

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

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June 23, 2022 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 Monday, June 13, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.

Presiding: Mayor Leslie Draper

Members Present:, Tiesha Kennedy, Patrick Wright, Sherman Bell, Romaro Turner

Members Absent: Glenn Gautreaux

Town Attorney: Absent

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 Bell and seconded by Councilman Wright to amend the agenda by adding Item 8, a Proposal for Distribution of the Trashcans. 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: PROPOSAL FOR ROAD REPAIRS

Mayor Draper informed those assembled that Main Street is scheduled to be repaired towards the end of July. However, Lincoln St, Hillside St and Garden St were pushed back until later in the process for Road District 2. Mayor Draper proposed that the Town of Simmesport pay for the resurfacing of Lincoln, Hillside and Garden so that they can be repaired at the same time as Main St. This would save multiple thousands of dollars in equipment moving fees and get the roads repaired sooner. The Town of Simmesport will use the ARP (American Recovery Program) funds to pay for the roads. This will cost the Town of Simmesport \$42,000 for Lincoln, \$44,000 for Hillside, and \$19,000 for Garden St. The preparations for resurfacing are set to begin on June 27, 2022.

A motion was made by Alderman Bell and seconded by Alderman Turner that the Town of Simmesport pay for the resurfacing of Lincoln, Hillside and Garden Streets. 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: PROPOSAL FOR USING ARP FUNDS AS A BONUS FOR EMPLOYEES WHO WORKED THROUGH COVID

Mayor Draper told the Town Council that a handful of employees stayed on the job during the COVID-19 shutdowns. Mayor Draper said he would like to use a small portion of the ARP funds to give a \$2,000, one-time bonus check to those employees. This is something that other towns have done, along with the Police Jury and Avoyelles Parish School Board.

A motion was made by Councilman Turner and seconded by Alderman Wright to give employees who worked from March 1, 2020 through January 1, 2021 a one-time \$2,000 bonus check. 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: PROPOSAL FOR SPLASH PAD FOR EHRHARDT PARK

Mayor Draper stated that he had met with several contractors about the concept of building a splash pad in Erhardt park. Mayor Draper said he spoke with other Mayors and found that kids really made use of the splash pads, especially in the summer. Mayor Draper said the cheapest quote he received was from Gibko, from Bunkie, LA at approximately \$44,000.

A motion was made by Alderman Bell and seconded by Alderwoman Kennedy that money be allocated for a splash pad in Erhardt park.

	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: TRASHCAN DISTRIBUTION PLAN

Mayor Draper informed the Council that the trashcans had arrived and were being stored until the Town can develop and implement a distribution plan. Mayor Draper did say that Waste Connections, the company we purchased the cans from, would help distribute the cans for a fee of \$2,000.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Kennedy and seconded by Alderman Turner that the Town of Simmesport pay Waste Connections \$2,000 to distribute the trash cans along with Town employees. 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 Alderwoman Kennedy, to let the council hear from Mr. Andre Webb, a citizen of Simmesport. Mr Webb complained about the rough shape of Carver street.

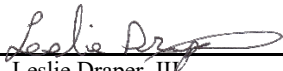
AGENDA ITEM 11: ADJOURN

A motion was made by Alderman Bell and seconded by Alderman Turner to adjourn. All present voted as follows:

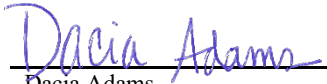
	YES	NO	ABSENT/ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell	X		
Alderman Gautreaux	X		
Alderwoman Kennedy	X		
Alderman Turner			X
Alderman Wright	X		

The motion was carried.

The meeting was adjourned.



Leslie Draper, III
Mayor



Dacia Adams
Town Clerk