

TOWN OF SIMMESPORT

MAYOR LESLIE DRAPER III

DISTRICT I
GLENN GAUTREAU



DISTRICT II
TIESHA KENNEDY

DISTRICT III
PATRICK WRIGHT

DISTRICT IV
SHERMAN BELL

ALDERMAN AT LARGE
ROMARO TURNER

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September 21, 2021 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 Tuesday, September 21, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. **This meeting was live-streamed via the Town of Simmesport's Facebook page.*

Presiding: Mayor Leslie Draper

Members Present:, Glenn Gautreaux, Tiesha Kennedy, Romaro Turner, Patrick Wright

Members Absent: Sherman Bell

Town Attorney: Absent

Town Clerk: Present

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Draper who also said the opening prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA ITEM 4

A motion was made by Alderman Wright and seconded by Alderman Turner that the agenda be amended to add Engineer Jeremy Hebron as item D1, the Town Clerk's report, from the agenda. All present voted as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT/ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell			X
Alderman Gautreaux	X		
Alderman Kennedy	X		
Alderman Turner	X		
Alderman Wright	X		

The motion was carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Turner and seconded by Alderman Kennedy that the agenda be accepted as amended. All present voted as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT/ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell			X
Alderman Gautreaux	X		
Alderman Kennedy	X		
Alderman Turner	X		
Alderman Wright	X		

The motion was carried

AGENDA ITEM 5: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Alderman Turner and seconded by Alderwoman Kennedy to approve the minutes of the prior meeting. All present voted as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT/ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell			X
Alderman Gautreaux	X		
Alderwoman Kennedy	X		
Alderman Turner	X		
Alderman Wright	X		

The motion was carried.

AGENDA ITEM 6: PAYMENT OF BILLS

A motion was made by Alderman Turner and seconded by Alderwoman Kennedy to approve payment of the August 2021 bills. All present voted as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT/ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell			X
Alderman Gautreaux	X		
Alderwoman Kennedy	X		
Alderman Turner	X		
Alderman Wright	X		

The motion was carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Turner and seconded by Alderwoman Kennedy to approve payment of the September 2021 bills. All present voted as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT/ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell			X
Alderman Gautreaux	X		
Alderwoman Kennedy	X		
Alderman Turner	X		
Alderman Wright	X		

The motion was carried.

AGENDA ITEM 7: QUOTES FOR SHREDDER/ROTARY CUTTER FOR TRACTOR

Mayor Draper presented the Council with quotes for two 7-foot rotary cutter for the tractor. The current shredder the Town owns is broken and over 20-years old. Two shredders were presented; one made by Woods and one made by John Deere. The John Deere cutter was the cheaper option.

A motion was made by Alderman Turner and seconded by Alderman Wright to purchase the John Deere rotary cutter. All present voted as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT/ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell			X
Alderman Gautreaux	X		
Alderwoman Kennedy	X		
Alderman Turner	X		
Alderman Wright	X		

The motion was carried.

AGENDA ITEM 8: DEPARTMENT REPORTS

TOWN ENGINEER

Jeremy Hebron introduced himself to the new members of the Council. Marshon Joseph, also an engineer in their office, will be handling Simmesport in the future. Mr. Hebron also congratulated the Town for getting back into compliance and now eligible for grants. Mr. Hebron also informed those assembled that on some grants, engineering services can be paid for by the grant if the services are publically bid out beforehand.

SEWER & WATER

Mr. Charles Carter told the Council that the Town prepared for the storms by providing sand and sand bags. They also went around town clearing drainage ditches. Mr. Carter said that there were 4 sewer lift stations were experiencing problems. This causes the sewer mains to drain slower than normal and people experienced slow-flushing or no-flushing toilets.

STREETS & DRAINAGE

Town Maintenance worker Dana Smith said they were trying to cut as much grass as possible. He reported we still cannot pick up limbs.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief Dana Smith said there was a house fire that was contained. He informed the Council that at the next Fire Department meeting, the SVFD was going to attempt to buy a new fire truck.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Daniel Firmin told the Council that 12 reports were filed so far in the month of September. There were 30 tickets written resulting in a total of 46 charges with 5 arrests made. Chief Firmin and officer Marvin Smauel recently completed a homicide investigation course. The state of Louisiana requires that all homicides be investigated by someone who is certified.

TOWN CLERK

Town Clerk Dacia Adams told the Council that two new applications for occupational licenses. The final bits of information for the 2019-2020 audit were sent to the accountants and auditors. Auditors should be scheduling an onsite visit to finalize the 2019-2020 audit soon. Mrs. Adams also informed the council that she will be attending classes starting the first week of October to become certified as a Town Clerk.

TOWN ATTORNEY/MAGISTRATE

Attorney LaCour was unable to attend the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 9: COUNCIL REPORT

District 1 Report

Alderman Glenn Gautreaux had nothing to report.

District 2 Report

Alderwoman Kennedy had nothing to report.

District 3 Report

Alderman Wright had nothing to report.

District 4 Report

Alderman Sherman Bell was absent.

Alderman at Large

Alderman at large Romaro Turner said he had no issues to report.

AGENDA ITEM 12: DELEGATION TIME

Mr. Billy Bonnette, of the Simmesport VFW, thanked the town for the cleanup of the park for their annual Car Show. School Board Member Rickey Adams informed the Council that the new Avoyelles Parish Superintendent would like to come and introduce herself to the Town government and the people of Simmesport.


Mrs. Shelia Draper thanked the people of Simmesport for their kindness and good thoughts for her husband, Mayor Draper, during his illness.

AGENDA ITEM 13: ADJOURN

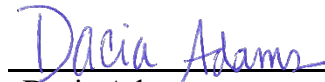
There being no further business, a motion was made by Alderwoman Kennedy and seconded by Alderman Turner to adjourn. All present voted as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT/ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell	_____	_____	X _____
Alderman Gautreaux	X _____	_____	_____
Alderwoman Kennedy	X _____	_____	_____
Alderman Wright	X _____	_____	_____
Alderman Turner	X _____	_____	_____

The motion was carried and the meeting adjourned.



Leslie Draper, III
Mayor



Dacia Adams
Town Clerk