

MINUTES OF THE
BLANCHARD MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING – DECEMBER 9, 2008
7:00 O'CLOCK

PRESENT: Mayor Pro Tem Jones, Alderpersons Lee, Prewett, Ashby, Whittington, Atty. Arceneaux, Chief Presswood, Dave Cherry, Debra Smith, Town Clerk, and various citizens.

ABSENT: Mayor Digilormo

Pledge of Allegiance led by Ashby.
Invocation given by Prewett.

Questions and Statements of Citizens:

Jeff Mathews—Lydia Ave. Motion made by Ashby to allow Mr. Mathews to train dogs on leased property across from W. Lydia on corner of Front Street with Mr. Mathews to sign waiver of liability and hold harmless agreement. Second by Prewett. Amended motion by Whittington, second by Prewett with stipulation that Mr. Mathews have e-collars on dogs at ALL times. All voted yea.

Motion by Whittington to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of November 12, 2008. Second by Lee. Mr. Ashby abstained. All others voted yea.

NEW BUSINESS

Jim Hagan from Balar with Water Plant Proposal Update:

DHH has approved submitted report and will approve their portion of the funding pending approval of Environmental Review through USDA. USDA has reviewed all documents and sent them to State for Final Letter form to send to the Town. The letter will arrive around the first of the year. After the Town responds to any comments in the letter, the Town will then be able to get its Letter of Conditions from USDA. This would mean that the Environmental Review will have been approved which means DHH money will also have been approved on or about February 1.

Pat King regarding recycling deferred to January's agenda

REPORT OF DEPARTMENTS

Buildings and grounds: Whittington reported Town Hall siding repaired soon.

Streets and Rights of Way: Jones nothing to report.

Water Dept: Prewett reported the water dept. needs to resubmit \$ 5,000 offer to DEQ.

Sewer Dept: Ashby reported Williams Street lift station had both pumps go out along with a bypass pump. Buying 1 new pump at cost of \$ 15,000, repairing 1 old pump until another new pump can be purchased in first quarter of 2009. Motion made by Ashby to approve Modification of Agreement to Enter into Dispute Resolution Discussion and to Extend Deadline for Decision on Request for Hearing to extend deadline to February 10, 2009. Second by Prewett. All voted yea. Arceneaux to get in touch with Ms. Rush with DEQ and offer \$ 5,000 settlement plus what the Town has spent up to this time.

Police Dept: Chief Presswood reported roof leaking, garage leaking, office needs repainting.

Treasurer Report: Lee reported audit ongoing.

COMMENTS BY THE MAYOR:

Mayor Pro Tem Jones reminded everyone the Annual Safety Meeting for the employees will be December 11, 2008 at 6 p.m. Meeting adjourned at 7:51.

ALLISON JONES, MAYOR PRO TEM

DEBRA SMITH, TOWN CLERK