ARNAUDVILLE, LA 70512

Present: Mayor, Kathy M. Richard

Aldermen: Annette Bramlett, Jamie Huval, Todd Meche, Louis Stelly, Jr., Suzanne Stelly

Town Clerk: Dolores R. Quebedeaux

Attorney: Katie Ryan

Engineer: Kenny Boagni

Utility Superintendent: Todd Abshire (Absent)

Police Chief: Eddy LeCompte

Park and Recreation: Zelma Jackson (Absent)

Building Code Inspection Service, L.L.C.: Rodney Leonard Richard

Called to Order: Mayor, Kathy M. Richard

Prayer: Suzanne Stelly

Pledge: All

Accept July 11, 2017 Regular Town Meeting Minutes—Mayor

Louis Stelly Jr., moved to accept the July 11, 2017 Regular Town Meeting Minutes seconded by Suzanne Stelly and Annette Bramlett, unanimously carried

Accept July 2017 Expenses—Mayor

Jamie Huval moved to accept the July 2017 Expenses seconded by Louis Stelly, Jr., unanimously carried.

Accept August 3, 2017 Special Meeting Minutes (Hire Dispatcher)—Mayor

Todd Meche moved to accept the August 3, 2017 Special Meeting Minutes seconded by Jamie Huval, unanimously carried.

Accept August 8, 2017 Special Meeting Minutes (Crawfish Ponds/Executive Session)—Mayor

Todd Meche moved to accept the August 8, 2017 Special Meeting Minutes seconded by Jamie Huval, unanimously carried.

Utility Report—Todd Abshire (Absent)

A Utility Report was given to the Mayor and Board Members. Jamie Huval moved to accept the Utility Report seconded by Annette Bramlett, unanimously carried. Jamie Huval also inquired about the advertising of a Utility Superintendent. Mayor said she has several applications that she is looking into.

Parks and Recreation—Zelma Jackson (Absent)

Mayor Richard stated that all is going as planned, the park is doing well.

Police Report—Chief Eddy LeCompte

On Tuesday, July 18, 2017, Dispatcher Grant Durio graduated from the St. Martin Police Academy. Mr. Durio received (3) separate awards relating to his time at the Academy. All Academy personnel must complete a binder of their training while in the Academy. Mr. Durio won an award for the best binder turned in by the recruits. During the course of the training all recruits must perform physical training and meet certain guidelines in order to graduate. Mr. Durio won an award for being first in his class in meeting surpassing the guidelines set for the physical training portion of the academy. Finally all recruits are given written tests throughout their training and must score at least a 70 on each in order for them to remain in the academy. Mr. Durio was a co-winner of this award by tying for the highest cumulative score on all written exams. Chief congratulated Mr. Durio for his achievement.

Chief petitioned the Town Council to approve the promotion of Dispatcher Grant Durio to the position of Patrol Officer at the pay rate of Grade 2 Step 13 (\$11.37 per hour). Chief also requested that part time dispatcher Dianna Richard be placed in the position of Full Time Dispatcher.

Along with the work related changes Chief requested that the Town Council approve and pass an Ordinance to create the position of Sergeant within the Arnaudville Police Department. It is further requested that, in order to save time in case of future possible promotions, the Ordinance include the creation of the positions for Captain and Deputy Chief.

The Arnaudville Police Department received the delivery of a Crown Victoria police cruiser. The vehicle is currently at Hub City Ford where it is being painted to match the color pattern of the other police cruisers. After painting is completed, the vehicle will be sent to St. Martin or St. Landry Maintenance for the appropriate decals to be placed.

Since he was not present at last month's Council Meeting he will give the Department statistics for two months. For the month of June: 32 citations, 24 FIC's, 53 MIC's, 3 arrests, and 140 calls for service. The month of July: 57 citations, 28 FIC's, 50 MIC's 13 arrests and 189 calls for service.

Employee of the Month for June 2017 is Patrol Officer Anna White for July 2017 Grant Durio.

Chief stated that there was trash that was accumulated on certain tract of land and there was a witness as to who put the trash there, the trash has been removed.

Todd Meche moved to accept the recommendations of the Chief (Promote Dispatcher Grant Durio to the position of Patrol Officer at the pay rate of Grade 2 Step 13 \$11.37 per hour, part time Dispatcher Dianna Richard to Full Time Dispatcher) seconded by Jamie Huval, unanimously carried.

Ordinance 3-2017 Trash Fire Restrictions (Burn Ordinance)—Mayor

Todd Meche moved to accept Ordinance 3-2017 as amended a NO burn Ordinance within the corporate limits seconded by Annette Bramlett, unanimously carried.

Crawfish Ponds (Tabled June 11, 2017)—Todd Meche

Todd Meche re-tabled the Crawfish Ponds seconded by Jamie Huval and Suzanne Stelly, unanimously carried.

Drainage—Kenny Boagni and Mayor Richard

Kenny stated that the heavy rains cannot drain fast due to all different size culverts that were installed in the past. Some individuals that have flood issues are due to the structures being lower than the road. Kenny said that on the East side town there are only two outlets on Olive Street that would probably need to be looked into. To correct some of these problems will take quite a bit of money.

Mayor asked Kenny to perhaps advise what could be done in certain areas of town. Mayor stated that she is having issues by her home on highway 31. Kenny stated that an outlet needs to be put on Highway 31. Todd Meche said that he and Kenny had walked down some of the streets during heavy rain. Todd said that there would need to be an outlet on East Street next to the Cajun Image. There are 4 blocks that are draining into one outlet. Mayor asked Kenny to get a proposal of how much it would cost to add an outlet on Hwy 31 and the South side of East Street. Mayor inquired about the installation of culverts. Attorney Katie Ryan stated that she would get opinions on the procedures of installing culverts.

Mayor also said that the roads also need some work and this is also very costly, hopefully this can be eventually take place in the future.

Blighted Property—Rodney "Cooney" Richard

Mr. Richard explained that he was a general contractor experienced in overseeing several jobs, he is familiar with Construction. He worked with Lafayette Consolidated Government. Mr. Richard said he knows what code enforcement is all about. He was also a chief building inspector. Time is money and you need to start working on things quickly. A Fee Schedule was handed to the Mayor and Board. His business becomes the town building official once an agreement is in place. If a building is being constructed in the Town either St. Landry or St. Martin the town need to collect the revenues for the permits. If the Permit is written by the town the town receives 25%. Mr. Richard works for 14 Municipalities. There are residential and commercial permits. A Code Book has to be adopted by the

town in order to enforce the codes. Mr. Richard presented a power point explaining several different kinds of jobs that his company encounters.

Several questions were directed to Mr. Richard about blighted properties, a discussion took place. Mr. Richard also explained that in the International Code book there are laws explaining different things being done such as trailer parks with only one meter which is allowed but has to have a back flow preventer. The backflow preventers are very important for the water system and are mandatory. Jamie asked Mr. Richard if there are laws that prevent people from living in a home with no running water; Mr. Richard said there are codes that take care of this issue. Jamie had questions about blighted property. Jamie gave a copy of several addresses of people having blighted property. Todd said that the Ordinances need to be followed.

Mr. Richard stated that the town has a few issues but all in all the town does look good.

Jamie Huval moved to open the Meeting to the public seconded by Suzanne Stelly, unanimously carried. Mayor asked that she and the aldermen need to work together for the betterment of the town. Todd said that the blighted property was discussed several years ago. Adjudicated property was also a topic of discussion. Debra Simeral stated that she has lost a sale on her property due to the blighted property next to the house she is selling. George Marks said that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen should perhaps visit with individuals that have blighted property to help resolve these issues. Jackie Cochran inquired about renovations and what is permitted. Tony Adams stated that he has one meter and is paying a flat fee for 3 houses.

George Marks said that he is happy to be part of Arnaudville and on behalf of the people who are trying to clean up the blighted property should be commended and not handcuffed.

Todd Meche moved to close the meeting to the public seconded by Jamie Huval, unanimously carried. Mayor Richard asked for a motion to extend the meeting another 15 minutes seconded by Jamie Huval, unanimously carried.

1% Utilities Increase—Suzanne Stelly

Ordinance 04-2017, this Ordinance is to amend Ordinance 4-2015 Section 28:50 Gas Rate Schedule, Water Rate Schedule 28:1, Sewer Rate Schedule 28:100 Suzanne Stelly Introduce Ordinance 04-2017 as suggested per the Auditors to increase the Gas, Water and Sewer rate to 1%, Suzanne Stelly motioned to schedule a Public Hearing at 5:45 September 19, 2017 the day of the Regular Town Meeting seconded by Louis Stelly, Jr., Roll Call: Annette Guidry, Yea, Todd Meche, Yea, Jamie Huval, Nay, Louis Stelly Jr., Yea, Suzanne Stelly, Yea.

Hunter Safety Course (Park) Mayor

Todd Meche moved to allow the usage of the park for the Hunter Safety Course on September 2, 2017 seconded by Jamie Huval, unanimously carried.

Drainage Issues—Todd Meche

Todd stated that this was already discussed.

Citizens' Concerns

None

Adjourn

Todd Meche moved to Adjourn the Regular Town Meeting seconded by Jamie Huval, unanimously carried.

Attest

Town Clerk, Dolores R. Quebedeaux

Mayor, Kathy M. Richard

