

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE TOWN OF CLINTON MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN, CLINTON, LOUISIANA, TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M.

The Town of Clinton Mayor and Board of Aldermen met in Regular Meeting on the eleventh day of March 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 was absent for roll call. Graham Arnold is not in attendance but when in executive session he will be on the phone.

ADDITIONS/APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Alderman Betrece moved to approve the agenda as printed seconded by Alderman Morris. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 11, 2025, REGULAR MEETING

Alderman Morris moved to approve the February 11, 2025; Regular Meeting seconded by Alderman Beauchamp. Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No comments

A. DAVID COLSON WITH PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING CONSULTANT -WASTEWATER AERATORS BID

Mr. Colson presented the bid for wastewater improvement. A bidding packet was organized with plans and specifications. The project was bid out which involved replacing the aerators at the wastewater plant. The original depth of the pond was 8 feet, and in performing a hydro survey the pond is now 4 1/2 feet, losing about fifty percent of the pond capacity. The aerators were bid out to replace the aerators and the baffles. Upon the approval of the Department of Health and Hospitals their comment was that the DMR's were looked at and found that the town violated the Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD). The Health and Hospital found in the last six months of 2024 that five out of the last six months the town violated the BOD requirements which means there is high strength wastewater coming into the pond, and the pond is too small, there is not enough aeration or someone dumping something into the pond even septic tanks that dumping into the pond, their dumping high strength wastewater which is seven to eight times the strength or what normal wastewater is. Septic waste is not good for ponds unless the ponds are such oversized that they could handle the addition excessive waste. The Department of Health and Hospitals requested to provide some additional aeration before the approval of a permit, so an extra aerator was added to the project. The lowest bidder for the project is Mitchell Contracting, Inc. of Madisonville, LA.

The bid item descriptions are 1. Mobilization/Demobilization of \$25,000, 2. Removal of existing floating mechanical aerators, electrical, and appurtenances is \$18,500 to remove all 4 aerators, and the town will retain ownership of the aerators, 3. Furnish and install 6 new 25HP floating mechanical aerators and appurtenances is \$56,000 each, and 4. Electrical work associated with the new floating mechanical aerators is \$58,500, itemized bid tabulation totals base bid of \$438,000. The Additive Alternate, basically if monies are remaining, you could select the removal of existing floating curtain baffle and appurtenances at \$15,000 and furnish and install new floating curtain baffle and appurtenance at \$85,000, itemized bid total (Additive Alternate No.1) is \$100,000. The total bid amount is \$538,000. Alderman Morris moved to proceed initially with mutual contracting bid which is \$438,000 with 6 aerators and doing the addition of the dredging and then the baffle. The two existing aerators will be removed from the pond, but the town would retain them. Motion passed.

B. EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS LITIGATION

Alderman Betrece moved to go into executive session to discuss several matters one being litigation seconded by Alderman Morris.

Alderman Matthews moved to come out of executive session and go into regular meeting seconded by Alderman Young. Motion passed.

C. Committee Reports

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT – Police Chief

Police Chief Davis gave the February police report of 41 citations were issued, 4 tickets dismissed, there were 15 calls made, 3 arrests, 9 summons, 0 burglary/theft, there are 1556 outstanding warrants in state, and out of state, 3 cases was forwarded to the District Attorney, 0 juvenile ticket forwarded to District Attorney's office, fines collected by AMS was \$3,798.54 total fines collected including AMS was \$9,438.54. Chief Davis requested to donate the 2016 Chevrolet Tahoe with approximately 158,000 miles and it is in good condition, to donate the vehicle to the Town of Greensburg.

Alderman Beauchamp moved to approved to donate the 2016 Chevrolet Tahoe to the Town of Greensburg seconded by Alderman Morris. Motion passed.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT –Fire Chief

Chief Beauchamp reported there were 24 calls during February, 4 Alarms, 6 Fires, 8 Medicals and 6 MVA's. Two fires were in the town on Pine Street and a vehicle fire on Bank Street. For the year, we responded to 57 calls in total, 25 EMS calls and 32 Fires, Alarms, Gas Leaks and MVA's. Continuing training and waiting on the response from PIAL for the ratings. Currently there are 19 members on the roster.

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

MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT REPORT – Mayor Kemp

The February maintenance report was given by Mayor Kemp, repaired sewer manhole cover, several sewer lines and leaks were repaired, cleaned up at the pond. Gas lines were repaired on Taylor Street, Reiley Street, Bank Street and at Big J's., located 811 gas lines, read meters. Trash was picked up around town, Bayou Street and Williams Drive, Cut the grass at the park, emptied the trash cans around town, cleaned up around the courthouse, worked at the lift station, and had a Louisiana 811 class on February 28, 2025. Alderman Young moved to accept the maintenance report seconded by Alderman Beauchamp. Motion passed.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT – Betrece/Morris

Alderman Morris gave the finance committee report in February in the account receivable we are within \$500 from what was made this year from year 2024. The gas purchase in January was \$18,000 natural gas and in February purchase \$30,000 we need to monitor this; the price of gas has gone up or if we are using that much gas. Alderman Beauchamp moved to accept the finance committee report seconded by Alderman Young. Motion passed.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT -Matthews/Young

No report

ACCOUNTANT REPORT – Tim Butler

Mr. Butler reported that there are enough funds to repair the wastewater system. Alderman Young moved to accept the accountant report seconded by Alderman Beauchamp. Motion passed.

ATTORNEY REPORT - Graham Arnold

No report

COUNCIL/OTHER BUSINESS

Alderman Morris asked what's the status of the bridge on Spring Street that the motion was made last month to pursue it.

PLANNING AND ZONING

No report

D. UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND GENERAL ORDERS

No report

E. NEW BUSINESS

No report

F. MAYOR'S COMMENT

The mayor commented on the old water tower is not in any condition to restore. Rural Water has completed the process of disconnecting from the old water lines that feed into the system. Removed a tree from behind the water tower, and the half fence that partitioned off the lot in preparations of bringing in cranes to be used to take down the water tower. We've had trees removed through Feliciana Tree Service, a huge oak tree on the corner by the Baptist Church was also removed. Application through LITACorp for funding the wastewater system. Working on cleaning up outstanding exception items on the Bank Reconciliation. Minda Rayborne, CPA, will begin the audit next week. The Autism Awareness Walk will be on Wednesday, April 2, 2025, and will be put on the website to notify the public, the town is in favor of the organization having the walk.

G. ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Morris moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 P.M. seconded by Alderman Young. Motion passed.

/s/Anjanetha Shropshire, Clerk

/s/Mark Kemp, Mayor