

# 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

372 Mission Dr  
P.O. Box 145

[www.simmesportla.com](http://www.simmesportla.com)  
townofsimmesport@simmesportla.com

Simmesport, LA 71369  
(318) 941 - 2493

## June 25, 2020 Special 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 Thursday, June 25, 2020, at 4:00 PM.

Presiding: Mayor Leslie Draper

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

Members Absent:

### AGENDA ITEMS 1,2,3

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

### AGENDA ITEM 4: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

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

The motion was carried.

### AGENDA ITEM 5: EXTENTION OF PHASE 2 COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS

Mayor Draper told the Council that Governor Edwards extended the restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 outbreak due to the rising number of cases. The Mayor also stated there is a possibility of moving back to Phase 1. Mayor Draper informed the council that the Town has not opened the parks or the lobby of the Town Hall. Alderman Turner said he was concerned about the number of people gathering in the old dollar store next to the Piggly Wiggly. Mr. Turner also wondered if the building's owner had a license to sell alcohol. Mayor Draper

372 Mission Dr.  
P.O. Box 145

(318) 941-2493  
Simmesport, LA 71369

[www.simmesportla.com](http://www.simmesportla.com)  
townofsimmesport@simmesportla.com

said they did not have an alcohol license. Alderman Bordelon stated that a Facebook advertisement stated that there was going to be a party at the venue in question with a cover charge of \$15. Alderman Bordelon’s concern was large gatherings during the COVID outbreak. The event is slated to take place on July 4<sup>th</sup>. There was some confusion about exactly where the event was being held. Mayor Draper said that firstly the Town needed to find out exactly where the event is being held. Chief Jacobs did elaborate that a liquor license was only needed if alcohol was being sold on the premises. Mayor Draper said he needed to gather more information and that rules needed to be applied evenly to everyone.

**AGENDA ITEM 6: RESIGNATION OF CHIEF DAMION JACOBS**

Mayor Draper informed the council that Chief of Police Damion Jacobs has taken a position with the Avoyelles Parish Sheriff’s Office and will be resigning his position as Chief of Police of Simmesport. The Mayor and Council members thanked Mr. Jacobs for his service to the people and Town of Simmesport. Mr. Jacobs also thanked the Mayor and Council for their trust and confidence in him. Mayor Draper recognized the difficulty of being a law enforcement officer today and thanked Mr. Jacobs for his contributions to the Town and Police Department.

A motion was made by Alderman Bell and seconded by Alderman Bordelon to accept Damion Jacobs’ resignation as Chief of Police of the Town of Simmesport . All present voted as follows:

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

The motion was carried.

Mayor Draper also announced that Assistant Chief Glenn Hall will act as interim Chief of Police until he (Officer Hall) can be appointed as the new chief. Chief Hall also thanked Mr. Damion Jacobs for this leadership and service while serving as Chief of Police.

**AGENDA ITEM 7: UPDATE ON THE BUDGET AND AUDITS**

Mayor Draper informed the Council that nothing is on regular schedule anymore with the COVID-19 outbreak. The mayor noted that the Town does not yet have a budget to present for a budget ordinance. Mayor Draper did not know if the COVID-19 pandemic will allow us an extension on presenting a budget. Mayor Draper also informed the council that because we owe the accountants money, that there was an issue with them completing the audits. Alderman Bordelon suggested that the Town not pay the accounting firm in a lump sum, but to spread the payments out as the work is completed.

**AGENDA ITEM 8: ROAD REPAIRS**

Mayor Draper informed the council that the Road Repair substance the Town used a couple of years ago has been ordered and will be in next week. At that time, the Town maintenance crew will begin filling potholes. This particular substance comes in 50-lb bags and has held up much better than the asphalt we normally use. Mayor Draper also said that he is working with Police Juror Jacob Coco on an agreement wherein the Police Jury will use its equipment to repair some of the potholes in town. Mayor Draper also said that more roads will be resurfaced through Road District 2. Alderman Turner said he would like to see the culverts checked when the roads are resurfaced. Alderman Marsh also said that Hillside Dr. needed attention before school starts as this is a high-traffic area when schools are in session.

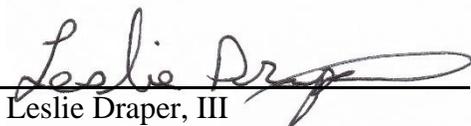
**AGENDA ITEM 9: REVISIT COMMUNITY CENTER PROJECT**

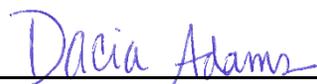
Mayor Draper brought before the Council the idea of reopening the Community Center. The funds that were initially available for constructing a new community center were withheld because of the Town’s noncompliance with the audits. Alderman Marsh agreed that the Community Center needs to be refurbished. Alderman Bell expressed a concern that the HVAC system would have to be upgraded.

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

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

The motion was carried and the meeting adjourned.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Leslie Draper, III  
Mayor

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