

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE  
MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
OF THE TOWN OF VIDALIA, LOUISIANA,  
HELD ON THURSDAY, JUNE 28, 2018 AT 5:00 P.M.  
IN THE TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM**

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Vidalia, Louisiana, met, in special session, in the Town Hall Meeting Room in Vidalia, Louisiana, on Thursday, June 28, 2018, at 5:00 o'clock P.M.

There were present: Mayor Buz Craft, Aldermen Jon Betts, Tron McCoy, Tommy Probst and Alderwoman Sabrina Dore'.

There was absent: Alderman Robert Gardner.

There were also present: City Clerk, Jay LaSyone; City Accountant, Debra Moak; City Attorney, George C. Murray, Jr.; City Manager, Bill Murray; Pam Middleton, Executive Secretary to the Mayor; Fire Chief Johnny Evans, and representatives of the press.

The meeting was opened by the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance, and the invocation was given by Alderman Probst.

A quorum being present, the Mayor declared the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Vidalia, Louisiana, to be duly convened, in special session, as the governing authority of said municipality and opened the meeting for the conduct of business.

Agenda Item No. 1 was a public hearing on Ordinance adopting Town of Vidalia Operating Budget for 2018-2019 Fiscal Year. The Mayor gave the reasons for having a public hearing on the proposed Ordinance adopting the Operating Budget for the coming fiscal year. He reminded the Board of the requirements of Louisiana's Budget Act, and requested a motion to open the public hearing. A motion to open the public hearing was made by Alderman Probst, seconded by Alderwoman Dore', and unanimously carried by those present. The Mayor then opened the public hearing. Mrs. Destiny Robb first spoke concerning budgeting the Hydro rebates and the Mayor responded. She also had questions concerning Project Pencil and City Manager Bill Murray, with comments from Mrs. Heather Malone responded to those questions. There being no further questions, a motion to close the public hearing was made by Alderman Probst, seconded by Alderman Betts, and unanimously carried by those present. The Mayor announced that the public hearing was closed.

Agenda Item No. 2 was Board consideration of Ordinance adopting the Town of Vidalia Operating Budget for 2018-2019 fiscal year. The Mayor spoke to the Board on the need to consider the budget and asked for the Board's questions and comments. Alderwoman Dore' was first to comment and question about budgeting the Hydro rebates. After the Mayor's response, and further comments by Alderwoman Dore', the Board reached a consensus to do away with scheduled overtime. Mr. Ray Ainsworth then spoke at some length on the issue of the budget not being balanced. Following Mr. Ainsworth, Alderman Probst began a discussion of retention payments and the Hydro rebates. There followed a discussion of the need for the study on various utility rates and the Mayor read from Mr. Nawlins' report concerning that issue. Following those discussions, the Mayor suggested that it was time to consider a motion to adopt the proposed Operating Budget.

Following a short discussion, a motion to table the matter was made by Alderwoman Dore', seconded by Alderman McCoy, and a voice vote was requested. The vote was as follows: Alderman Probst – YES; Alderman Dore' – YES; Alderman Betts – NO; Alderman McCoy – YES. Alderman Gardner was absent. The Mayor declared that the motion to table had passed. There being no further agenda items, on motion by Alderman Probst, seconded by Alderman Dore', and unanimously carried by all present, the meeting was adjourned.

/s/ Jay LaSyone  
JAY LASYONE, CITY CLERK

/s/ Buz Craft  
BUZ CRAFT, MAYOR