

MINUTES OF THE
BLANCHARD MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING – April 10, 2012
7:00 O’CLOCK.

Present: Mayor Digilormo, Alderpersons Ashby, Jones, and Prewett, Chief Presswood, Atty. Jerry Edwards, David Yeates, Lonnie Smith, Perry Fuller, Billy Boles, Billy Barnes, Jamie Davis, Ken Lawler, Travis Morehart, Jason Akers, Town Clerk Debra Smith, and various citizens.

Absent: Alderpersons Lee and Whittington, Atty. Arceneaux.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Ashby.

Invocation given by Digilormo.

Questions and Statements of Citizens:

Mr. and Mrs. James Hicks expressed concern over excessive rain causing a problem next door followed by a smell. The Council assured them the issue would be investigated and the Hicks’ would be notified of the results.

Mr. Rick Cowell asked for an update on the No Parking signs at the Dollar General Store. The Mayor stated he would call Mr. Tindell with the Dept. of Transportation and request installation of more signs.

Mr. Chris Smith expressed concern over the lien placed on his property for 2 trailer demolitions. Jones made motion to authorize the Mayor to work out a payment plan, but the lien will remain in place until completely paid off. Second by Prewett. All voted yea.

Motion by Jones to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of March 13, 2012. Second by Prewett. All voted yea.

OLD BUSINESS

Public Hearing on Ordinance 2 of 2012 (Street Light Amendment)

The public hearing opened at 7:17 p.m. There being no discussion the meeting closed at 7:18 p.m.

Ordinance 2 of 2012

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 STREET LIGHTS IN SUBDIVISIONS, AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Blanchard, in due, legal and regular session convened, as follows:

SECTION 1: Section 19-4 of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Blanchard is amended and reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE A
SUBDIVISION REGULATION
SECTION 19.4 PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS REQUIRED: APPROVAL

Prior to the construction of any real estate development involving public street improvements and/or public utility improvements whether located within the existing limits of the municipality or whether located adjacent to the municipality and planned to be included within the limits of the municipality at some future date, the developer of the development shall submit complete plans and specifications, covering the proposed work to the municipality for its check and/or approval of engineering design, construction materials, lines and grades; if the data, as submitted is not approved, then the data shall be modified, as required by the municipality; and resubmitted for further check and/or approval. The plan as submitted shall contain a record that said developer has placed or has caused to be placed street lighting meeting the following specifications:

- a) The bulb or other illuminating device of each street light shall contain no less than 175 watts, and the distance between each street light shall be not less than 200 feet nor more than 300 feet, measured in a straight line from one light to another.

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

SECTION 3: All ordinances or resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed. Motion made by Jones to adopt Ordinance 2 of 2012. Second by Prewett.

Roll Call Vote:

YEAS: Ashby, Jones, Prewett

NAYS: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Lee and Whittington

And Ordinance 2 of 2012 was adopted this 10th day of April, 2012.

NEW BUSINESS

Jason Akers of Foley & Judell

After much discussion it was stated that the Town is not prohibited from adjusting water/sewer rates up/down, as long as the bond/debt payments are made and an amount equal to 120% of the note is set aside in any fiscal year. Jones stated "not good business sense to reduce sewer to borrow more money form the water."

Resolution 1 of 2012 (Water Installation Fees)

RESOLUTION 1 OF 2012

A RESOLUTION TO SET THE BLANCHARD UTILITIES WATER METER INSTALLATION FEES

WHEREAS, The Town of Blanchard has its own Utility Department, and
WHEREAS, it has been determined that the water meter installation fees for the Town of Blanchard are to be set as follows, to be effective as of Wednesday, April 11, 2012:

<u>SIZE:</u>	<u>INSTALLATION FEE:</u>	<u>DEPOSIT:</u>	<u>TOTAL:</u>
5/8 INCH	\$ 840.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 990.00
1 INCH	1,100.00	250.00	1,350.00
2 INCH	2,725.00	500.00	3,225.00

and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Mayor and the members of the Council of the Town of Blanchard do set the water meter installation fees for the Town of Blanchard as set above.

Motion by Jones, second by Prewett. This Resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Jones, Prewett

NAYS: Ashby

ABSENT: Lee, Whittington

And Resolution 1 of 2012 was adopted on this 10th day of April, 2012.

Act of Dedications:

Carrera Estates Unit #2- motion by Jones to accept, second by Ashby. All voted yea.

New Territory Unit #4- motion by Jones to accept, second by Ashby. All voted yea.

Letter requesting variance from Ken Lawler for New Territory Unit #5

Motion by Jones to allow the following variances for New Territory Unit #5: (1) The building setback will be 20 feet from the front property line; and (2) All side yard setbacks will be 5 feet. Second by Ashby. All voted yea.

Plat for New Territory Unit #5

After Prewett expressed concerns over providing water and sewer to more homes, Lawler stated it would be the first of the year before there will be a need for water and sewer. Lawler also stated that he would only have 5 or 6 homes built at a time, he would not build all 55 homes at the same time. Motion by Jones to accept the plat, second by Ashby. All voted yea.

Ordinance 3 of 2012 (Amend Building Inspection Fees)

The following Ordinance 3 of 2012 to be voted on was introduced by Jones.

ORDINANCE 3 OF 2012

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING FEES FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BUILDING PERMITS, BUILDING PLAN REVIEWS, AND BUILDING INSPECTIONS FOR CONSTRUCTION WITHIN THE TOWN OF BLANCHARD AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO

Soda Point-street lights

Motion by Jones to defer to next meeting and have the Treasurer, Lee, state where the funds are to come from. Get SWEPCO to provide an exact cost to cover the installation of the necessary street lights on the portion of Soda Point that is located within the Town limits.

Ronda Cassidy-Sam's Club

Did not show up.

Potential customers requesting water service

Jones asked for an estimate of the costs associated with providing water to residents located within the area of 9319-9710 Old Mooringsport Rd., 6809-6846 Charity Phillips Rd.

Travis Morehart of Cook and Morehart-audits for years ending June 30, 2010 and June 30, 2011

The audits ending June 30, 2010, and June 30, 2011, both received an unqualified opinion. Motion by Jones to accept audits as presented. Second by Prewett. All voted yea.

Engagement Letter for audit year ending June 30, 2012

Motion by Jones to accept the engagement letter presented by Travis Morehart of Cook and Morehart for year ending June 30, 2012, for estimated costs of \$15,000 to \$18,000. Second by Ashby. All voted yea.

Lonnie Smith 90-day evaluation

Motion by Prewett to appoint Lonnie Smith to the Permanent Water Plant Supervisor position with Full-time status and a salary of \$54,000 year starting with the effective date of April 7, 2012. Second by Ashby. All voted yea.

Report of Departments

Buildings and Grounds—Whittington absent.

Streets and Rights of Way—Jones nothing to report.

Water Dept.—Prewett stated still need 1 or 2 more people for the water plant.

Sewer Dept. — Ashby stated he will research W. Birch complaint.

Police Dept.—Chief stated Officers Simpkins and Allen both received 2 letters of commendations.

Treasurer Report—Lee absent.

Comments by Mayor

Mayor reminded people that the Poke Salad will be held on May 12, 2012. Motion by Jones to adjourn, second by Prewett. All voted aye. Meeting adjourned 8:21.

Johnny Digilormo, Mayor

Debra Smith, Town Clerk