

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN TAKEN AT A REGULAR MEETING HELD ON MAY 17, 2022, AT 6:00 P.M. AT THE ARNAUDVILLE MEETING ROOM 107 RUE DE JAUSIERS, ARNAUDVILLE, LA 70512**

**Present:** Mayor, Todd Meche

**Aldermen:** Debbie Kidder, Kevin Robin, Cynthia Stelly, Suzanne Stelly

**Absent:** Jamie Huval

**Town Clerk:** Dolores R. Quebedeaux

**Town Attorney:** Kay Theunissen

**Town Engineer:** Kenny Boagni

**Police Chief:** Eddy LeCompte

**Utility Superintendent:** Todd Abshire (Absent)

**Parks and Recreation:** Zelma Jackson (Absent)

**Called to Order:** Mayor Meche

**Prayer:** Suzanne Stelly

**Pledge:** All

Mayor Meche asked the board to amend the agenda to add water line on Roy Road, Kevin Robin motioned to add Roy Road seconded by Debbie Kidder, motion passed.

**Approve April 19, 2022, Regular Town Meeting Minutes**—Mayor Meche

Kevin Robin moved to accept the April 19, 2022 meeting minutes seconded by Debbie Kidder, motion passed.

**Approve April 2022 Expenses**—Mayor Meche

Kevin Robin moved to accept the April 2022 expenses seconded by Debbie Kidder and Suzanne Stelly, motion passed.

**Utility Report**—Todd Abshire (Absent)

A report was given to the Mayor and Council per Todd Abshire.

Water—The entire water system was flushed during the month of March and no issues were noted. 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 sewer plant is fully operational, and all analytics were in compliance last month.

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—Once every 5 years, all public officials are to be notified of the gas system and safety procedures. The letters to the mayor and each of the council members are kept on file, as well as annual notifications to all emergency officials and excavators. The gas system is operating near 40 pounds of inlet pressure at the Cypress Station and 40 psi at the Koch Station.

**Police Report**—Eddy LeCompte

The Employee evaluations are currently being made and will be discussed with all before the end of the fiscal year. An email will be sent to the mayor and alderpersons when the evaluations have been completed.

Officer Parker Blanchard has decided not to resign from the Department and has returned to duty in the capacity he was in. With his decision to return, the police department is presently full strength with Police Officers. Chief is still accepting applications and is putting them on file, in the event they become short-handed in the future. Chief will keep the Council informed of any changes.

The 2022-2023 Budget has been completed. Chief would like to be informed when the Council will be meeting to discuss the numbers. In that way he will be able to explain the variance between the upcoming budget for the coming fiscal year as compared to the budget of the last fiscal year. In the meantime, should any Alderperson wish to discuss what he included in the Police Department Budget they are welcomed to meet with him at their convenience.

Chief stated that he will be leaving to go to MD Anderson in Houston Sunday the 22<sup>nd</sup> for an appointment on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Command responsibility will be with Sergeant Legrand during his absence. The two older patrol units (2009 Nissan Sedan (Unit A3) and 2077 Chevrolet Sedan (Unit A4) should be available for auction soon once all decals and other equipment is removed.

Statistics for the month of April were: 2 Arrests, 11 Citations, 9 MIC issued, 15 FIC issued and 78 calls for service. Approximately 50% of time spent by the Officers were patrolling the town.

**Parks and Recreation—Zelma Jackson (Absent)**

The tournament went well, everything is going well at the park.

**Water Line on Roy Road—Mayor Meche**

Mayor Meche explained that there are interested customers that would like a water line down on Roy Road. The individual who owns property down that road has a family member who is a contractor. All this work will have to be approved making sure everything is done correctly, permits, easement, DOTD, survey, etc. The engineering firm would be contacted to oversee this project.

Mayor asked the Council for a motion to allow this project once everything is approved. Kevin motioned to approve the expansion of the water line if the project meets the towns specifications seconded by Cynthia Stelly, motion passed.

**Introduce Ordinance No. 05-2022 An Ordinance Adopting the Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for the fiscal year July 1, 2022, and ending June 30, 2023—Mayor Meche**

The Ordinance was read, motion was made by Kevin Robin to accept Ordinance 05-2022 seconded by Suzanne Stelly and Cynthia Stelly, motion carried.

**Introduce Ordinance No. 06-2022 An Ordinance Amending the Operating Budget for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2022—Mayor Meche**

The Ordinance was read, motion was made by Cynthia Stelly seconded by Suzanne Stelly to accept Ordinance 06-2022, motion passed.

**Change Meeting Date from June 21, 2022, to June 28, 2022, at 6:00 P.M.—Mayor Meche**

Debbie Kidder motioned to change the meeting date from June 21, 2022, to June 28, at 6:00 P.M. seconded by Suzanne Stelly, motion passed.

**Schedule a Public Hearing on June 28, 2022, at 5:30 P.M. for Ordinance 05-2022 and Ordinance 06-2022—Mayor Meche**

Debbie Kidder motioned to schedule a public hearing on June 28, 2022, at 5:30 P.M. seconded by Suzanne Stelly, motion passed.

**Adopt Official Municipal Journal (Daily World)—Mayor Meche**

Kevin Robin and Debbie Kidder made a motion to adopt the Daily Worlds as the Official Journal seconded by Cynthia Stelly, motion carried.

**Farmers Market/Peddlers License—Debbie Kidder and Cynthia Stelly**

Cynthia Stelly stated that there has been approximately four years that they have been talking about having a farmers’ market in Arnaudville. She stated that there are lots of farmers in the area and perhaps they could have a workshop to discuss this topic and come up with a plan. Kevin stated that Louisiana has made it easier to sell home grown products. Kevin’s concerns were liability, permits and taxes. He also said that he read an article that states that anyone who grows 50% of their crops on their land are tax exempt.

Mayor said that he would contact Risk Management to check on the liability. The Mayor and Board are planning on having work shops to discuss the farmers’ market.

**Up-Date—Mayor Meche**

Mayor said that the big tractor is broken, and they are waiting on someone to pick it up to get it repaired. One of the police officers left before the police contract was over, but this has been settled.

**Citizens’ Concerns**

Everyone is in support of the Farmers’ Market. Some suggested having a swap plant program.

Suzanne Stelly inquired about the broken sidewalks near the Auditorium.

Kelly Meche thanked Debbie Kidder for the work she has taken care of for the town.

**Adjournment**

Kevin Robin moved to adjourn the May 17, 2022, Regular Meeting seconded by Cynthia Stelly, motion passed.

**Attest**

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Dolores R. Quebedeaux, Town Clerk

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Todd Meche, Mayor

