

MINUTES OF THE
BLANCHARD MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING – MAY 13, 2014
7:00 O'CLOCK

Present: Mayor Digilormo, Alderpersons Ashby, Guin, Jones, Lee, and Whittington, Chief Presswood, Attorney Tom Arceneaux, Lonnie Smith, Perry Fuller, David Yeates, and Debra Smith-Town Clerk.

Absent: None

Meeting called to order by Mayor.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Guin.

Invocation given by Arceneaux.

Questions and Statements of Citizens: None

Motion by Whittington to approve minutes of the Regular Meeting April 8, 2014. Second by Ashby. All voted yea.

Old Business

Possible purchase of East Mooringsport Water System

Motion by Ashby to authorize Arceneaux to offer USDA a system take over at no expense to the Town. Second by Whittington. All voted yea.

New Business

Resolution 7 of 2014-A resolution to authorize the State Mineral and Energy Board and the Office of Mineral Resources to Advertise, Accept Bids, and Award Oil and Gas Leases

Resolution 7 of 2014

A Resolution to Authorize the State Mineral and Energy Board and the Office of Mineral Resources to Advertise, Accept Bids and Award Oil and Gas Leases

Whereas, the Town of Blanchard has a historic interest in the oil and gas industry,
And Whereas, the Town of Blanchard owns mineral interest in Section 14, Township 19 North, Range 16 West being town lots and other areas distinguishable by boundaries or ownership by the Town of Blanchard, more particularly described as follows:

Tract 1

A Parcel of land located in the Tower Subdivision, Unit No. 4, being NW/4 of the SW/4 of Section 14, Township 19 North, Range 16 West, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, as per map recorded in COB 1400, Page 297, in the Conveyance Records of Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and being more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at the SE corner of Lot No. 3 of said subdivision, run North 0° 11' West along East property line of said Lot No. 3, a distance of 3.85 feet; thence run South 89° 48' West a distance of 467.4 feet; run thence South 0° 11' East a distance of 3.85 feet; run thence North 89° 48' East along the South line of said Lot No. 3 a distance of 467.4 feet to the point of beginning, said parcel containing 0.04 acres, more or less, being the same property described in that certain Exchange Deed dated September 11, 1979, granted by Thomas L. Hinkle and Miriam E. Hinkle, et al, in favor of the Village of Blanchard, Louisiana, et al, recorded in COB 1752, Page 374, Register No. 808437 in Conveyance Records of Caddo Parish, Louisiana

Tract 2

Lot 4, Tower Subdivision, Unit No. 4, a Subdivision of Caddo Parish, Louisiana, as per map recorded in COB 1400, Page 297, said subdivision being located in the NW/4 of the SW/4 of Section 14, Township 19 North, Range 16 West, containing 2.5752 acres, more or less. Being the same property described in that certain Cash Sale dated January 26, 1978, granted by Bedford Steve Terry and Amelia Bea Terry in favor of The Village of Blanchard, Louisiana, recorded in COB 1639, Page 382, Register No.741919 in the Conveyance Records of Caddo Parish, Louisiana;

Less and Except, A Parcel of land located in the Tower Subdivision, Unit No. 4, being NW/4 of the SW/4 of Section 14, Township 19 North, Range 16 West, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, as per map recorded in COB 1400, Page 297, in the Conveyance Records of Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and being more particularly described as follows: BEGINNING at the NW corner of Lot No. 4 of said subdivision, run Southerly along the West property line of Lot No.4 a distance of 6.22 feet; run thence North 89° 48' East a distance of 301.65 feet; run thence North 0° 11' West a distance of 6.0 feet; run thence South 89° 48' West along the North line of said Lot No. 4 a distance of 300 feet to point of beginning; said parcel containing 0.04 acres, more or less, being the same property described in that certain Exchange Deed dated September 11, 1979, granted by Thomas L. Hinkle and Miriam E. Hinkle, et al, in favor of the Village of Blanchard, Louisiana, et al, recorded in COB 1752, Page 374, Register No. 808437 in Conveyance Records of Caddo Parish, Louisiana.

Leaving a balance of 2.5352 acres, more or less, being leased herein as Tract 2
Tract 3

Lot 5, Tower Subdivision, Unit No. 4, a Subdivision of Caddo Parish, Louisiana, as per map recorded in COB 1400, Page 297, said subdivision being located in the NW/4 of the SW/4 of Section 14, Township 19 North, Range 16 West, containing 2.7449 acres, more or less. Being the same property described in that certain Cash Sale dated June 12, 1979 granted by Trade Mart Mobile Homes, Inc. in favor of The Village of Blanchard, Louisiana, recorded in COB 1734, Page 478, Register No. 799397 in the Conveyance Records of Caddo Parish, Louisiana Tracts 1, 2 and 3, described herein containing an aggregate of 5.3201 acres, more or less All of the above described tracts and lots contain approximately **5.3201 acres**, more or less, all as more particularly outlined on a plat on file in the Office of Mineral Resources, Department of Natural Resources.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, by the Town Council of the Town of Blanchard, Louisiana in legal session convened, that it does hereby authorize the Louisiana State Mineral and Energy Board and the Office of Mineral Resources to accept nominations and advertise for oil and gas leases, accept and award bids, and execute all oil, gas and mineral leases on the said tracts mentioned herein on behalf of the Town of Mooringsport, Louisiana, in the manner prescribed by law.

Also, Be It Resolved that the Town Council of the Town of Blanchard hereby requests that there be no surface operations, i.e., no right of ingress and egress when there is an alternate route, no pipelines, dedicated power lines or roads constructed within the corporate limits. The lease shall contain both a vertical and a horizontal Pugh clause, shall prohibit any surface operations, and shall have a primary term of three years, with no option to extend the lease.. The town will incur no indebtedness due to exploration, drilling or production operations. Bids are to be at a minimum of \$500.00 per acre with a minimum 25% royalty.

Motion to accept Resolution 7 of 2014 made by Whittington, second by Jones. All voted yea. And Resolution 7 of 2014 was adopted on this 13th day of May, 2014.

Rezoning Petition received from Sheryl Rushing

Motion by Lee to move to the Zoning Board, second by Jones. All voted yea.

Introduce Ordinance 4 of 2014-An Ordinance adopting the amended budget for the Town of Blanchard for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, and otherwise providing with respect thereto

The following was introduced by Lee to be voted on at the June 10, 2014, Council meeting.

ORDINANCE 4 OF 2014

An Ordinance Adopting the Amended Budget for the Town of Blanchard for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2014, and otherwise providing with respect thereto

Introduce Ordinance 5 of 2014-An Ordinance to adopt the budget for the Town of Blanchard for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, and otherwise providing with respect thereto

The following was introduced by Lee to be voted on at the June 10, 2014, Council meeting.

ORDINANCE 5 OF 2014

An Ordinance to Adopt the Budget for the Town of Blanchard for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2015, and otherwise providing with respect thereto

Report of Departments

Building and Grounds

Whittington asked the Mayor when the Council meeting room will be moved? Mayor replied the next Council meeting would be in the big room. After much discussion, motion made by Jones to have the Buildings and Grounds Commissioner meet with the Mayor and office staff regarding space limitations to come up with proposals to bring back to the Board. Second by Ashby. All voted yea.

Streets and Rights of Way

Jones stated there is a bad pothole in from of Treadaways that needs repair. Jones also reported that the parish will be in the Blanchard area in June performing some repairs.

Water Department

Ashby reported that the water department is holding its own. After much discussion, motion by Whittington to send a letter from Arceneaux on behalf of the Town to the contractor and engineers that the Town of Blanchard is looking at exercising the damages clause regarding delays. Second by Guin. All voted yea.

Sewer Department

Guin stated that at the next workshop, the Town needs to look at fees. One example-when an employee goes out to turn a meter back on after cut-off, the employee is on overtime. Instead of the usual \$35.00 need to look at doubling the fee. Guin also stated that the hospitalization insurance renewal needs an official vote. Guin also wants the hospitalization insurance to run from January to December, with new employees eligible for insurance after 60 days instead of the original 90 days. Motion by Guin to accept the Blue Cross Blue Shield renewal, second by Jones. Ashby abstained. All voted yea.

Police Department

Chief reported that Phill was back to work. Chief also stated the Town should look at getting their own doctor for releasing back to work employees. Lee asked that this issue be on the next workshop agenda. Chief also reported Poke Salad went good.

Treasurer Report

Lee stated nothing to report.

Comments by the Mayor

Mayor read the following The Board of Alderpersons will host a public meeting here at Blanchard Town Hall on June 10, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. to adopt the property tax millage for the year 2014. Motion by Jones to adjourn, second by Whittington. All voted yea. Meeting adjourned 7:46 p.m.

Johnny Digilormo, Mayor

Debra Smith, Town Clerk