

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS TAKEN OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN AT A PUBLIC HEARING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2017 AT 5:45 P.M. AT THE ARNAUDVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER, 271 GUIDROZ STREET, ARNAUDVILLE, LA 70512

RE: Ordinance 04-2017 Increase Gas, Water and Sewer Rates 1%

Present: Mayor, Kathy M. Richard

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

Town Clerk: Dolores R. Quebedeaux

Called to Order: Mayor Richard

Prayer: Suzanne Stelly

Pledge: All

Mayor Richard explained that the Public Hearing was to increase the gas, water and sewer rates. Todd Meche stated that he had a problem with the increase due to the fact that the rates were increased approximately one year ago. Todd said before doing this they should make sure that everyone is paying what they are supposed to and follow the Ordinances. He said that there are some people that are piggy backed on meters. Jamie Huval agreed with Todd due to the last increase. Jamie stated that a police cruiser was purchased and hired a new officer and he does not feel that a rate increase should happen. Mr. Louis Stelly stated that this is their job as aldermen; he stated that when an auditor recommends an increase it should be done. Mayor stated that waiting seven years is really too long. There was a discussion about the piggy backed situation. Mayor said that she feels that a survey needs to be taken to see who is not connected correctly. Chief Eddy LeCompte asked to speak as a citizen, he stated that a few years ago the utilities were raised and was a substantial amount of money. He feels that 1% is not a large amount of money; he said that his cell phone, his television increases once a year and it is not 1% it's quite a bit more than that. He feels like a 1% increase is better than \$20.00 down the road. Monique Marks asked if anyone looked into the rental property policies. Different opinions were heard. Alex Bramlett stated that the water quality is not that great, but the town is looking to put new wells, the town will have to find the money somewhere. A filtration system is needed at the water plant. Ted Colon stated that he worked with an engineering firm and stated that if one person decides to pay all of the water that goes through a single water meter providing there is a back flow preventer valve is on the meter, the owner has that right. Mr. Cooney Richard stated that Mr. Colon was correct in what he stated, but there are some questions, Mr. Cooney discussed several different avenues.

ADJOURN:

Todd Meche moved to adjourn the Public Hearing Meeting seconded by Annette Bramlett, unanimously carried.

ATTEST:

Dolores R. Quebedeaux, Town Clerk

Kathy M. Richard, Mayor

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