

# TOWN OF SIMMESPORT

MAYOR LESLIE DRAPER III

DISTRICT I  
TED TURNER



DISTRICT II  
KENNETH MARSH

DISTRICT III  
MYRON K. BROWN

DISTRICT IV  
SHERMAN BELL

ALDERMAN AT LARGE  
JACOB COCO

## February 11, 2019 Regular Town Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Simmesport held at the Simmesport Town Hall on Monday, February 11, 2019, at 6:00 p.m.

Presiding: Mayor Leslie Draper

Members Present: Ted Turner (late), Myron Brown, Kenneth Marsh, Jacob Coco, Sherman Bell

Members Absent: None

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Draper and was opened with a prayer given by Alderman Myron Brown followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Alderman Marsh and seconded by Alderman Coco that the agenda be approved. All present voted as follows:

	FOR	AGAINST	ABSENT
Alderman Bell	X	_____	_____
Alderman Brown	X	_____	_____
Alderman Coco	X	_____	_____
Alderman Marsh	X	_____	_____
Alderman Turner	X	_____	_____

The motion was carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Coco and seconded by Alderman Bell to accept the minutes from the last meeting. All present voted as follows:

	FOR	AGAINST	ABSENT
Alderman Bell	X	_____	_____
Alderman Brown	X	_____	_____
Alderman Coco	X	_____	_____
Alderman Marsh	X	_____	_____
Alderman Turner	X	_____	_____

The motion was carried.

Delegation Time:

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- A group of citizens led by Ms. Marsha Strong informed the council that kids walking in the road and throwing rocks at cars was beginning to be a big problem. Ms. Strong also informed the council that a pack of dogs on Watson St. was becoming a problem chasing cars, the garbage truck and harassing the home health nurse tending to Mrs. Elise Normand. Mayor Draper told the citizens that the council was voting on a new curfew ordinance and that it would be enforced for kids walking the streets at night. The Mayor also said the Town of Simmesport was looking into solutions for stray dogs.
- Cecil Whitmore brought to attention LA R.S. 38:213 which is a state law prohibiting anyone from riding vehicles of any kind on the levees. Mr. Whitmore related that he was told by a Simmesport policeman that they could not ticket people for riding on the levees unless the property owner complained. This is not the case. Mayor Draper asked Mr Whitmore if he could give his copy of the statute to the Chief of Police.

A motion was made by Alderman Coco and seconded by Alderman Bell to pay the bills. All present voted as follows:

	FOR	AGAINST	ABSENT
Alderman Bell	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Alderman Brown	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Alderman Coco	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Alderman Marsh	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Alderman Turner	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

The motion was carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Coco and seconded by Alderman Bell to accept the resignation of the Johnson Law Firm from the Town Attorney position. All present voted as follows:

	FOR	AGAINST	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Alderman Brown	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Alderman Coco	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Alderman Marsh	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Alderman Turner	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

The motion was carried.

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A motion was made by Alderman Coco and seconded by Alderman Brown to hire Kirk LaCour as the Town Attorney. All present voted as follows:

	FOR	AGAINST	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell	X			
Alderman Brown	X			
Alderman Coco	X			
Alderman Marsh	X			
Alderman Turner	X			

The motion was carried.

Alderman Coco presented an ordinance for a curfew for all minors under the age of 17. The council agreed to hold a public hearing on the ordinance on March 18, 2019 at 5 PM to get public comment on the proposed ordinance.

Mayor Draper presented a list of possible rules for use of the softball field behind Riverside Elementary School. After discussion Alderman Marsh and Bell said house and sign up for practices needed to be added. Alderman Marsh suggested that an adult would have to reserve the ball field. Pending these changes in the rules Alderman Coco moved to accept the rules for use of the ball field. Alderman Marsh second the motion. All present voted as follows:

	FOR	AGAINST	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell	X			
Alderman Brown	X			
Alderman Coco	X			
Alderman Marsh	X			
Alderman Turner	X			

The motion was carried.

Engineer Jeremy Hebron told the mayor that Meyer & Meyer Engineering firm was working on a needs assessment for the Town and still pursuing the USDA Grants. He also stated that the LCDBG grants were due at the end of June and they would like to begin working on them now. Hebron stated that the LCDBG grants have not been awarded to infrastructure such as roads but have been awarded to mostly water and sewer projects.

Fire Chief Dana Smith told the council that the town had no fires in the month of January and the number of emergency calls had decreased.

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Chief Damion Jacobs gave his monthly report for service calls and arrests. He also told the council that he would increase patrols in town to thwart the gangs of young people roaming the streets. Chief Jacobs also asked the community present to please call the police department (*during working hours 318-941-2576 or after hours 318-253-4000*).

Alderman Turner said he had no complaints.

Alderman Marsh of District 2 also said he had no complaints.

Alderman Brown asked that the workers continue to fill potholes.

Alderman Coco asked about drainage and how efforts to increase drainage were coming along.

Alderman Bell only said we needed to keep filling potholes.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Alderman Bell and seconded by Alderman Marsh to adjourn. All present voted as follows:

	FOR	AGAINST	ABSENT
Alderman Bell	X	_____	_____
Alderman Brown	X	_____	_____
Alderman Coco	X	_____	_____
Alderman Marsh	X	_____	_____
Alderman Turner	X	_____	_____

The motion was carried and the meeting adjourned.

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Leslie Draper III  
Mayor

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Dacia Adams  
Town Clerk