

# 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  
PRESLEY BORDELON

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## March 9, 2020 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, March 9, 2020, at 6:00 p.m.

Presiding: Mayor Leslie Draper

Members Present: Ted Turner, Myron Brown, Kenneth Marsh, Sherman Bell, Presley Bordelon

Members Absent: None

Town Attorney: Present (Kirk LaCour)

Town Clerk: Dacia Adams

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 Bordelon accept the agenda. All present voted as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT/ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell	X	_____	_____
Alderman Brown	X	_____	_____
Alderman Bordelon	X	_____	_____
Alderman Marsh	X	_____	_____
Alderman Turner	X	_____	_____

The motion was carried.

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

	YES	NO	ABSENT/ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell	X	_____	_____
Alderman Brown	X	_____	_____
Alderman Bordelon	X	_____	_____
Alderman Marsh	X	_____	_____
Alderman Turner	X	_____	_____

The motion was carried.

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

	YES	NO	ABSENT/ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell	X	_____	_____
Alderman Brown	X	_____	_____
Alderman Bordelon	X	_____	_____
Alderman Marsh	X	_____	_____
Alderman Turner	X	_____	_____

The motion was carried.

### **RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE MUNICIPAL WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION PLAN**

Every year the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality requires that the Town of Simmesport submit a Municipal Water Pollution Prevention Plan. The plan was designed by Cenla Environmental Science and must be adopted by the Town of Simmesport via a resolution.

A motion was made by Alderman Marsh and seconded by Alderman Bordelon to adopt a resolution that the Town of Simmesport accept the Avoyelles Parish Disaster Mitigation Plan. All present voted as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT/ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell	X	_____	_____
Alderman Brown	X	_____	_____
Alderman Bordelon	X	_____	_____
Alderman Marsh	X	_____	_____
Alderman Turner	X	_____	_____

The resolution was adopted.

### **PERMISSION FOR RISE TO SELL BEER AT THE ATCHAFALAYA RIVER FESTIVAL**

Marsha Strong, president of the R.I.S.E. organization, approached the council for permission to see beer at the Atchafalaya River Festival. Since the Town of Simmesport owns Yellow Bayou Park, RISE would need written permission from the Town to apply to the State of Louisiana for a temporary permit. Ms. Strong told the Council that the Simmesport Knights of Columbus would run the beer table at the festival.

A motion was made by Alderman Bell and seconded by Alderman Brown to allow the RISE organization to sell beer at the Atchafalaya River Festival in Yellow Bayou Park. All present voted as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT/ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell	X		
Alderman Brown	X		
Alderman Bordelon			X
Alderman Marsh	X		
Alderman Turner	X		

**DELEGATION TIME:**

Donna DeSoto, a retired Juvenile Probation & Parole officer, spoke on the problem Avoyelles Parish has with underage drinking. Ms. DeSoto represented a youth coalition that has been formed with the purpose to inform and curb underage drinking. The Avoyelles Community and Youth Coalition wants to educate the community youth from ages 9 to 20 on making healthy and safe choices about drinking. Donna handed out pamphlets and contact information about the organization, meeting times, events being held, and how people can get involved. Anyone interested can go to [www.avoyellescyc.org](http://www.avoyellescyc.org) for more information on this wonderful organization.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**Engineer – Jeremy Hebron**

Not present.

**Utility Department- Charles Carter**

Mr. Charles Carter informed the Council and Mayor that they needed more coal mix to repair potholes.

**Sewer Plant- Charles Carter**

Mr. Carter also reported that the sewer plant was working normally. He said that so far, our discharge reports have been within DEQ and DHH standards. Mr. Carter also stated that the plant was old and showing its age.

**Street Department- Dana Smith**

Dana Smith reported that he had begun the process of reading meters. He also said that as soon as they received more coal mix, weather permitting, they would be filling as many potholes as they could. Mr. Smith also informed the council that there was only one mower running and the John Deere needed repairs to the shaft connecting to the bush hog. Mayor Draper also said he wanted the maintenance crew to increase their use of poison to control grass and weeds. Mayor Draper did inform those assembled that Road District II agreed to resurface Clark and Union streets although they removed Main St. from the list, a road that had been on the list since the first round of road repairs for Road District II.

**Fire Department – Dana Smith**

Chief Dana Smith reported that the things were calm and only a few calls were made that needed responses.

**Police Department – Damion Jacobs**

Chief Jacobs reported to the Mayor and Town Council that 32 tickets were paid for a total of \$7,785. The police department responded to multiple calls and made multiple drug arrests.

**Town Attorney/Magistrate – Kirk LaCour**

Mr. LaCour said the magistrate court was going smoothly. There were warrants issued for those individuals who did not appear in court or who did not pay fines.

**Town Clerk – Dacia Adams**

Mrs. Adams informed the Council that the Clerk’s office has dealing with nearly daily requests from the Legislative Auditor’s Office. The accounting firm and auditing firm are already working on the 2018-2019 audit. Mrs. Adams informed the council that there was optimism that the FY 2018-19 audit would be completed before the end of the fiscal year. This would put the Town on track to have the FY 2019-2020 audit completed before December 31, 2020 and would get us back in compliance. Mrs. Adams also said her office was dealing with additional public records requests.

**District 1 Report**

Alderman Ted Turner voiced the biggest complaint from his constituents was roads.

**District 2 Report**

Alderman Kenneth Marsh had no new issues to discuss.

**District 3 Report**

Alderman Myron Brown had no issues to bring up.

**District 4 Report**

Alderman Sherman Bell had no issues to address.

**At Large**

Alderman Presley Bordelon stated that he had no new issues to bring up at the time.

A motion was made by Alderman Brown and seconded by Alderman Marsh that the council move into executive session (*item number 13 on the agenda*) to discuss personnel matters. All present voted as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT/ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell	X		
Alderman Brown	X		
Alderman Bordelon	X		
Alderman Marsh	X		
Alderman Turner	X		

The motion was carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Marsh and seconded by Alderman Bell that the council move out of executive session. All present voted as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT/ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell	X		
Alderman Brown	X		
Alderman Bordelon	X		
Alderman Marsh	X		
Alderman Turner	X		

The motion was carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Turner and seconded by Alderman Bordelon that the cuts and adjustments presented by the Mayor be made. All present voted as follows:

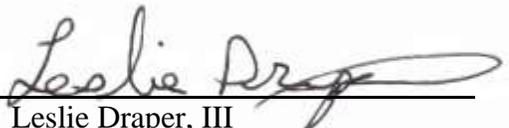
	YES	NO	ABSENT/ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell	<u>X</u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Alderman Brown	<u>X</u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Alderman Bordelon	<u>X</u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Alderman Marsh	<u>X</u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Alderman Turner	<u>X</u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

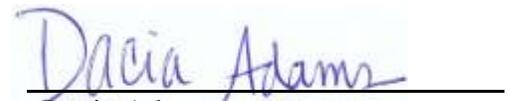
The motion was carried.

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

	YES	NO	ABSENT/ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell	<u>X</u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Alderman Brown	<u>X</u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Alderman Bordelon	<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 and the meeting adjourned.

  
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Leslie Draper, III  
Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dacia Adams  
Town Clerk