

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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October 10, 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, October 10, 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 Gautreaux to accept the agenda as presented. All present voted as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT
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 Councilman Turner and seconded by Councilman Bell 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 Bell and seconded by Alderman 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: RESOLUTION 09-2022-01: RESOLUTION TO DECLARE PROPERTY AS SURPLUS AND ASSIGNMENT TO LPS MUNICIPAL SURPLUS PROPERTY PROGRAM FOR SALE ONLINE (Surplus equipment)

A motion was made by Councilman Turner and seconded by Councilman Wright to accept Resolution 09-2022-01. 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 8: RESOLUTION 09-2022-02: RESOLUTION TO DECLARE PROPERTY AS SURPLUS AND ASSIGNMENT TO LPS MUNICIPAL SURPLUS PROPERTY PROGRAM FOR SALE ONLINE (Surplus vehicles, jetter & tractor)

A motion was made by Councilman Wright and seconded by Councilman Bell to accept Resolution 09-2022-02. 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 9: IMPACT OF 2020 US CENSUS ON TOWN COUNCIL ELECTION DISTRICTS (Cedric Floyd, President Data Center, LLC)

Mr. Cedric Floyd, of President Data Center, LLC., gave a report about the 2020 U.S. Census. According to the final tally, Simmesport now has a population of 1,468 residents. This is down from the 2010 census count of 2,061, a 29% decrease. Mr. Floyd said that it is widely accepted that the 2020 Census likely represents an undercount, this is the number we are officially assigned. Simmesport has four (4) voting districts and each district must have ¼ of the population in it. With the new census this corresponds to 367 people in each district. According to state law these districts must have ±10% of the 367 people which means that each district has to have at least 349 people but not more than 385 people. This means that Simmesport will have to redistrict and thus redraw the lines to accommodate state law. Mr. Floyd told the council that his company helps many towns and cities with redistricting but the Council will have to pass an ordinance to ultimately redraw the districts. Mayor Draper brought up the possibility of working with each of the council individually to redraw the districts or holding a special meeting to do so.

AGENDA ITEM 10: UPDATE ON ARP FUNDS

Mayor Draper informed the council that the second half of the funds from the American Rescue Plan (COVID relief), had been received. The \$384,000 was deposited.

ANGENDA ITEM 11: COMMUNITY CENTER PROPOSAL

Mayor Draper presented a proposal to lease the old dollar store building located at 16229 Hwy 1, which is adjacent to the Piggly Wiggly grocery store. Mayor Draper indicated that the initial talks have given a price of \$1,000 per month for the lease price.

A motion was made by Councilman Turner and seconded by Councilman Wright to move forward with negotiations on leasing the building adjacent to Piggly Wiggly at 16229 Highway 1. All present voted as follows:

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

