

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN TAKEN AT A REGULAR TOWN MEETING HELD ON AUGUST 18, 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

Town Engineer: Kenny Boagni (Absent)

Utility Superintendent: Todd Abshire (Absent)

Police Chief: Eddy LeCompte

Parks and Recreation: Zelma Jackson (Absent)

Called to Order: Mayor, Todd Meche

Prayer: Suzanne Stelly

Pledge: All

Approve Special Meeting Minutes July 30, 2020 (Hire Police Officer)—Mayor Meche

Kevin Robin moved to accept the Special Meeting Minutes of July 30, 2020 (Hire Police Officer) seconded by Jamie Huval, motion passed.

Approve Regular Town Meeting Minutes July 15, 2020—Mayor Meche

Cynthia Stelly moved to accept the Regular Town Meeting Minutes of July 15, 2020 second by Kevin Robin and Debbie Kidder mayor asked for a discussion, Jamie Huval stated that he contacted Mayor Meche by email and asked that this be added to the minutes twice and he is asking again that this be added to the minutes considering what happened at last month's meeting, he is asking that the following be added, Kevin Robin spoke about the penalty that is being brought against restaurant owners that do not enforce the mask mandate. He expressed his concern, through various forms of profanity, including attacking Jamie Huval by name calling. He spoke of Jamie Huval's personal social media pages and how they created divisiveness. Then he proceeded to threaten Jamie Huval, saying "I'd love to take this somewhere else, and teach you a lesson." Jamie Huval tried to speak up several times, but each time he was shut down. Kevin Robin also asked Todd Meche as to whether or not he would be wearing a mask to the dinner he

had planned at Little Big Cut that Friday. Todd Meche stated that this was not on the agenda and the council needed to move on. Mayor Meche asked Jamie Huval if this was a motion and Jamie said "It is" mayor asked for a second, there was no second, Mayor asked for a second to the motion (a second time) and there was no second, Motion died due to lack of a second. Kevin moved to accept the Minutes of July 15, 2020 as written seconded by Debbie Kidder, Jamie Huval stated that all 4 board members that are voting against this, he said if this would have happened to them they would be trying to do the same thing that he is doing, but because of who did this and who is was done to, he said none of the board members would speak up and he is disappointed, but not shocked. The vote was as follows to accept the minutes, Kevin Robin, yea, Cynthia Stelly, yea, Jamie Huval, nay, Debbie Kidder, yea, Suzanne Stelly, yea, motion passed.

Approve July 2020 Expenses—Mayor

Kevin Robin moved to accept the July 2020 Expenses second by Cynthia Stelly, motion carried.

Utility Report—Todd Abshire (Absent)

A report was given to the Mayor and Board Members as per Todd Abshire.

Water- Amy Drilling is currently working on a water leak on Well # 1 piping at the wellsite. This should be completed soon. Well #2 is currently handling the water demand while Well #1 is offline. Well #1 can be placed online if needed, but they currently have it offline until repaired. 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 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 departments files.

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

Kenny Boagni is working on two projects, one being the road repairs and the other the water well.

The road project is just about ready to go out for bids, mayor asked for a motion to allow Kenny to get bids for the road project, motion was made by Jamie Huval and Kevin Robin seconded by Cynthia Stelly, motion carried.

Police Report—Chief Eddy LeCompte

Patrol Officer Shamar Smith began the POST Academy at the St. Martin Training Academy on Monday, August 10, 2020. It is expected that he will graduate by

mid-November 2020. He was quite proud that he passed his first exam last Friday. Chief wished Shamar well and will keep everyone up to date on his progress.

Reserve Patrol Officer Jair Stelly resigned effective August 13, 2020; he informed chief that he would be filling the same position with the St. Martin Sheriff's Office. Chief wished Jair the best in his new endeavors.

The Fete Dieu du Teche was held on Saturday, August 15, 2020. More visitors attended as opposed to the previous years that he has been in attendance. There was a slight problem with traffic control after the event; however, Patrol Officer Smith and he worked to resolve the problem.

Chief petitioned the Council to approve the hourly wage increase for both Patrol Officer's Shamar Smith and Curtis Chavez to \$11.64 per hour (Grade 2 Step 15). Both have had their six (6) month length of service completed and have been satisfactorily evaluated.

Chief has advertised for the vacancies currently open within his Department. To date, approximately 20 individuals have expressed interest. He is awaiting the receipts of their resumes and applications before reviewing them and asking those best qualified to meet with him for the initial interview. Of those who he deems appropriate he will have them sit for the psychological examination and will forward those passing to RMI for insurance approval. Once insurance coverage is approved the candidates will undergo a background check. Should everything be satisfactory he will conduct another interview with two Council members. When a final determination is made he shall inform the Council to arrange a special meeting to approve the hiring and/or hiring's.

Statistics from the Arnaudville Police Department for the month of July are: 19 citations, 61 FIC's, 12 MIC's, 11 arrests and 177 calls for service.

Jamie Huval moved to approve the hourly pay of Shamar Smith and Curtis Chavis to \$11.64 per hour (Grade 2 Step 15) second by Cynthia Stelly, motion passed.

Chief also read a report to the Mayor and Board members.

Parks and Recreation—Zelma Jackson (Absent)

Mayor explained that this has been a very short baseball season. The park is being maintained and other activities may take place in the future.

Candidate for District Attorney—Bo Duhe (Absent)

Adopt the adjusted millage rates for tax year 2020—Mayor

Resolution 4-2020 A Resolution adopting the "Adjusted " Millage Rates for General Alimony and Waterworks in the town for 2020 Tax Year.

Jamie Huval moved to adopt Resolution 4-2020 adopting the Adjusted Millage Rates for General Alimony and Waterworks for the year 2020 tax year second by Suzanne Stelly, roll call vote: Kevin Robin, yea, Cynthia Stelly, yea, Jamie Huval, yea, Debbie Kidder, yea, Suzanne Stelly, yea, motion carried.

Set forth the adjusted millage rates and roll forward to millage rate not exceeding the maximum authorized rate for tax year 2020—Mayor

Mayor Meche read Resolution 5-2020 in full.

Resolution No. 5-2020

Resolution which sets forth the “adjusted” millage rate and roll forward to a rate not exceeding the “maximum” authorized rate for general alimony, and waterworks in the Town of Arnaudville for tax year 2020.

Section 1. Be it ordained by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Arnaudville of the Parish of St. Landry and St. Martin, Louisiana, in a public meeting held on August 18, 2020, which meeting was conducted in accordance with the Open Meetings Law and additional requirements of Article VII, Section 23 (c) of the Louisiana Constitution and R.S. 47:1705(B), that the taxing district voted to increase the millage rate (s), but not in excess of the prior year’s maximum rate(s), on all taxable property shown on the official assessment roll for the years 2020, and when collected, the revenues from said taxes shall be used only for the specific purposes for which said taxes have been levied. Said millage rate(s) are:

General Alimony (5129 001 & 5139 001): Adjusted Rate 5.530 mills 2020 levy 5.720 mills

Waterworks (5129 002 & 5139 002) Adjusted Rate 6.770 mills 2020 Levy 7.000 mills.

Section 2. Be it ordained by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Arnaudville of the Parish St. Landry and St. Martin Louisiana, that the Assessor of the Parish of St. Landry and St. Martin, shall extend upon the assessment roll for the year 2020 the taxes herein levied, and the tax collector of said Parish shall collect and remit the same to said taxing authority in accordance with law.

The foregoing Resolution was read in full, the roll was called on the adoption thereof, and the Resolution was adopted by no less than two-thirds of the total membership of the taxing authority voting in favor as required by Article VII, Section 23 (C) of the Louisiana Constitution and R.S. 47:1705 (B). Moved by Kevin Robin, and second by Cynthia Stelly, the votes were as follows Yeas: 5, Nays: 0, Abstained: 0, Absent: 0

Sealed Bids—Mayor

1st bid is from JJ Merchant 2005 Ford Pickup Truck \$529.29

2nd bid is from JJ Merchant 2010 Dodge Sedan \$339.39

3rd bid is from David Pellerin 2005 Ford Pickup Truck \$210.00

4th bid is from David Pellerin 2010 Dodge Sedan \$110.00

5th bid if from Felix Arceneaux Dodge Sedan \$ 1022.00

Highest bidder is \$529.29 JJ Merchants for the 2005 Ford Pickup Truck

Highest bidder is \$1022.00 Felix Arceneaux for the Dodge Sedan.

Mayor Meche asked for a motion to accept the highest bidders, motion was made by Cynthia Stelly second by Debbie Kidder and Kevin Robin, motion passed.

Up-Dates—Mayor Meche

The Drive-thru is 99% finished the network and phone lines are scheduled to be set in August 19, 2020.

Conformation was received for two grants, granted to the town, one is LGAP in the amount of 16, 108.00, also CWEF in the amount of 16,142.00.

Mr. Douet has called and is hoping to move the museum this week.

Citizens' Concerns

Adjourn

Jamie Huval moved to adjourn the August 18, 2020 Regular Town Meeting second by Debbie Kidder, motion passed.

Attest:

Dolores R. Quebedeaux, Town Clerk

Todd Meche, Mayor