

# **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN OF CLINTON MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN, CLINTON, LOUISIANA, TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 2024, AT 6:00 P.M.**

The Town of Clinton Mayor and Board of Aldermen met in Regular Meeting on the 12th day of March 2024 at 11209 Bank Street, located at the Town Hall, Clinton Louisiana.

The regular meeting was called to order by Mayor Mark L. Kemp at 6:00 P.M. The Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance were delivered in unity.

The following council members in attendance were Alderman Beauchamp, Alderman Betrece, Alderman Blackledge, Alderman Dunaway, Alderman Young, Mayor Kemp, and Town Clerk Shropshire.

## **ADDITIONS/APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Alderman Blackledge moved to accept the agenda as printed seconded by Alderman Young. Motion passed.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 14, 2024, REGULAR MEETING**

Alderman Blackledge moved to accept the minutes as printed seconded by Alderman Beauchamp. Alderman Betrece abstained. Motion passed.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Ms. Gloria Mack of 10863 Bayou Street complained of Bayou Street going west on the right side is caving in and it needs to be repaired. Alderman Betrece commented concerning the liability of the repairs that needed to be done on Bayou Street.

Alderman Dunaway joined the meeting at 6:10 P.M.

### **a. Gallagher Insurance Team/Andrew Olinde, Carrie Anne Slaton, and Thomas Elliott 2024 Medical Insurance Renewal Presentation**

Mr. Olinde presented the official copy from Blue Cross of the renewals for the two health plans that were offered by the town for the employees and included were the renewal increase and the plan that is set to renew on May 1st. The Blue Cross Blue Shield of Louisiana Nationwide, which is the current plan for the town, has eight employees on it, it is a buy up plan that includes the Group Care Copay of 80/60 \$3,000, everything stayed the same with this plan. There are copays on primary care, specialist, urgent care and prescription drugs, everything else will have a \$3,000 deductible, then the employees will be responsible for 20 percent up to a \$9,000 out of pocket maximum, this policy will increase to 11.88%. The employee rate will increase from the current of \$849.52 to \$950.55 renewal. The insurance carrier is based on the size of the group, which are Blue Cross and Untied Heath Care.

Option 2 is the United Health Care Plan which is the Premier \$3,000/80% that has \$0 copay for primary care, \$50 or \$100 copay specialist, urgent care \$50 copay, there are copays for prescription drugs. It is \$3,000 deductible and 20% of the \$7,000 deductible out of pocket, Option 2 rates 13.28% higher than BCBS renewal rates.

Option 3, UHC Group 35/\$3,000/100%, it is the same plan which is called the Primary Advantage that mean there are two things that will be covered before the deductible, which is primary care visit and the prescription drugs, everything else will apply to the deductible, then coinsurance up to the \$5,000, rates 2.36%.

Option 1, BCBS, Group Care Copay 50/50 \$5,000 there are copays of all the plans that does increase, with the prescription drugs, the deductible increase from \$3,000 to \$5,000 and a 50/50 coinsurance up to \$9450. If this option is offered the renewal is reduced from 12% to 3%. Offering BCBS as the primary policy plus Transamerica as the secondary policy, it reduces the deductible down from \$5,000 to \$1,600 which mean that the employee is only responsible for the first \$1600, then Transamerica would pick up \$3,500 which meets the deductible, then there will be a 50/50 split, this lowers the out-of-pocket maximum to \$4,000. If combined, it will pay \$3,500 for Inpatient, \$3,500 Outpatient, \$2,500 Ambulance, \$1,000 Chiropractic, Physical Therapy, Speech Therapy and Occupational Therapy. If the two are combined it takes the renewal increase, which is 12%, and cuts down to less than 5.5% which will make the increase more manageable for the employees that are on this plan.

BCBSLA Group Care Group 60/40/ \$3,700, this is the base plan that is offered by the town that has four employees on the plan. This policy also proceeds 11.4% starting May 1st. A couple of things have changed regarding this policy. Primary Care \$55 copay, Specialist \$75, Urgent Care copay \$75, Prescription Drugs has a \$500 deductible except Tier I drugs. The out-of-pocket maximum has increased to \$350.

Option 2 United Health Care, Premier 30/400/80% it is more expensive than the BCBS renewal, the rates 14.15%.

Option 3 UHC, Primary Advantage 50/5000/100% it is a good policy but has a higher deductible, coinsurance are different, there are copays after deductibles, the rate is 2.43%, drops to \$804.26, losing the specialist copay and the urgent care copay.

Option 1 BCBS Group Care Copay 70/50/ \$2,900, Primary Care \$45 copay, Specialist Care \$60 copay, Urgent

Care \$60 copay everything will go towards the deductible, which is lower at \$2,900, after the deductible you pay 30% up to \$9450. The biggest difference is losing the prescription drugs, you will have to pay \$2900 Prescription Drugs before getting prescriptions copays, rate 4.63%. If this option is offered, the current base plan which is renewal, is \$874.33 renewal rate. This plan can be offered the same plan, Group Care Copay 50/50/ \$5,000 deductible plan, it is giving copays on Primary Care, Specialist copays, Urgent Care copays, Prescription Drugs copays and then offer the Transamerica plan.

The Humana Dental plan is a slight increase of about .80 cents; current rate is \$23.58, renewal \$24.36. There is a \$2,000 annual maximum, once the maximum is met Humana will continue to pay the 30% per

year.

The UHC Option1 and BCBSLA Option2 both were more expensive than the current Humana Policy.

The Humana Vision plan increased to .70 cents per month, current rate \$11.53, renewal \$12.22. There are \$0 copay annual Eye Exam, \$0 copay Materials, Exams/Lens/Frames/Contacts every twelve months, there are \$200 allowances plus 20% off overage.

The UHC Option 1 is a little expensive, have copays. The BCBS Option 2, \$0 copays. Could consider moving the vision from Humana to BCBS because you have current medical with BCBS and would save about \$3.20 a month. BCBS is an exceptionally good comparison policy, the only thing missing will be the allowance of frames, and the contact lens are less.

#### **b. Discussion of fees for Gas Connection Fees**

Postponed until next month.

#### **c. Gas Leak on Maple Street**

Mayor Kemp informed that two bids were received for the gas leak on Maple Street, Southern Underground bid was accepted for this project. Southern Underground did not have any intension to complete the project. His intentions were to offer his equipment but not to complete the project. Contacted Feliciana Welders on Thursday and on Friday they performed and completed the project in one day. The issue was addressed of doing some groundwork to place soil due to a hole that has been there for several months. Alderman Dunaway moved to accept the information given seconded by Alderman Beauchamp. Motion passed.

Ms. Jeanne Butler raised the question of when the board will start blacktopping the streets in her area that are named after the trees. Mayor Kemp requested to form a committee to ride the streets to see which streets are the worst. Alderman Blackledge suggested to acquire a list of the four to six streets with the length of them for bid. Plan to have information on the streets for the next meeting.

#### **d. Surplus Property**

Mayor Kemp expressed that the 2011 Tahoe was sold, it went on public auction for the second time. The vehicle had 157,000 miles. An individual from Leland, Mississippi was awarded the bid, the amount received for the vehicle was \$4200, with a starting bid of \$400.

Chief Davis requested permission to surplus the 2014 Dodge Charger with 185,000 + miles on it, while its still in good condition, will confirm the starting bid later.

Alderman Young moved to accept Chief Davis request to surplus the 2014 Dodge Charger seconded by Alderman Betrece. Motion passed.

#### **e. Committee Reports**

##### **POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT - Police Chief Davis**

February police report of 53 citations were issued, 5 tickets dismissed, there were 19 calls made, 5 arrests, 3 summons, 2 burglary/thefts, there are 1539 outstanding warrants in state, and out of state, 4 cases was forwarded to the District Attorney, 1 juvenile ticket forwarded to District Attorney's office, fines collected by AMS was \$1,644.61, total fines collected including AMS was \$12,654.61.

Alderman Dunaway moved to accept the police department report seconded by Alderman Blackledge. Motion passed.

##### **FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT - Chief Beauchamp**

Chief Beauchamp gave the February report as to they are still having ongoing training. They met with Paul Reeson, the representative for PIAL, which is the Property Insurance Association of Louisiana that does the rating every five years, to discuss what they could do to lower the rating, lower is better. This is their rating year, do the paperwork next year but it's based on this year. Trying to have everyone to complete the training, there is a certain number of hours of training that everyone should be investing in per year. Have been requesting 48 hours of training per year, increasing the hours to sixty-three per year. Hoping to keep the five rating and lower it to a four. Will hire a company one time to assist with preplans to all the businesses and churches for the fire department, there is about thirty businesses outside the town and 120-130 businesses in Clinton.

Responded to one structure fire and over twelve grass fires out of the area but a few in the area, three motor vehicle accidents; there was a fatality some days ago at the intersection of Highway 10 and Highway 955. A CPR class was performed February 24th by Fred, Janell, and himself for the RKM employees. On February 29<sup>TH</sup>

an Emergency Planning was performed for the three public schools. The fire department will attend the Ribbon Cutting at the new Library on March 23rd at 10:00 a.m., they will be making Easter eggs and giving out things to the children. He is and has been working with PEMAC for years, which is a parish wide committee that meets to go over the emergency plans for the parish. Stephen Boyd and his wife are new members to the fire department they joined weeks ago. Will contact the maintenance workers to let them know that they will come to view the old fire truck that's behind the maintenance building.

Alderman Betrece moved to accept the fire department report seconded by Alderman Dunaway. Motion passed.

##### **MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

The aerators at the sewer pond have been worked on. At the present three aerators are down, one needs a new bearing in which the part has been ordered, a starter was ordered for one, there is only one working. There was a major gas leak at the intersection of Bank and Jackson Street, Feliciana Welders bored underneath the road, the steel line was abandoned, closed, and capped off, installed PE pipe and the leak is repaired. Feliciana Welders bored a gas line on Bank, Jackson, Woodville, and Liberty Streets. Feliciana Welders also welded a tap on Toler Street. Filled in potholes and spread asphalt on Bank Street, around

the Courthouse, Feliciana Drive, Marston, and Woodville Streets.

Alderman Young moved to accept the maintenance report seconded by Alderman Dunaway. Motion passed.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT - Alderman Blackledge/Alderman Young**

Alderman Blackledge reported the financial appears to be in good standards and there is nothing financially to go over.

Alderman Betrece moved to accept the finance committee report seconded by Alderman Beauchamp. Motion passed.

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT - Alderman Betrece/Alderman Dunaway**

No report.

**ACCOUNTANT REPORT -Tim Butler**

Mr. Butler reported that the income from property tax is down about \$65,000 income for the first two months.

Most of the property taxes were collected in December.

Alderman Young moved to accept the accountant report seconded by Alderman Betrece. Motion passed.

**ATTORNEY REPORT - Mr. Graham Arnold**

No report

**COUNCIL/OTHER BUSINESS**

No report

**PLANNING AND ZONING**

Mayor Kemp suggested new members for the Planning and Zoning Committee. Mayor Kemp advised that Steve Boyd has expressed an interest in serving on the committee.

**f. UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND GENERAL ORDERS**

Mayor Kemp informed that Automatic Meter Read Equipment has been ordered, we will receive some equipment in April and the rest will be shipped in May, have received instructions to arrange for a contact at Continental Utility Solutions Inc. which is the software company that we use for billing. The eight regulator stations that are on the 10-year uprate plan have been installed and completed, locks must be put on the valves, each station required three locks, the locks will be purchased from Alford Safe and Lock also ordered signs to identify, each station has metal ballasts. The new metal roof has been installed on the building and now they are installing the gutters. Plans to repair the chlorine contact chambers at the sewer pond, it must be cleaned out, the weir has deteriorated by the water, Havard Fabrication has ordered the part, and will do the repairs. Recently, had a Flowmeter Annual Calibration. DCI crew to assist with trash clean up. Mayor Kemp suggested investing in a dump trailer. The Army Dump Truck sits high off the ground, with the ability working on the streets, removing grass it would be easier to put it in something that they could reach than to reach into the dump truck, if agreed upon the dump truck could be surplus along with a trailer that is holding some culverts. Alderman Blackledge will get prices for a dump trailer.

Alderman Betrece moved to surplus the dump truck and the trailer seconded by Alderman Dunaway. Motion passed.

Railing needed on Maple Street at the intersection of Maple and Willow Street. Old South Drive by 11437 Old South and 11516 Old South. Old South Drive by 11635, Old South and 11659 Old South. Church Street at the intersection of Church and Marston Street. Feliciana Drive by 12118 Feliciana Drive. Feliciana Drive by 12476

Feliciana Drive and 12486 Feliciana Drive "911" Center. Oak Drive by 10799 Oak Drive. Woodville Street. Alderman Blackledge will handle getting a plan for the railings.

Alderman Blackledge moved to accept unfinished business and general orders seconded by Alderman Young.

Motion passed.

**g. NEW BUSINESS**

None

**h. MAYOR'S COMMENT**

No comment

**i. ADJOURNMENT**

Alderman Blackledge moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 P.M. seconded by Alderman Dunaway. Motion passed.

/s/Anjanetha Shropshire, Clerk

/s/Mark Kemp, Mayor