

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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January 26, 2023 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, January 26, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

Presiding: Mayor Leslie Draper, III  
Members Present: Sherman Bell (*late*), Glenn Gautreaux, Tiesha Kennedy, Patrick Wright  
Members Absent: Romaro Turner  
Town Attorney: Present  
Town Clerk: Present

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

Mayor Leslie Draper, III 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 Councilwoman Kennedy 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: REDISTRICTING WORK AGREEMENT**

According to the 1965 Voting Rights Act, every ten (10) years voting districts must be reviewed with the current United States Census data. Each voting district must be whole (no gaps or holes), and must divide the population into evenly populated districts within +/- 10%. According to the 2020 Census, Simmesport now has 1,468 people living within the city limits. Because we have 4 voting districts each district must have approximately 367 people in it, +/- 15 people. So the largest a district can be is 385 people and the smallest 349 people. Mr. Cedric Floyd, of Data Center, LLC will take care of all the data and paperwork if the Town of Simmesport enters into an agreement with him.

A motion was made by Alderman Wright and seconded by Alderwoman Kennedy that the Town of Simmesport enter into an agreement with Data Center, LLC to assist in the mandatory updating of voting districts. 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: REDISTRICTING MAP (Mr. Cedric Floyd, Data Center, LLC)**

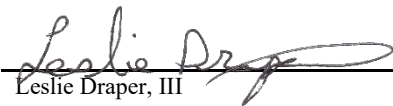
Mr. Floyd demonstrated with his laptop how the redistricting plan could be implemented. He presented maps and current census data. Mr. Floyd was adamant that the council members discuss among themselves where to move boundaries to comply with the Voting Rights Act. He agreed to present several possible plans at the next meeting.


**AGENDA ITEM 12: ADJOURN**

There being no further business, 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	<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, and the meeting was adjourned.

  
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Leslie Draper, III  
Mayor

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