

MINUTES OF THE
BLANCHARD MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING – JULY 12, 2016
7:00 O’CLOCK

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

Absent: Alderperson Lee and Chief Presswood.

Meeting called to order by Mayor.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Whittington.

Invocation given by Umling.

Questions and Statements of Citizens: None.

Motion by Whittington to approve minutes of the Regular Meeting June 14 and Special Meeting June 28, 2016. Second by Fuller. All voted yea.

Old Business

Public Hearing Ordinance 6 of 2016 – re: Town Clerk Salary. Ordinance 6 of 2016 – An Ordinance to Amend Section 3.8 of the Code of Ordinances for the Town of Blanchard, Louisiana, Establishing Compensation for Elected and Appointed Officials and otherwise providing with respect thereto.

Public Hearing opened 7:03 p.m. After much discussion, Whittington made motion to postpone, second by Guin. All voted yea.

Announce Property Tax Resolution 4 of 2016 and Resolution 5 of 2016 by title to be voted on at the August 9, 2016, Council meeting.

Mayor read aloud the following: The Town of Blanchard will host a public meeting August 9, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. at 110 Main Street, Blanchard, Louisiana. The meeting will be held in the Council room to adopt the property tax millage for the 2016 tax year.

New Business

Discussion re: school water usage classification.

Mayor stated schools are billed as “Industrial” on the water system and suggested creating a special pricing category for them labeled “Schools.” They would be charged at the current rate of \$173.10 for minimum to 30,000 gallons and over 30,000 gallons would be \$7.78 per 1,000 gallons. Whittington and Fuller stated they were fine with that. (A motion, second, and vote will be held at the August 9, 2016 Council meeting.)

Garbage contract renewal with Republic Services

Mayor stated he met with Mr. Danny Wheeler of Republic Services for contract renewal. This contract will be in effect July 1, 2016 and it will be July 2017 before another increase will be considered. The CPI will be reviewed before any price changes occur.

Report of Departments

Buildings and Grounds

Umling stated looking at using the remaining \$4,000.00 LGAP to either raise or lower the court, whichever is cheaper.

Streets and Rights of Way

Whittington stated the new speed limit signs have been installed on Roy Road near the new Wal-Mart road. Some roads in the Blanchard area are being worked on but he could not say when they would be completed.

Water Department

Fuller stated he had met with Jim Hagan of Balar re: the sludge removal and right-of-ways. Mooringsport's Mayor Dearing and Mr. Dillahunty both have some concerns they would like addressed before proceeding with the right-of-way authorizations. Mayor Galambos, Alderperson Fuller, and Perry Fuller will meet with Mayor Dearing and Mr. Dillahunty to work through those concerns.

Sewer Department

Guin stated he assumes everything is running okay because he has not received any phone calls, texts, or emails stating different. He asked that people please be on the lookout for a dark suspicious SUV in the neighborhoods.

Police Department

Chief-attending Chief of Police Conference. Mayor reported Caddo Parish Commission donated \$28,000.00 to police department for a new car and necessary equipment.

Treasurer Report

Lee-absent.

Comments by the Mayor

Mayor reported:

- a. Steve Riall will get the petition for annexing Donnie Bickham to the School Board and will bring a signed one to the Town Hall.
- b. The Economic/Zoning Board reviewed the 2015 Ordinance and will be electing their Chairman and other officers. They will be working on some educational and informative material re: alcohol sales.
- c. Per Attorney Arceneaux, as long as informational and does NOT take a position either way, the Town can spend money to educate.
- d. The Town helped sponsor the 4th of July fireworks at Northwood Country Club.

Motion made by Whittington to adjourn, second by Fuller. All voted yea. Meeting adjourned 7:59 p.m.

Jim Galambos, Mayor

Debra Smith, Town Clerk