

MINUTES OF THE
BLANCHARD MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING – JANUARY 13, 2015
7:00 O'CLOCK

Present: Mayor Digilormo, Alderpersons Fuller, Guin, Lee, Umling, Whittington, Chief Presswood, Atty. Tom Arceneaux, Lonnie Smith, Perry Fuller, David Yeates, Debra Smith-Town Clerk, and various guests.

Absent: None.

Meeting called to order by Mayor.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Whittington.

Invocation given by Arceneaux.

Questions and Statements of Citizens:

Sid Johnston expressed much concern re: water pressure and smell. After much discussion, the Council reassured Mr. Johnston that the problem would be addressed. When a work order is generated, a water department employee will contact the customer to confirm that the problem has been resolved.

Motion by Whittington to approve minutes of the Regular Meeting December 9, and Special Meeting December 19, 2014. Second by Lee. All voted yea.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Sid Johnston re: water pressure and odor.

See Questions and Statements of Citizens above.

Travis Morehart, CPA with Cook and Morehart, audit report FYE 6/30/14.

Mr. Morehart elaborated on portions of the audit and stated there were no audit findings. Motion by Lee to accept the audit report. Second by Fuller. All voted yea.

Steve Umling- A Resubdivision of a Portion of Lots 2 and 3, of Haynes Subdivision, Caddo Parish, Louisiana.

Mr. Umling abstained from voting. Motion by Whittington to accept the resubdivision as presented to the Council. Second by Fuller. All voted yea.

Resolution 1 of 2015-A Resolution to Declare a 2008 Ford Crown Victoria Police Vehicle Surplus, Providing the Means of Sale and Establishing a Minimum Price for Said Vehicle, and otherwise providing with respect thereto.

RESOLUTION 1 OF 2015

A Resolution to Declare a 2008 Ford Crown Victoria Police Vehicle Surplus, Providing the Means of Sale and Establishing a Minimum Price for Said Vehicle, and otherwise providing with respect thereto.

Whereas, the Police Department of the Town of Blanchard ("Town") has removed from service that certain 2008 Ford Crown Victoria ("Vehicle"), VIN 2FAFP71VX8X180552, known as Unit #125; and

Whereas, the Town no longer has use for the Vehicle; and

Whereas, the Town wishes to declare that the Vehicle is no longer needed, for Public Purposes, and wishes to sell the Vehicle and establish a means of sale of such property pursuant to LA. R.S. 33:4712 and other applicable law;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Blanchard, in due, legal and regular session convened, as follows:

Section 1. The Vehicle is hereby declared no longer needed for public purposes.

Section 2. The Vehicle shall be sold for a minimum of \$ 1,500.00 to any private or public person or entity at a public or private sale on a date to be set with an auctioneer retained by the Town. The price shall remain in effect until April 30, 2015.

Section 3. If any provision or item of this resolution or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications of this resolution that can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications and to this end the provisions of this resolution are hereby declared severable.

Section 4. All resolutions or parts hereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Motion to accept Resolution 1 of 2015 made by Whittington. Second by Guin. All voted yea. And Resolution 1 of 2015 was adopted on this 13th day of January, 2015.

Resolution 2 of 2015-A Resolution providing for Supplemental Pay for the Police Chief of the Town of Blanchard and otherwise providing with respect thereto.

RESOLUTION 2 OF 2015

A Resolution Providing for Supplemental Pay for the Police Chief of the Town of Blanchard and otherwise providing with respect thereto.

Whereas, the Town Council of the Town of Blanchard, in due, legal and regular session convened, finds that Gary Presswood, the duly elected Chief of Police of the Town, holds certification as a police officer by the State of Louisiana and actually works full-time in his capacity as Chief of Police, precluding alternative employment.

Now Therefore, Be It Resolved, in accordance with Ordinance No. 7 of 2010 of the Town of Blanchard, as amended, that, commencing on July 1, 2012, during all times and only during such times while Gary Presswood holds certification and works full-time in his capacity as Chief of Police, he shall be entitled to supplemental pay in the amount of Fifty Three Thousand Four Hundred & NO/100 (\$53,400.00) Dollars per year; provided that the continuation of this Resolution is in the best interest of the Town of Blanchard. Should he cease full-time employment or should lose certification, Gary Presswood shall no longer be entitled to supplemental pay from the Town.

Be It Further Resolved, that if any provision or item of this resolution or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications of this resolution that can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications and to this end the provisions of this resolution are hereby declared severable.

Be It Further Resolved, that all resolutions or parts hereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Motion to accept Resolution 2 of 2015 made by Whittington. Second by Lee. All voted yea.

And Resolution 2 of 2015 was adopted on this 13th day of January, 2015.

Resolution 3 of 2015- A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute an Agreement with M. Thomas Arceneaux Engaging the Town Attorney and Katherine G. Douthitt as Deputy Town Attorney and otherwise providing with respect thereto.

RESOLUTION 3 OF 2015

A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute an Agreement with Blanchard, Walker, O'Quin, & Roberts (a Professional Law Corporation), and to Appoint M. Thomas Arceneaux as Town Attorney and Katherine G. Douthitt as Deputy Town Attorney, and otherwise providing with respect thereto.

Whereas, the Town of Blanchard (the "Town") desires to engage M. Thomas (Tom) Arceneaux ("Attorney") as its Town Attorney; and

Whereas, the Town desires to engage Katherine G. Douthitt ("Deputy Attorney") as its Deputy Attorney; and

Whereas, the Attorney and Deputy Attorney has submitted an Engagement Agreement to memorialize the terms of the engagement and payment for services; and

Whereas, the engagement is on the same terms and conditions as the engagement for the previous four years with the exception of adding a Deputy Attorney;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Board of Alderpersons of the Town of Blanchard, in due, legal and regular session convened, as follows:

Section 1. Johnny Digilormo, Mayor of the Town, is authorized to execute the Engagement Agreement or letter on behalf of the Town in the form attached to this Resolution and to deliver same to the Attorney and Deputy Attorney.

Section 2. If any provision or item of this Resolution or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications of this Resolution that can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications and to this end the provisions of this Resolution are hereby declared severable.

Section 3. All Resolutions or parts hereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Motion by Whittington. Second by Fuller to accept Resolution 3 of 2015. All voted yea. And Resolution 3 of 2015 was adopted on this 13th day of January, 2015.

Reappoint Don Jones to the Caddo Parish Fire District #1 Board with his term to end December 31, 2016.

Motion by Lee to reappoint Don Jones to the Caddo Parish Fire District #1 Board with his term to end on December 31, 2016. Second by Whittington. All voted yea.

Appoint Debra Smith as Town Clerk and Ex-Officio Tax Collector.

Motion by Lee to appoint Debra Smith as Town Clerk and Ex-Officio Tax Collector. Second by Whittington. All voted yea.

Appoint Commissioners and Mayor Pro-Tem.

Motion by Whittington, second by Fuller to make the following appointments for Commissioners and Mayor Pro Tem: Water—John Fuller, Sewer—Jeff Guin, Mayor Pro Tem and Treasurer—Patsy Lee, Buildings and Grounds—Steve Umling, Streets and Right-of-Ways—Jimmy Whittington. All voted yea.

Appoint Economic Development Board.

Motion by Whittington to postpone until Workshop scheduled for January 27, 2015, at 6:30 p.m.
Second by Fuller. All voted yea.

Report of Departments

Buildings and Grounds

Whittington-nothing to report.

Streets and Rights of Way

Whittington-nothing to report.

Water Department

Fuller-Just met Lonnie and David and they are currently working on some issues.

Sewer Department

Guin-nothing to report.

Police Department

Chief-nothing to report.

Treasurer Report

Lee-nothing to report.

Comments by the Mayor

Mayor stated a workshop is scheduled January 27, 2015, at 6:30 p.m. Motion by Whittington to adjourn, second by Lee. All voted yea. Meeting adjourned 7:46 p.m.

Johnny Digilormo, Mayor

Debra Smith, Town Clerk