

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
BLANCHARD MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL
May 8, 2007
7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Mayor Johnny Digilormo, Alderpersons Ashby, Lee, Prewett & Whittington, Chief Gary Presswood, Attorney Tom Arceneaux and citizens.

ABSENT: Allison Jones

Pledge of Allegiance led by Prewett
Invocation given by Tom Arceneaux

Questions and Statements of citizens: None.

Lee made a motion to accept minutes of the Regular Meeting on April 10, 2007. Seconded by Prewett. All voted yea.

OLD BUSINESS

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE #2 OF 2007

A Public Hearing was opened at 7:05.
There being no discussion, the Hearing was closed at 7:06.

ORDINANCE #2 OF 2007

ORDINANCE NO. 2 OF 2007

AN ORDINANCE DECLARING A MOTOR VEHICLE NO LONGER
NEEDED FOR PUBLIC PURPOSES, PROVIDING THE MEANS OF SALE
AND ESTABLISHING A MINIMUM PRICE FOR SUCH VEHICLE, AND
OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the Water Department of the Town of Blanchard ("Town") has removed from service that certain 1997 Chevrolet S-10 Truck ("Vehicle"), VIN 1GCCS14X3VK218627; and

WHEREAS, the Town has no use for Vehicle; and

WHEREAS, the Town wishes to declare that the Vehicle is no longer needed for Public Purposes, and wishes to sell the Vehicle and establish a means of sale of such property pursuant to La. R.S. 33:4712 and other applicable law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Blanchard, in due, legal and regular session convened, as follows:

Section 1. The Vehicle is hereby declared no longer needed for public purposes.

Section 2. The Vehicle shall be sold at public auction by Lawler Auctions, for a minimum price of \$1,000.00, with the expenses of the auction to be paid from the proceeds of the sale.

Section 3. If any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications of this ordinance that can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

Section 4. All ordinances or resolutions or parts hereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Motion was made by to adopt Ordinance 2 of 2007. Seconded by.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Ashby, Lee, Prewett & Whittington.

Nays: None.

Absent: Jones

And Ordinance 2 of 2007 was adopted on this 08th day of May, 2007.

RESOLUTION 10 OF 2007 (SEWER)

A motion was made by Ashby to table this Resolution until the next council meeting. Seconded by Whittington. All voted yea.

NEW BUSINESS

POLK SALAD PERMIT:

Motion was made by Lee to issue the Polk Salad Festival permit for the Polk Salad parade on May 12, 2007. Seconded by Prewett. All voted Yea.

OLLIE TYLER PROCLAMATION:

Mayor Digilormo presented Caddo Parish School Superintendent Ollie Tyler with a proclamation praising her accomplishments and thanking her for her dedication to the children of Caddo Parish by naming May 8, 2007 "Ollie Tyler Day." Ms. Tyler thanked the Mayor and council for this proclamation from her hometown and thanked everyone for their support and attendance honoring her.

RESOLUTION #11 OF 2007 (MILLAGE RATES)

Motion was made by Lee to adopt Resolution 11 of 2007. Seconded by Prewett.

RESOLUTION 11 OF 2007

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following millages are hereby levied on the 2007 tax roll on all property subject to taxation by the Town of Blanchard:

MILLAGE

General Fund Operating	6.79 mills
Sewer Depreciation	3.21 mills

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That the proper administrative officials of the Parish of Caddo, State of Louisiana, be and they are hereby empowered, authorized, and directed to spread said taxes, as hereinabove set forth, upon the assessment roll of said Parish for the year 2007, and to make the collection of the taxes imposed for and on behalf of the taxing authority, according to law, and that the taxes herein levied shall become a permanent lien and privilege on all property subject to taxation as herein set forth, and collection thereof shall be enforceable in the manner provided by law.

The foregoing resolution was read in full, the roll was called on the adoption thereof, and the resolution was adopted by the following votes:

YEAS: Ashby, Lee, Prewett and Whittington
NAYS: None
ABSTAINED: None
ABSENT: Jones

And Resolution 11 of 2007 was adopted on this 8th day of May, 2007.

PETITION FOR REZONING (TARAVELLA):

Motion was made by Lee, seconded by Whittington to turn the Rezoning Petition over to the Zoning Committee and follow due process. All voted Yea.

CITIZENS BANK & TRUST:

Amanda Murray with Citizens Bank & Trust spoke briefly with the council about the new branch opening up on North Market and its amenities and asked the council to consider them for future banking.

APPOINTMENT OF T.C. FULGHUM AS TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR:

Motion was made by Whittington and seconded by Lee to appoint T.C. Fulghum as Town Clerk and Tax Collector for the Town of Blanchard. All voted Yea.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE #3 OF 2007 (CLERK'S SALARY):

Lee introduced Ordinance #3 of 2007 by title only to be considered for adoption at the Special Meeting being held on May 24, 2007, at 6:00 p.m.

ORDINANCE NO. 3 OF 2007

AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH THE COMPENSATION OF THE TOWN CLERK AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO

PER DIEM INCREASE:

Motion was made by Lee, seconded by Ashby to increase the Town's per diem to \$40.00 per day. All voted Yea.

HEALTH INSURANCE RENEWAL:

After some discussion with Youree Jean Anderson motion was made by Lee, seconded by Ashby, to postpone a decision until a further meeting allowing Ms. Anderson to take new applications and get confirmed rates. All voted Yea.

INTERNATIONAL CLERK'S CONFERENCE:

Council suggested that since T.C. had only been employed with the Town for a short period, it would be best to attend the next meeting.

PETITION FOR ANNEXATION BY NORTHWOOD HILLS:

The Council informed the petitioner that a new petition needed to be submitted including the Front 9 of the Golf Course. Motion was made by Prewett, seconded by Ashby to withdraw this item from the Agenda. All voted Yea.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE #4 OF 2007 (NORTHWOOD HILLS ANNEXATION):

Motion was made by Lee, seconded by Prewett to withdraw Ordinance #4 2007 from the Agenda. All voted Yea.

TOWN SLOGAN CONTEST:

Motion was made by Prewett, seconded by Lee to name Ms. McGee's class of Blanchard Elementary School as the winner of the Town slogan contest, (winning slogan "Reach out and grab your future...it's all in Blanchard"), with a prize of \$500.00. All voted Yea. The Mayor wanted to thank all of the participants of the contest and stated it was a very hard decision to make.

PETITION FOR ANNEXATION BY NORTHWOOD HIGH SCHOOL (AMENDED AGENDA ITEM):

Motion was made by Lee, seconded by Ashby to add the Agenda item "Petition of Annexation from Northwood High School". All voted Yea. Motion was made by Lee, seconded by Whittington to accept the petition for annexation by Northwood High School. All voted Yea.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE #5 OF 2007 (NORTHWOOD HIGH SCHOOL ANNEXATION):

Lee introduced Ordinance #5 of 2007 by title only to be considered for adoption at a special call meeting on Thursday May 24, 2007, at 6:00.

ORDINANCE 5 OF 2007

AN ORDINANCE TO ENLARGE THE LIMITS AND BOUNDARIES OF THE TOWN OF BLANCHARD, LOUISIANA – TWO TRACTS OF LAND TOTALING 63.2 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, LOCATED IN SECTION 36, T 19 N, R 15 W, CADDO PARISH, LOUISIANA, AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO

REPORT OF DEPARTMENTS:

Sewer Department:

Yeates presented the council with a report for all April 2007 activity and informed the council that the generator had been ordered and should be delivered within 8 weeks.

Building and Grounds:

Whittington informed the council that he was working on the Chief's office renovations.

Streets and Right of Ways:

Whittington informed the council that some roads in Blanchard were scheduled to be overlaid.

Water Department:

Cherry presented the council with a report for all April activity. Cherry informed the council that he had received a quote for installing the filter to waste system of \$99,570.00. Arceneaux stated that since it was under \$100,000.00 it should not have to go to bid, but he would confirm that and get with T.C. tomorrow. Council instructed Cherry to get with T.C. to confirm available funds if everything was okay and to proceed.

Police Department:

Nothing to report.

Treasurer:

Nothing to report.

Budget Report:

Nothing to report.

COMMENTS BY THE MAYOR:

Mayor Digilormo stated that the Town has a lot going on right now with the appointment of the new clerk, T.C., and hiring Angie full-time with wages to be split between Blanchard Utilities and the Police Department.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:21 P.M. upon a motion by Whittington, seconded by Ashby. All voted yea.

T.C. Fulghum, Town Clerk

Johnny Digilormo, Mayor