

MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BLANCHARD MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL
Tuesday, March 10, 2020 – 6:00 P.M.

Present: Mayor Galambos, Alderpersons Lee, Fuller, Guin, Presley and Whittington, Chief Presswood, William Bradford, Attorney, Candy Foshee, Town Clerk, Perry Fuller, Utility Manager, Sgt. Pat Burroughs with CPSD and guests.

Meeting called to order by Mayor at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Fuller

Invocation by Lee

Questions and Statements of Citizens: None

Lee made motion to approve the meeting minutes of February 11, 2020. Motion by Whittington. Second by Lee. All voted yea.

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

Report from Economic Development and Zoning Board regarding re-zoning of Lots 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, Block 12, and the abandoned alley adjoining, Town of Blanchard, Caddo Parish, Louisiana. #181503-024-0009-00 and 181503-024-0012-00

The report from the Economic Development and Zoning Board was in favor of the rezoning.

Vote on rezoning of Lots 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, Block 12, and the abandoned alley adjoining, Town of Blanchard, Caddo Parish, Louisiana. #181503-024-0009-00 and 181503-024-0012-00

Lee made motion to accept the recommendation from the Economic Development and Zoning Board of the re-zoning of Lots 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, Block 12 and the abandoned alley adjoining, Town of Blanchard, Caddo Parish, Louisiana. #181503-024-0009-00 and 181503-024-0012-00. Second by Whittington. All voted yea.

Public Hearing – Notice of Intention to Issue not to Exceed \$5,000,000 of the Town of Blanchard Utilities System Revenue Bonds in One or More Series

The Public Hearing was opened at 6:05. There being no comments in favor of or against the notice of intention to issue not to exceed \$5,000,000 of the Town of Blanchard Utilities system revenue bonds in one or more series, the public hearing was closed at 6:06.

Resolution 2 of 2020 - A resolution finding and determining that a public hearing has been held and that no petition has been filed objecting to the proposed issuance by the Town of Blanchard, State of Louisiana of its Utilities System Revenue Bonds in an amount not to exceed Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000); authorizing the officials of said Town to proceed with the preparation of the documents required for the issuance of such bonds; and providing for other matters in connection therewith

RESOLUTION 2 OF 2020

A resolution finding and determining that a public hearing has been held and that no petition has been filed objecting to the proposed issuance by the Town of Blanchard, State of Louisiana of its Utilities System Revenue Bonds in an amount not to exceed Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000); authorizing the officials of said Town to proceed with the

preparation of the documents required for the issuance of such bonds; and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

WHEREAS, on January 14, 2020, the Board of Alderpersons of the Town of Blanchard, State of Louisiana (the “*Issuer*”), adopted a resolution declaring its intention to issue its Utilities System Revenue Bonds in an amount not to exceed Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000) (the “*Bonds*”) for the purpose of paying the cost of acquisition, construction and installation of improvements, extensions and replacements to the Issuer’s drinking water system that is owned and operated by the Issuer as a revenue-producing work of public improvement (the “*Water System*”), including the physical consolidation of the Bel-Di-Gil Water System in to the Water System (collectively, the “*Project*”), and providing for other matters in connection therewith, in compliance with the provisions of Section 524 and Subpart A, Part II, Chapter 4 of Title 39 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended and/or other applicable laws (the “*Act*”), and authorized the publication of a Notice of Intention in connection therewith; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions as set out above, said Notice of Intention was published once a week for four (4) consecutive weeks in the *Inquisitor*, a daily newspaper of general circulation in the Issuer, namely on February 14, 2020, February 21, 2020, February 28, 2020, and March 6, 2020; and

WHEREAS, said Notice of Intention, as published, included a general description of the Bonds and the security therefor and set forth a place, date and time when a public hearing would be held by the Issuer in open and public session to hear any objections or receive any petitions to the proposed issuance of the Bonds without the holding of an election thereon; and

WHEREAS, at said place and on said date and time a public hearing was duly held and no one presented or had filed any petition or written objections pertaining to the issuance of the proposed Bonds; and

WHEREAS, it is now the desire of the Issuer to authorize such further action as may be required to proceed with the issuance of the Bonds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Alderpersons of the Town of Blanchard, State of Louisiana, acting as the governing authority of the Issuer (the “*Governing Authority*”), that:

SECTION 1. All of the findings of fact made and set forth in the preamble to this resolution are hereby declared to be true and correct, and it is hereby further found and determined that the Issuer, acting through this Governing Authority, is hereby authorized to proceed with the issuance of the Bonds, as described in the preambles hereto, the proceeds of which will be used to for the purpose of paying the costs of the Project, as described in the preambles hereto, said Bonds to mature over a period not exceeding twenty (20) years from their date of issuance, and to bear interest at a rate or rates not exceeding three *per centum* (3.0%) *per annum*, pursuant to the authority of the Act, and other constitutional and statutory authority, without the necessity of the holding of an election on the question of the issuance of such Bonds.

SECTION 2. The appropriate officers of the Issuer shall proceed with the preparation of the necessary documents and the taking of the necessary steps to issue the Bonds, including obtaining any required approval of the State Bond Commission, all subject to such further approvals of this governing authority as may be appropriate or desirable.

The foregoing resolution having been submitted to a vote, motion made by Whittington, second by Fuller, and the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Lee, Fuller, Guin, Presley, Whittington

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

This resolution was declared adopted on this the 10th day of March, 2020.

Introduction by title only – Ordinance 3 of 2020 - An Ordinance authorizing the issuance of not to exceed Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000) of Utilities System Revenue Bonds, in one or more series, of the Town of Blanchard, State of Louisiana; authorizing the execution of a Loan and Pledge Agreement with the Louisiana Department of Health (“LDH”); providing for the sale and delivery of said Bonds to LDH; prescribing the form, fixing the details and providing for the payment of principal of and interest on such Bonds; and providing for other matters in connection therewith

Whittington introduced Ordinance 3 of 2020 by title only.

Whittington made motion to accept the following items “in globo”

Proclamation – Proclaiming the week of April 13 – 18, 2020 as “Community Development Week” in the Town of Blanchard

and

Proclamation – Proclaiming the month of April, 2020 as “Fair Housing Month” in the Town of Blanchard

and

Vote to utilize the yearly (May) Consumer Price Index to establish the utility rates structure for customers of Blanchard Utilities beginning year 2020

and

Authorizing Mayor to Execute - Any and all documents related to the donation of properties owned and operated by Eagle Water LLC

and

Authorize Mayor to Execute - Any and all documents related to the donation of property owned by The Annual Poke Salad Festival, Inc.

Second by Fuller. All voted yea.

February 2020 financials to be emailed

Mayor advised financials will be emailed as soon as bank statements are reconciled.

Report from:

Perry Fuller, Utility Manager – 10 meter sets, 38 locates marked and 2 leaks repaired. The new operator building at the WWTP has begun, should be finished within the next few weeks.

Gary Presswood – John Simpkins will be back on work on March 17, 2020 on the power shift. The policy manual will be looked over by Atty. William Bradford. New officer T. J. Bounds is doing good.

Kevin Sandifer – The date for the initial 125th Anniversary committee meeting is set for Tuesday, March 31, at 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall, 110 Main Street.

COMMENTS BY THE MAYOR

The building at the WWTP is coming along. It will be a great change for our employees at the sewer plant. Our employees will be finishing the inside of the building, i.e. sheetrock, tape and floating, etc., in order to save money.

We have been informed that the 2012 loan with Red River Bank will be able to be refinanced, which will save on interest.

Mayor asked Atty. Bradford for update on the Julian matter. He is working to expedite a court date for additional violations by Mr. Julian.

There being no further business, Whittington made motion to adjourn, second by Fuller. All voted yea. Meeting adjourned at 6:27 pm.

Jim Galambos, Mayor

Candy Foshee, Town Clerk