

**MINUTES OF THE  
BLANCHARD MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING – OCTOBER 8, 2013  
7:00 O’CLOCK**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Pro-Tem Lee, Alderpersons Ashby, Galambos, Jones, and Whittington, Chief Presswood, Attorney Tom Arceneaux, David Yeates, Lonnie Smith, Perry Fuller, Town Clerk-Debra Smith, and citizens.

**ABSENT:** Mayor Digilormo.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Lee.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Ashby.

Invocation given by Galambos.

**Questions and statements by citizens:**

Frances Tonry asked for a 4-way stop be installed at Jodie and Warriner. Lee asked that this be discussed at the workshop scheduled for October 22, 2013, at 6:30 p.m. Whittington stated he would contact Jeff Lindsey with Caddo Parish to conduct a traffic study in that area.

Robert Jenkins asked about the situation at 208 Maple Street. The Council notified him that a certified letter had been sent to the owner of the property, Mr. Key, with a copy of letter to the present resident, Mr. Self, asking them to attend this Council meeting. Jenkins also thanked the Council for cleaning up the property next door owned by Chrissy Smith.

Richard Thurman asked about the discolored water. Lonnie Smith, water plant supervisor, stated that manganese is coming from the lake and it is hard to treat. Potassium is currently being added which is helping, but there is still some discolored water in the lines and until that has all been flushed out there will still be reports about the water issue. Ashby reported that other water districts that pull from Caddo Lake are having this problem. Currently there is over one million gallons at the water plant that still needs to be flushed through the lines and that will take a while. Lee asked that Thurman to notify Blanchard Utilities when the water clears up in his location. If it has not in three weeks, please notify Blanchard Utilities of that also.

Motion made by Jones to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of September 10, 2013. Second by Galambos. All voted yea.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Stephen Self – (208) Maple Street, Mobile Home water meter hook up)**

Mr. Self nor Mr. Key attended the meeting. Motion by Whittington to turn the water off at 208 Maple Street because there are 2 houses on 1 meter. Jones amended the motion to send a certified letter to Mr. Self notifying him the water will be cut off within 10 days from receipt of the letter. Self will be required to contact the Town to resolve the issue and get in compliance with the ordinances. All voted yea.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Citizens Bank & Trust Co. of Vivian, LA (Petition for Annexation)**

Motion by Jones to accept the petition for annexation of Citizens Bank & Trust Co. of Vivian located on Hwy. 1 subject to other requirements for annexation being met. Jones also stated

that there needs to be discussion regarding police department concerns. Second by Ashby. All voted yea.

**Capital One Bank (Issues with service charges)**

Whittington asked that a representative of Capital One Bank be at the October 22, 2013, workshop to address issues and get them resolved.

Motion by Whittington to amend the agenda to adding the item to open accounts at Citizens Bank & Trust Co. of Vivian, LA. Second by Ashby. Open for public comment. A question was raised about Barksdale Federal Credit Union. Ashby stated that the town's auditors require copies of cancelled checks on all accounts. Roll call vote amending the agenda:

Yeas: Ashby, Galambos, Jones, and Whittington.

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None. Lee served as Mayor Pro Tem

Motion by Whittington allowing the Town of Blanchard to open one or more accounts at Citizens Bank & Trust Co. of Vivian, LA, at the Mayor's discretion. Second by Galambos. All voted yea.

**REPORT OF DEPARTMENTS**

**Buildings and Grounds**

Whittington reported the town hall generator is setup and ready to be tested, he has prices on the tennis court repairs, and he wanted to remind everybody go vote.

**Streets and Rights of Way**

Jones stated nothing to report. She wished the town attorney happy birthday.

**Water Department**

Galambos stated that except for the brown water, everything else is okay.

**Sewer Department**

Ashby stated the lines are being laid for the lift station improvements and everything running good.

**Police Department**

Chief stated nothing to report.

**Treasurer Report**

Lee stated nothing to report.

**Comments by the Mayor**

None. Jones wanted to express that a hand shake between the Mayor and the golf course owner is not an agreement on part of the town, nor can it be. It does not bind the Town unless the Council votes on it. Whittington stated that a donation must take place and be accepted by the Council. Lee stated that anything that important should be brought to the council. There are lots of questions that need to be answered before doing anything about the golf course. Jones expresses again that she wants people to understand that this is not a binding contract. Motion by Whittington to adjourn, second by Ashby. All voted yea. Meeting adjourned 7:50 p.m.

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PATSY LEE, MAYOR PRO TEM

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DEBRA SMITH, TOWN CLERK