

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE TOWN OF CLINTON MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN, CLINTON, LOUISIANA, TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

The Town of Clinton Mayor and Board of Aldermen met in Regular Meeting on the fourteenth day of January 2025 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.

ROLL CALL: The following council members in attendance were Alderman Beauchamp, Alderman Betrece, Alderman Matthews, Alderman Morris, and Mayor Kemp. Alderman Young absent.

ADDITIONS/APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Alderman Betrece moved to add the 2025 Holiday Schedule to the agenda seconded by Alderman Beauchamp. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 10, 2024, PUBLIC HEARING/REGULAR MEETING

Alderman Betrece moved to accept the December 10, 2024; Public Hearing/Regular Meeting seconded by Alderman Morris. Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No comment. Alderman Morris moved to accept there was no comment seconded by Alderman Betrece. Motion passed.

A. APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT FOR THE TOWN CLERK

Alderman Betrece moved to appoint Anjanetha Shropshire as the Town Clerk seconded by Alderman Beauchamp. Motion passed.

B. APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT FOR THE CHIEF OF POLICE

Alderman Matthews moved to appoint Ned Davis as the Chief of Police seconded by Alderman Betrece. Motion passed.

C. APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT FOR THE TOWN ACCOUNTANT

Alderman Morris moved to appoint Tim Butler as the Town Accountant seconded by Alderman Beauchamp. Motion passed.

D. APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT FOR TOWN ATTORNEY

Alderman Betrece moved to appoint Graham Arnold as the Town Attorney seconded by Alderman Beauchamp. Motion passed.

E. APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT FOR FIRE CHIEF

Alderman Morris moved to appoint Douglas Beauchamp as the Fire Chief seconded by Alderman Betrece. Motion passed.

F. APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT FOR MAYOR PRO-TEM

Alderman Beauchamp moved to appoint Alderman Janice Betrece as the Mayor Pro-Tem seconded by Alderman Morris. Motion passed.

G. APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT FOR A DIRECTOR AND AN ALTERNATE DIRECTOR TO REPRESENT THE TOWN OF CLINTON WITH LOUISIANA MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION GAS AUTHORITY

Alderman Betrece moved to appoint Mayor Kemp as the Director and Chief Davis as an Alternate Director seconded by Alderman Matthews. Motion passed.

H. APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Alderman Beauchamp moved to appoint Ben Morris to the Finance Committee seconded by Alderman Betrece. Motion passed.

Alderman Morris moved to appoint Janice Betrece to the Finance Committee seconded by Alderman Matthews. Motion passed.

I. APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT TO THE PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Alderman Betrece moved to appoint Kim Young to the Personnel Committee seconded by Alderman Beauchamp. Motion passed.

Alderman Betrece moved to appoint Clovis Matthews to the Personnel Committee seconded by Alderman Beauchamp. Motion passed.

J. SHEILA FLOWERS -REQUEST PERMISSION TO HOLD THE MARDI GRAS PARADE ON JANUARY 25, 2025

The mayor stated that the town do not have the manpower to clean after the parade and the parade route is 2.3 miles. Clean Sweep in Baker will provide one truck, a driver, and one person to walk the streets at \$70 an hour for 6 hours estimates. Beauchamp Enterprises that have blowers and men to do the work, at an estimate at 6 hours to blow the debris from the sides of the streets into the streets for the sweeper to pick up at \$650 not including the sweeper. The Elite Waste estimate is \$1,002, that would provide two trucks with two people to walk and blow the debris into the street for the sweepers to pick up. Sheila suggested that she will have the committee cleaning up the town after the parade. The parade route was discussed to travel in different directions. The route for the parade begun from the

campus of Clinton Middle School at 10410 Plank Road, leave the side entrance on Feliciana Drive, turn left travel down Feliciana Drive to Church Street. Turn right on Church Street travel Main Street “St. Helena” crossing Silliman Street and Jackson Street. Turn left on St. Helena travel to Liberty Street, right on Liberty to Woodville Street, left on Woodville, travel west behind the Courthouse to Bank Street. Left on Bank Street, travel south to Feliciana Drive, crossing St. Helena, and Jackson Street, left on Feliciana Drive back to the school. The police officers fee at \$200 for each officer with twenty officers; \$4,000.00. The deposit amount to the town for cleanup would be \$1,002, the Mardi Gras Committee would be refunded upon the approval of the town. Mayor Kemp approved the parade permit.

Alderman Young joined the meeting at 6:17 P.M.

K. Committee Reports

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT – Police Chief

Chief Davis gave the December police report of 30 citations were issued, 2 tickets dismissed, there were 8 calls made, 1 arrest, 0 summon, 1 burglary/theft, there are 1557 outstanding warrants in state, and out of state, 0 cases was forwarded to the District Attorney, 1 juvenile ticket forwarded to District Attorney’s office, fines collected by AMS was \$1,950.77 total fines collected including AMS was \$8,063.77. Chief Davis was awarded a grant from Pennington Foundation for \$55,000 with the purchase of three police vehicles. Representative Daryl Adams and Representative Kleinpeter, Pennington Foundation, the board, mayor, and the taxpayers have helped tremendously. Representative Kleinpeter granted \$50,000 this year and a BJAG of \$4,000 for this year to purchase bodycams.

Alderman Beauchamp moved to accept the police department report seconded by Alderman Betrece. Motion passed.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT –Fire Chief

Chief Beauchamp reported a recap of the calls responded during 2024, the fire department responded to 155 fires, alarms, gas leak, motor vehicle accidents and 150 Emergency Medical Calls, totaling 305 call last year. There were only 2 fires in the town that actually sprayed water. The 5 miles radius around Clinton in the district there were 0 calls. Fire Departments members participated in 2,235 hours of training for an average of 124 hours per member. Calls responded to from January 1 -13, 2025 were 2 alarms: 1 in district, 1 out of district. 6 fires: 2 in district, 3 out of district, and 1 mutual aid. 8 medical calls: 4 in district, and 4 out of district. 1 MVA’s, a total of 17 calls. Have performed pump testing on engines, assessed 11,00 feet of hose, completed preplans several months which are digitalized. Flow testing on all the air packs. We received the paperwork from PIAL, and they are waiting to receive the notice for the visit for their demonstrations. Town of Clinton rating is 5, the lower the number is better a 1 is perfect, and surrounding area of town rating is 6, there are no hydrants.

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

MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT REPORT

The December maintenance report was given by Mayor Kemp, on Feliciana Drive fuses were replaced at the lift station. Several sewer lines were unstopped. Read gas meters, located, and repaired gas leaks on Oak Drive, Feliciana Drive, Bradford Lane, Taylor Street and Roosevelt streets. Located gas lines (811), replaced gas valves on Kernan and Roosevelt Street. Other things that were completed were putting up the Christmas snowflakes lights, removed limbs, debris and trash around town, trash cans around town are dumped weekly, grass was cut around town, at the park and the sewer pond, filled potholes around town, put up and monitored barricades on Feliciana Drive due to the bridge being out. The Feliciana Drive bridge has been repaired, and it is open, the culvert was rotted out, and guard rails installed. Guard rails were installed on Feliciana Drive at the bottom of the hill by the lift station before the Bank Street Extension. Guard rails were installed on Old South Drive. On Marston at Church Street, the guard rails were repaired. Built a new catch basin at the corner of the courthouse. Maple Street guard rails were installed.

Alderman Beauchamp moved to accept the maintenance report seconded by Alderman Matthews. Motion passed.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT -

No report

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT -

No report

ACCOUNTANT REPORT -

Mr. Butler stated that on the Balance Sheet we will move \$50,000 to the Money Market Account and CD. The General Fund, the majority of the property taxes have come in. The Sales Tax fund is in good standards. The Utility Fund is weak, adjustments were made to the sewer and the gas fees and getting enough revenues compared to what were selling. The issue with the Utility fund is the aerators, and some bills came in late in the year. The Utility Fund would have made some money for the year. The mayor stated that he has given PEC, David Costen, the approval to repair the aerators. Daniel Hebert with ETEC will come out to locate the dept of water at no cost to the town. Completed his end of the year adjustments, this is before Minda Raybourne does her appreciation of her adjustments, last year the town before appreciation made \$804,000, this year the town made \$1.2 million. The ad valorem taxes, and the property taxes have been a great access.

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

ATTORNEY REPORT - Mr. Graham Arnold

No report

COUNCIL/OTHER BUSINESS

Alderman Betrece gave condolences to Alderman Young for the loss of her mother, Mrs. Mary Lee Wilson. Viewing begins at 9:00 A.M. until Services at 11:00 A.M. on Saturday, January 18, 2025, at the Steam Academy.

PLANNING AND ZONING

No report

L. UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND GENERAL ORDERS

None

M. NEW BUSINESS

None

N. MAYOR'S COMMENT

None

ITEM ADDED TO THE AGENDA

2025 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Alderman Young moved to approve the 2025 Holiday Schedule seconded by Alderman Betrece. Motion passed.

2025 HOLIDAYS

The following holidays are to be observed by full-time employees of the Town of Clinton.

New Year's Eve December 31, 2024

New Year's Day January 1, 2025

Martin Luther King Day January 20, 2025

President Day February 17, 2025

Mardi Gras Day March 4, 2025

Good Friday April 18, 2025

Memorial Day May 26, 2025

Juneteenth Day June 19, 2025

Independence Day July 4, 2025

Labor Day September 1, 2025

Columbus Day October 13, 2025

All Saints Day November 1, 2025

Veterans Day November 11, 2025

Thanksgiving Day and the following day November 27 & 28, 2025

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day December 24 & 25, 2025

When a holiday falls on Saturday, employees will not work Friday. When the holiday falls on Sunday, the employees will be off on Monday.

O. ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Betrece moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 P.M. seconded by Alderman Morris. Motion passed.

/s/Anjanetha Shropshire, Clerk

/s/Mark Kemp, Mayor