

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS TAKEN OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN AT A REGULAR TOWN MEETING HELD ON APRIL 21, 2020 AT 6:00 P.M. AT THE ARNAUDVILLE MEETING ROOM, 107 RUE DE JAUSIERS, ARNAUDVILLE, LA 70512

Present: Mayor, Todd Meche

Aldermen: Jamie Huval, Debbie Kidder, Kevin Robin, Cynthia Stelly, Suzanne Stelly

Town Clerk: Dolores R. Quebedeaux

Town Attorney: Kay Theunissen (Absent)

Town Engineer: Kenny Boagni (Absent)

Chief of Police: Chief Eddy LeCompte (Absent)

Utility Superintendent: Todd Abshire (Absent)

Parks and Recreation: Zelma Jackson (Absent)

Called to Order: Mayor Meche

Prayer: Suzanne Stelly

Pledge: All

Approve March 23, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes—Mayor Meche

Jamie Huval motioned to accept the March 23, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes seconded by Cynthia Stelly and Kevin Robin, motion passed.

Approve March 17, 2020 Regular Town Meeting Minutes—Mayor Meche

Jamie Huval motioned to accept the March 17, 2020 Regular Town Meeting Minutes seconded by Cynthia Stelly and Kevin Robin, motion passed.

Approve March 2020 Expenses—Mayor Meche

Jamie Huval motioned to accept the March 2020 expenses seconded by Debbie Kidder, motion passed.

Utility Report—Mayor Meche

A report was handed to the Mayor and Council members as per Todd Abshire.

Water-The monthly Safe Drinking Water Act daily chlorine residual logs were verified by Todd Abshire and are on file in the utility office filing cabinet as required by law.

Wastewater- The Airzen aerator has been repaired at the sewer plant and is in operation. The monthly flow records were faxed to HoPak Laboratories to verify flow in accordance with the discharge permit, as well as all analytical results being examined, reported and filed in the appropriate filing cabinet in the utility department files.

Gas- The gas system is operating near 40 pounds of inlet pressure at the Cypress Station and 40 psi at the Koch Station.

The utility crew continues to operate and maintain all municipal facilities during this COVID-19 crisis. They are using all safety precautions necessary and will continue to do the duties as directed by the mayor and in compliance with all federal, state and local regulations.

Mayor Meche complimented the utility department as well as the officer workers for working under such a stressful situation due to COVID-19.

Todd Abshire completed the rate study for the utility rates, results were passed on to the Council. A discussion was held, it was told that the rates are sustainable with USDA, LCDBG and the auditors suggestions. The rates are in line but it was suggested by the auditor to put a percentage increase on the consumption side every year in order to stay in compliance. Mayor asked the council to review the information and decide what is best so this can be added to the budget.

Police Report—Chief Eddy LeCompte (Absent)

Chief LeCompte hand delivered a report to the clerk, the report was handed out to the Mayor and the Council. The COVID 19 curfew continues for the Town of Arnaudville from 9:00 P.M. to 6:00 A.M. daily until further notice. All businesses within the Town limits are closed by the 9:00 P.M. deadline.

The budget is in the process of being started. It is expected to be completed by mid- May. After completion the Mayor and Alderpersons will be sent a copy for their review. Details will then be discussed at the upcoming budget workshop for final approval.

Statistics for the month of March were: 1 Arrest, 7 Citations, 1 MIC and 16 FIC's, 89 calls for service. Approximately 47% of time was spent by the Officers patrolling the town. Sympathies were offered to the Chief for the loss of his brother.

Parks and Recreation—Zelma Jackson (Absent)

There is nothing going on at the park due to COVID-19.

Resolution 3-2020 A Resolution of the Arnaudville Town Council Supporting HR 6467 which would provide coronavirus relief to smaller communities—Mayor Meche

This Resolution is in support of the HR 6467 to help smaller municipalities defray expenses which occurred during the COVID-19 crisis. The Resolution will be sent to the legislators in support of HR 6467. Cynthia Stelly moved to accept Resolution 3-2020 seconded by Kevin Robin and Debbie Kidder, motion passed.

Drive through Window for City Hall—Mayor Meche

Mayor explained that the City Hall deals with elderly and handicapped individuals who have trouble getting in and out of their vehicles. Paper work was handed out to the Council from what the Architect prepared. The Architect fee is \$2500.00; he will charge hourly but would not go over the \$2500.00. A discussion was held and different views were discussed, \$18,020.00 would be the total cost of adding the window.

Suzanne Stelly motioned to allow the Mayor to move forward with the drive through window seconded by Debbie Kidder, unanimously carried.

Utility Superintendent—Mayor Meche

Mayor asked the board to consider hiring Todd Abshire as a full time employee, at pay grade 3 step 50. Jamie Huval moved to hire Todd Abshire as a full time employee at pay grade 3 step 50 seconded by Debbie Kidder, unanimously carried.

Project updates—Mayor Meche

The drainage project on East Street is completed.

The fence at the water well is being erected it should be completed by next week. Three proposals were received and Dugas fencing was the less expensive.

Mayor Meche asked the board for permission to advertise for the water well, Kenny Boagni is just about finished with the drawing specifications, Kenny would like to start advertising this project this has to be advertised for 30 days. The bids would perhaps be opened in June 2020.

Suzanne Stelly moved to allow Kenny to start advertising seconded by Debbie Kidder, unanimously carried.

Mayor explained that 10 notices were sent out for blighted properties, some did take care of the problem. There was a decent response to the complaints.

The repairs are fixing to start on the water line by Myrans, this should happen soon.

Citizens' Concerns

Adjourn

Jamie Huval and Suzanne Stelly moved to adjourn the April 21, 2020 Regular Town Meeting seconded by Kevin Robin and Cynthia Stelly, motion carried.

Attest:

Dolores R. Quebedeaux, Town Clerk

Todd Meche, Mayor