

MINUTES OF THE  
BLANCHARD MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING – JANUARY 14, 2014  
7:00 O'CLOCK

**Present:** Mayor Digilormo, Alderpersons Lee, Ashby, Jones, Guin, Chief Presswood, Atty. Tom Arceneaux, Lonnie Smith, Perry Fuller, Debra Smith-Town Clerk, and various citizens.

**Absent:** Alderperson Whittington and David Yeates.

Meeting called to order by Mayor.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Debra Smith.

Invocation given by Arceneaux.

**Questions and Statements of Citizens:** None

Motion by Jones to approve minutes of the Regular Meeting December 10, 2013. Second by Lee. All voted yea.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Resolution 1 of 2014-A Resolution requesting that the Legislature pass legislation permitting the Board of Alderpersons of the Town of Blanchard to call an election for voters in the Town to decide whether or not to permit the sale of alcoholic beverages within the town limits.**

After much discussion a motion was made by Ashby to postpone until the Council decides which way to go. Second by Guin. All voted yea.

**Discussion regarding salaries for management positions**

Lee introduced Resolution 2 of 2014 regarding Office Personnel Salaries. After much discussion a motion was made by Lee to postpone until next Council meeting. Second by Ashby. All voted yea.

**Pat Turnley regarding the possible purchase of East Cove**

Mr. Turnley wants to buy East Cove and have the Town of Blanchard pay rental of the lines and be responsible for the upkeep of same. He asked the Council if he bought East Cove, would they be willing to renegotiate the contract in place with Rusty Miller. The Council stated that the Bond requirements would have to be examined before a definite answer could be given.

**Travis Morehart, CPA with Cook and Morehart, CPA-Audit report FYE 6/30/13.**

Mr. Morehart reported there were no findings on this year's audit. The software merge between CUSI and QuickBooks looks good. Motion by Jones to accept receipt of the report, second by Lee. All voted yea.

**Reappoint Carla Messer to the Caddo Parish Fire District #1 Board.**

Motion by Lee to reappoint Carla Messer to the Caddo Parish Fire District #1 Board with term ending December 31, 2015. Second by Jones. All voted yea.

**Introduce Ordinance 1 of 2014-Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance.**

Lee introduced the following by title to be voted on at the February 11, 2014, Council meeting after a Public Hearing is held.

ORDINANCE 1 of 2014

The Mayor and Board of Alderpersons of the Town of Blanchard, State of Louisiana, wish to continue participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), therefore, the Town of Blanchard hereby adopts the Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance (FDPO), specifically the new Flood Insurance Study (FIS) for Caddo Parish and Incorporated Areas dated May 19, 2014, with accompanying Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) dated May 19, 2014, and any revisions thereto are hereby adopted by reference and declared to be a part of this ordinance and otherwise providing with respect thereto.

**REPORT OF DEPARTMENTS**

**BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS**

Whittington absent.

**STREETS AND RIGHTS OF WAY**

Jones stated nothing to report.

**WATER DEPARTMENT**

Ashby stated 3 quotes were obtained to install 6' fence at the new water plant. The project will include ALL 10 acres, have an interior fence to limit control to the water plant itself, include slats in the fence for privacy at the neighbors on the North side. The lowest bid was \$63,198.00 by Kent Customs. Motion by Ashby to accept the bid subject to meeting Homeland Security requirements. Second by Jones. All voted yea. Some of the water shortage was to stay in compliance at DHH's recommendation. The Boil Advisory was issued by Blanchard Utilities merely as a precaution. It was not required.

**SEWER DEPARTMENT**

Guin thanked everyone for what they did in the water shortage crisis. Nothing else to report.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Chief asked the Council to approve hiring a part-time officer. Motion by Jones to accept Joey Hester to begin work. Second by Guin. All voted yea.

**TREASURER REPORT**

Lee asked that the Economic Development Board and John Fuller be invited to the next workshop to discuss the alcohol petition.

**COMMENTS BY THE MAYOR**

None. Motion by Ashby to adjourn, second by Guin. All voted yea. Meeting adjourned 8:15 p.m.

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JOHNNY DIGILORMO, MAYOR

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DEBRA SMITH, TOWN CLERK