

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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September 12, 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, September 12, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.

Presiding: Mayor Leslie Draper

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

Members Absent: None

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 gave the opening prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA ITEM 4: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilman Turner and seconded by Councilman Wright to accept the agenda as presented . 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 Councilwoman Kennedy and seconded by Councilman Wright that the minutes from the last meeting be accepted. 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 Councilman Turner 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>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Alderman Wright	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The motion was carried.

AGENDA ITEM 7: COUNCIL ON AGEING

A presentation was made by the Avoyelles Council on Ageing about signing up for Medicare. Those assembled were told that the Council on Ageing can help seniors with choosing the right plan for them. The presenter suggested anyone with questions about Medicare call the Avoyelles Council on Ageing or see Mrs. Maudry Anderson at the Simmesport Senior Center.

AGENDA ITEM 8: AVOYELLES PARISH POLICE JURY NOVEMBER 2022 TAX INITIATIVE

Avoyelles Parish Police Jury President, Kirby Roy, presented the plan by the police jury to put two taxes on the November ballot for garbage collection. The first would be a ¼ cent sales tax. The second would be a millage tax of 7 mills. Mr. Roy explained that without these two taxes the Parish would not be able to pay for garbage collections.

AGENDA ITEM 9: R.I.S.E. HEALTH FAIR AND CANCER WALK

Mrs. Carol Lindsey-Dupar, President of R.I.S.E., addressed the council to use Ehrhardt Park for a health fair and cancer walk on October 8, 2022. The Cancer walk will begin at 8 AM and the health fair will start at 9 AM. The health fair will include various health screenings and COVID vaccine or booster shots.

A motion was made by Alderman Bell and seconded by Alderwoman Kennedy to allow R.I.S.E. use Ehrhardt Park for a Cancer Walk and Health Fair on October 8, 2022. 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>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Alderman Wright	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The motion was carried.

AGENDA ITEM 10: RESOLUTION FOR THE SALE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY

The Council was presented with two resolutions to sell surplus property. The Town of Simmesport, working with LaMATS, is trying to sell nonfunctioning cars and other equipment. Resolution 09-2022-01 is a resolution to give LaMATS to help us sell non-functioning police vehicles while resolution 09-2022-02 is a resolution allowing LaMATS to sell junked vehicles and equipment from the maintenance department. Attorney Lacour noticed a discrepancy on one of the resolutions on the wording about selling. The council voted to table both resolutions until the wrongly written resolution could be corrected.

A motion was made by Alderman Bell and seconded by Alderman Gautreaux to table the passing of both resolutions until next meeting. 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>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Alderman Wright	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The motion was carried.

AGENDA ITEM 11: DEPARTMENT REPORTS

A. TOWN ENGINEER- Not present

B. UTILITY DEPARTMENT- Charles Carter: Mr. Carter informed the Council that the crew had been busy with an unusual amount of water leaks. Mr. Carter said they were working to get the lift station pumps repaired and back in working order.

- C. **SEWER PLANT – Charles Carter:** Mr. Carter informed the Council and Mayor that he was working to keep the sewer plant in working order.
- D. **STREET DEPARTMENT – Dana Smith:** Mr. Smith told the Council they had been working diligently to catch up with grass cutting. The bush hog for the tractor had only been recently repaired and was working normally again.
- E. **FIRE DEPARTMENT – Dana Smith:** Chief Smith informed the Council and Mayor that the food sale at the Car Show was successful and thanked the Simmesport VFW for their help and support. He also said that a Boot Drive (road block on highway 1) will be held on October 8, 2022.
- F. **POLICE DEPARTMENT – Chief Daniel Firmin:** Chief Firmin informed the Council that there were citations written and arrests made. Chief Firmin also said that the patrol unit that was mixing oil and water had been repaired by a local vendor.
- G. **TOWN CLERK – Dacia Adams:** Mrs. Adams reported that work on the 2019-2020 audit continues so that the 2020-2021 budget may begin.
- H. **TOWN ATTORNEY/MAGISTRATE – Kirk LaCour:** Magistrate LaCour said August 2022 court was a success. On the lawsuit remained against the Town of Simmesport is progressing into deposition stages. Attorney LaCour said he adjudicated and fined several people.

AGENDA ITEM 11: DELEGATION TIME

- A citizen complained about the weeds on Martin Luther King Dr. saying the weeds were so high they could not see traffic at the intersection.
- A citizen informed the council that the street sign on Brushy St. needed to be put back up.
- Another citizen wanted to know if she would get a trashcan if she and new service. Mayor Draper said yes.
- Ms. Misty Webber asked the board to have a roadblock fundraiser on September 24, 2022 for the Avoyelles High Cheerleading squad.

A motion was made by Alderman Bell and seconded by Alderwoman Kennedy to allow the Avoyelles High Cheerleaders to hold a roadblock on September 24, 2022. All present voted as follows:

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

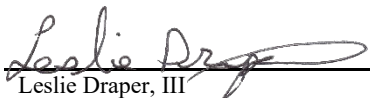
The motion was carried.

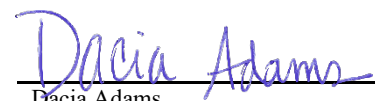
AGENDA ITEM 13: ADJOURN

There being no further business, a motion was made by Alderman Bell and seconded by Alderman Gautreaux 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 and the meeting was adjourned.


 Leslie Draper, III
 Mayor


 Dacia Adams
 Town Clerk