

TOWN OF SIMMESPORT

MAYOR LESLIE DRAPER III

DISTRICT I  
GLENN GAUTREAUX



DISTRICT II  
TIESHA KENNEDY

DISTRICT III  
PATRICK WRIGHT

ALDERMAN AT LARGE  
ROMARO TURNER

DISTRICT IV  
SHERMAN BELL

372 Mission Dr  
P.O. Box 145

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

Simmesport, LA 71369  
(318) 941 - 2493

March 14, 2022 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 Wednesday, March 14, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. *\*This meeting was live-streamed via the Town of Simmesport's Facebook page.*

Presiding: Mayor Leslie Draper

Members Present: Sherman Bell, Tiesha Kennedy, Patrick Wright, Glenn Gautreaux

Members Absent: Romaro Turner

Town Attorney: Present

Town Clerk: Present

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Draper with Alderman Sherman Bell giving the opening prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA ITEM 4 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Alderman Wright and seconded by Alderwoman Kennedy that the agenda be amended to add Item 7A, to add the Municipal Water Pollution Prevention resolution. 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 Bell and seconded by Alderman Gautreaux that the agenda be accepted as amended. All present voted as follows:

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

AGENDA ITEM 5: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Bell and seconded by Alderwoman Kennedy to accept the minutes from the February 16, 2022 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 Bell and seconded by Alderman Wright to approve payment of the bills as presented by the Town Clerk. 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: KEVIN BORDELON w/ AVOYELLES PARISH POLICE JURY**

Mr. Kevin Bordelon addressed the Council and Mayor about services the Police Jury can help the Town of Simmesport with. He said they hope to start training classes at their new facility soon that will be offered to municipal employees

**AGENDA ITEM 7A: MUNICIPAL WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION RESOLUTION**

Every year the Town of Simmesport must pass a resolution to implement a water pollution prevention plan. This is necessary obtain a discharge permit for the sewer system to dispose of treated water.

A motion was made by Alderman Bell and seconded by Alderman Wright to pass the Municipal Water Pollution Prevention Plan. 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: POLICE JURYMAN JACOB COCO ROAD DISTRICT 2 UPDATE**

Police Juryman Jacob Coco reported that the next round of road overlays from Road District 2 will be happening soon. These will include the surfacing of Main St from the old railroad trestle to the city limits. **AGENDA ITEM 9: INTROCUCTION OF NEW POLICE OFFICERS**

**AGENDA ITEM 9: DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Avoyelles Parish School Board member Rickey Adams addressed the Mayor and Town Council. Mr. Adams said that COVID restrictions are easing and schools are slowly getting back to pre-COVID conditions. He also said that usual preparations are being made for the next school year.

**AGENDA ITEM 10: DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**TOWN ENGINEER**

Marcelin Joseph, the Town Engineer was absent.

**SEWER & WATER**

Mr. Charles Carter, Maintenance Supervisor, informed those present that there were serious water leaks on Lincoln and College. The Maintenance crew was working to repair the lines but Lincoln St was proving to be a problem. Mr. Carter said that they would like to replace the entire water line along Lincoln, especially before the resurfacing occurs. Mr. Kevin Bordelon, of the Avoyelles Parish Police Jury, offered suggestions on running a tap across the road and offered to help Mr. Carter with the planning and/or process.

**STREETS & DRAINAGE**

Town Maintenance worker Dana Smith said the two new lawnmowers made a huge difference in cutting grass. He said the grass behind the community complex was still very wet and they would have to let it dry before attempting to but the grass there.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Fire Chief Dana Smith informed those present that the Fire Department was waiting on the new Fire Truck. He also said they had a few emergency calls for medical help but no fires.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Chief Daniel Firmin told the Council and Mayor they had 19 reports, issued 32 citations and had 6 arrests in the prior month. Chief Firmin also commended Police Clerk Nicole Nicole Schuyler for the job she is doing at the Police Department and for court. Councilwoman Kennedy also commended Ms. Schuyler. Chief Firmin also thanked said he appreciated the raise that was given to the police department.

**TOWN CLERK**

Town Clerk Dacia Adams informed the council that new copy machines were ordered but due to supply chain issues, it is unclear when they will arrive. Mrs. Adams said the 2019-2020 was being completed and that either this month or next that audit will be complete. She also said that we are also working on the 2020-2021 audit.

**TOWN ATTORNEY/MAGISTRATE**

Attorney LaCour said that there was one arrest made for failure to pay fines. Mr. LaCour said that the court was very productive. He also said there was only one lawsuit that is outstanding. Mr. LaCour said that a tentative trial date was set for January 9, 2023. Attorney LaCour also stated that after reading the new guidelines from the Legislative Auditors Office on the use of the federal COVID Recovery monies, the money can be used for any purpose that a Town can use public funds for. Mr. LaCour said that he would check to see if or when the Town of Simmesport ceded its permitting authority to the Parish.

**AGENDA ITEM 11: DELEGATION TIME**

No citizens had any comments or issues.

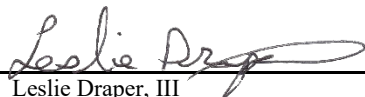
**AGENDA ITEM 13: ADJOURN**


A motion was made by Alderman Bell and seconded by Alderman Wright to adjourn. 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.

The meeting was adjourned.

  
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Leslie Draper, III  
Mayor

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