

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
BLANCHARD MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL
JANUARY 9, 2007
7:00 P.M.**

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

ABSENT: None

Pledge of Allegiance led by Alderman Ashby
Invocation given by Arceneaux

Questions and Statements of citizens:

John and Mary Godwin, 4961 Quiet Acres, addressed the council about problems their community was experiencing with Fire District 1. Ms. Godwin stated that on several occasions, Fire District 1 was called and refused to transport residents to the hospital. The council suggested that they list each occurrence, copy Chief Cotton and address these issues at the next Fire District 1 board meeting.

Lee made a motion to accept minutes of the Regular Meeting on December 12, 2006 and the Special Meeting of December 21, 2006. Seconded by Prewett. All voted yea.

OLD BUSINESS

FRANK BREITHAUP REZONING PETITION:

Lee made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Zoning Committee to rezone the property located at Sand Valley and Wasson Road from "Residential Agricultural (R/A)" to "Permanent One Family Dwelling (R/P)". Seconded by Jones. All voted yea. Whittington asked Presswood about a possible traffic problem with the additional properties entering and exiting Wasson Road. Presswood stated he didn't see a problem, but should there be, the council could lower the speed limit in that area.

NEW BUSINESS

REAPPOINTMENT OF DON JONES AS FIRE DISTRICT 1 BOARD MEMBER (1/1/07 – 12/31/08):

Motion was made by Whittington to reappoint Don Jones to Fire District 1 Board for the term of 1/1/07 thru 12/31/08. Seconded by Lee. Yeas: Ashby, Jones, Lee and Whittington. Nays: Prewett

REAPPOINTMENT OF TOWN ATTORNEY TOM ARCENEUX:

Motion was made by Ashby to reappoint Tom Arceneaux as Town Attorney for the term of 1/1/07 thru 12/31/2010. Seconded by Prewett. All voted yea. Motion was made by Prewett to approve engagement letter presented by Mr. Arceneaux. Seconded by Whittington. All voted yea.

REAPPOINTMENT OF TOWN CLERK JAN HENDERSON:

Motion was made by Lee to reappoint Jan Henderson as Town Clerk for the term of 1/1/07 thru 12/31/2010. Seconded by Whittington. All voted yea.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR PRO TEM:

Motion was made by Whittington to make the following Commissioner appointments and Mayor Pro Tem: Water – Prewett, Sewer– Ashby, Streets & Right-Of-Ways & Mayor Pro Tem – Jones, Buildings & Grounds – Whittington, Treasurer – Lee. Seconded by Prewett. All voted yea.

COUNCIL MEETING SPEAKER TIME LIMIT:

After some discussion, Jones stated that a resolution was passed regarding this issue around 1994. The council requested that Henderson bring this resolution to the next council meeting and the issue be addressed then.

NAZARENE CHURCH STREETLIGHT REQUEST:

Motion was made by Lee to grant the request and install a streetlight at the Nazarene Church. Seconded by Jones. All voted yea.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE 1 OF 2007 (CHIEF'S SUPPLEMENTAL PAY):

Jones introduced Ordinance 1 of 2007 by title only, to be considered for adoption at a Special Meeting called Thursday, January 11, 2007 at 6:30 P.M.

ORDINANCE 1 OF 2007

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 3, SECTION 3.7, MUNICIPAL OFFICERS, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCE , TOWN OF BLANCHARD, RELATING TO THE COMPENSATION OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE OF THE TOWN OF BLANCHARD, AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO

REPORT OF DEPARTMENTS:

Sewer Department: Ashby stated that the test results on sewer looked good. Ashby asked McEachern about the west side. McEachern stated that it was on hold at present due to the weather.

Building and Grounds: Whittington stated he would get with Henderson tomorrow and be brought up to date on the renovations taking place. He stated he would report to the council at the next meeting on this and any additional repairs needed.

Streets and Right of Ways: Allison stated she would look at the lightning on Wasson Road. Whittington asked Presswood about trash pick up along the highways by community service workers. Presswood stated that they come out a couple of times a year. Presswood stated he would call Fort Wade about picking up along the state highway.

Water Department: McEachern stated that we should be officially released from the A. O. by next month. He also stated that Jim Hagan would attend the next council meeting with a complete cost for the water plant expansion project and the options we have.

Police Department: Nothing to report

Treasurer: Nothing to Report

Budget Report: Nothing to report

COMMENTS BY THE MAYOR:

Mayor Digilormo reminded everyone of the Special Meeting Thursday (1/11/07) at 6:30 P.M. He also wanted everyone to know that the new restaurant Gator Bait will open Monday 1/15/07. Whittington asked if the Mayor was going to attend the meeting on the 17th regarding a possible overpass for Blanchard. Mayor stated he would attend.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:51 P.M. upon a motion by Lee. Seconded by Whittington. All voted yea.

Jan Henderson, Town Clerk

Johnny Digilormo, Mayor