

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
townofsimmesport@simmesportla.com

Simmesport, LA 71369
(318) 941 - 2493

June 13, 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 Monday, June 13, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.

Presiding: Mayor Leslie Draper

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

Members Absent: Romaro Turner

Town Attorney: Present

Town Clerk: Present

AGENDA ITEM 1,2,3: CALL TO ORDER, PRAYER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Draper called the meeting to order and Alderman Sherman Bell gave the opening prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA ITEM 4: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilman Wright and seconded by Councilwoman Kennedy to amend the agenda by a discussion of the Y Not Stop gas cards . 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 Councilman Gautreaux and seconded by Councilman Bell to accept the agenda 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		

The motion was carried.

AGENDA ITEM 5: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Alderman Kennedy and seconded by Alderman Bell that the minutes from the last meeting be accepted. All present voted as follows:

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

The motion was carried.

AGENDA ITEM 6: PAYMENT OF BILLS

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

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

The motion was carried.

AGENDA ITEM 7: INTRODUCTION OF THE CROSS-CONNECTION ORDINANCE

A motion was made by Alderman Gautreaux and seconded by Alderman Bell that the Cross-Connection Ordinance (No. 05-2022-01) be passed.

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

The motion was carried.

AGENDA ITEM 8: PASSAGE OF THE OF THE 2022-2023 BUDGET

A motion was made by Alderman Bell and seconded by Alderman Wright that the 2022-2003 Budget Ordinance (No. 05-2022-02) be introduced and a public hearing be held on June 13, 2022 at 5:45 PM. All Present voted as follows

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

The motion was carried.

AGENDA ITEM 8A: Y NOT STOP GAS CARDS

Town Clerk Dacia informed the Council and Mayor that the Y Not Stop (Shell Station) will no longer allow employees to sign for gasoline purchases. The business will instead issue gas cards to commercial customers that will be used to purchase gasoline only. This change in store policy will begin July 1, 2022.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Kennedy and seconded by Alderman Wright to get the gas cards from the Y Not Stop station. All present voted as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT/ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Alderman Gautreaux	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>X</u>
Alderwoman Kennedy	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Alderman Turner	_____	_____	_____ X
Alderman Wright	_____ X	_____	_____

Alderman Gautreaux abstained because he worked for the parent company of the Y Not Stop stores. The motion was carried.

AGENDA ITEM 9: UPDATE ON TRASH CANS

Mayor Draper informed the Council that the trash cans purchased for each customer with ARP monies are scheduled to arrive June 28. At that time a plan to record the serial numbers and distribute the trash cans will be implemented.

AGENDA ITEM 10: DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- A. TOWN ENGINEER- Not present**
- B. UTILITY DEPARTMENT- Charles Carter:** Mr. Carter informed the Council that there had been several severe water leaks the department had to work on. He told the Council that finding fittings for the old transite pipes has become increasingly difficult. Mr. Carter also stated he is still working on addressing the issues DHH found in their April inspection.
- C. SEWER PLANT – Charles Carter:** Mr. Carter said the sewer plant is working normally, although he had observed red worms in the drying beds and would have to address that problem. Mr. Carter did say that it was becoming increasingly difficult to maintain the old equipment at the plant. He also reiterated that he was worried about the lift stations where some of them had only one pump operational.
- D. STREET DEPARTMENT – Dana Smith:** Mr. Smith told the Council they had been working diligently to stay on top of grass cutting. They also had been addressing complaints about potholes and low-hanging trees.
- E. FIRE DEPARTMENT – Dana Smith:** Chief Smith informed the Council and Mayor that they had mostly medical calls in the month of May. The fire department was also having a fund-raising jambalaya lunch on June 18, 2022 from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM.
- F. POLICE DEPARTMENT – Chief Daniel Firmin:** Chief Firmin informed the Council that there were 56 citations and 5 arrests in the month of May. Mayor Draper asked the Chief how the new radios were holding up. Chief Firmin said they needed new sets of batteries for the radios.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Kennedy and seconded by Alderman Bell to purchase new batteries for the portable radios. 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.

- G. TOWN CLERK – Dacia Adams:** Mrs. Adams stated that the Town was still waiting on the finalizing of the 2019-2020 Audit. Day to day business was still occurring.
- H. TOWN ATTORNEY/MAGISTRATE – Kirk LaCour:** Magistrate LaCour said that court was canceled last month because it fell on Memorial Day. Court is schedule for June 27, 2022. There was only one outstanding lawsuit left against the Town. Councilwoman Kennedy asked if the roads going through Simmesport Square apartments was for the town. Mr. LaCour said he would have to research that.

AGENDA ITEM 11: DELEGATION TIME

Simmesport citizen Deidra Mack addressed the Council about having a parade and event for Juneteenth. Mayor Draper pointed out that an application to use Ehrhardt Park had not been properly filled out.

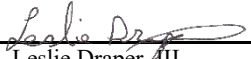
AGENDA ITEM 11: ADJOURN

A motion was made by Alderman Bell and seconded by Alderwoman Kennedy 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.



Leslie Draper, III
Mayor



Dacia Adams
Town Clerk