

MINUTES OF THE  
BLANCHARD MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING – MARCH 13, 2012  
7:00 O’CLOCK

PRESENT: Mayor Digilormo, Alderpersons Ashby, Jones, Lee and Prewett, Chief Presswood, Atty. Tom Arceneaux, David Yeates, Billy Boles, Mat Graf, Candy Foshee-substituting for Debra Smith, David and Ken Lawler, Jimmy Sitter and various other citizens.

ABSENT: Alderperson Whittington, Debra Smith, Town Clerk

Pledge of Allegiance led by Jones

Invocation given by Arceneaux

Motion by Jones to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 14, 2012. Second by Lee. All voted yea.

**Questions and Statements of citizens:**

Poke Salad members in attendance: Pete Holley, John Fuller and Harold Olnhausen. Neil Kalberg, President of the Poke Salad Association, requested that the parade route for the annual Poke Salad Parade be issued. The parade route was submitted and approved, motion made by Jones to accept the parade route and issue the parade permit, second by Ashby. All voted yea.

Jacob Bond, of Boy Scout Troop 159 of Belcher, advised the council he is working towards rank of Eagle Scout. His project towards this goal is to help maintain the Old Blanchard Cemetery by painting the sign, planting trees and other plans. Patsy Lee, President of the Blanchard Cemetery Association, advised Jacob that anything he wanted to do was fine. He was congratulated by the council, and Jones made motion to show in the minutes of the support of the council for Jacob, second by Ashby. All voted yea.

Rick Cowell addressed the matter of the “no parking” signs in front of the Dollar General Store. He was concerned there would be an accident because you cannot see around the cars to pull out, and when a school bus lets children out, it creates a dangerous situation. Since the signs were put up, they have either been stolen or run over and put back up by the highway department. Chief Presswood advised that during the time the signs were in place, he and his officers were giving courtesy warnings to people they could not park there, but could not enforce or give tickets if the signs were there one day and not the next. Mr. Cowell said he would contact the highway department to have the signs put back up one more time and Chief Presswood said he could enforce the “no parking” zone as long as the signs were in place. Mr. Cowell also addressed the fact of the cars parking on the side of the road in front of the Blanchard Masonic Lodge, and blocking the sight of someone pulling out from a side road.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**ANNEXATION PETITION**

After discussion, Lee made motion to accept the petition for annexation of approximately 8 acres of property owned by Dr. John Haynes and others. Second by Prewett. All voted yea.

**AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE 1 OF 2012**

Lee introduced Ordinance 2 of 2012 by title only to be considered for adoption at the April 10, 2012 council meeting.

ORDINANCE 2 OF 2012

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 19-4 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE TOWN OF BLANCHARD RELATING TO THE SPACING OF STREETS LIGHTS IN SUBDIVISIONS AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THEREOF.

**FEES (SEWER PERMITS & METER INSTALLATION)**

Discussion on the sewer permits was deferred. Jones made motion to reduce the meter installation charge by \$100.00, from \$940.00 to \$840.00. Prewett and Lee voted yea. Ashby voted no.

**BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS** - Nothing to report

**STREETS AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY** - Nothing to report

**WATER DEPARTMENT** - Ashby reported rolling gate installed at shop, and electric gate with monitor to be installed at the water plant for security.

**SEWER DEPARTMENT** – Ashby reported that new lift station at Deer Creek will replace the present one.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT** – Chief Presswood reported that he is in the process of replacing server for the police car videos, which will cost approximately \$6,195.00.

Motion by Jones to adjourn. Second by Lee. All voted yea. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00.

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**JOHNNY DIGILORMO, MAYOR**

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**CANDY FOSHEE**