

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN
OF THE TOWN OF VIDALIA, LOUISIANA,
HELD ON TUESDAY, JULY 10, 2018 AT 6:00 P.M.
IN THE TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM**

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Vidalia, Louisiana, met, in regular session, in the Town Hall Meeting Room in Vidalia, Louisiana, on Tuesday, July 10, 2018, at 6:00 p.m.

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

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

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

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

After being reviewed, the typed minutes from the regular meeting of June 12, 2018, and the special meeting of June 22, 2018, were both approved, with no changes. The motion for approval of the minutes was made by Alderwoman Dore', seconded by Alderman Betts, and unanimously carried.

Addressing Agenda Item No. 1, the Mayor called on the City Accountant, Debra Moak, who presented the financial statements, being a summary of the actual revenues and expenditures as of May 31, 2018. She reviewed the summary sheets previously given to the Aldermen and advised that they were available for distribution. She then reported on the various positive and negative fund balances in the various funds and showed the net changes in the various funds. She concluded her presentation by advising the Board that the Town is on target with its projections through the end of the year. There were no questions. The Mayor then thanked Mrs. Moak for her presentation.

Agenda Item No. 2 was the review of occupational license applications. The mayor advised that there is one application by Thomika Andrews for Thomika Andrews iHeart Dance Company, LLC, to be located at 1642 Carter Street in Vidalia. Ms. Andrews spoke to the Board about the goals of the business and her qualifications. Following her presentation, a motion to approve the granting of the Occupational license was made by Alderman Gardner, seconded by Alderman McCoy, and unanimously carried.

Agenda Item No. 3 was outdoor sign applications. The Mayor advised that there is one outdoor sign application by Gator Sign Company to replace the two signs of Camellia Hospice with 2 signs for Encompass Health/Hospice both at their current locations. Thereupon, a motion was made to approve the application by Alderwoman Dore', seconded by Alderman Gardner, and unanimously carried.

Addressing Agenda Item No. 4, the Mayor reported that he has made his Departmental Assignments for the Board for the 2018-2019 fiscal year. He advised that the appointments were as follows:

Police Department – Alderman Betts;
Fire Department – Alderman Gardner;
City Hall – Alderwoman Dore’;
Streets and Sanitation Department; - Alderman Probst; and
Utility Department – Alderman McCoy.

Addressing Agenda Item No. 5, the Mayor advised that it is time for the Board to appoint the Mayor Pro-Tempore for the 2018-2019 fiscal year. Thereupon, a motion for a resolution appointing Alderman Jon Betts as the Mayor Pro-Tempore for the 2018-2019 fiscal year was made by Alderman Gardner, seconded by Alderman Probst, and a roll call vote was as follows:

Alderman Betts – YEA;
Alderwoman Dore’ – YEA;
Alderman Gardner – YEA;
Alderman McCoy – YEA;
Alderman Probst – YEA.

The Mayor then declared that the Resolution passed unanimously.

Addressing Agenda Item No. 6, the Mayor advised the Board that it is appropriate at this time to pass a resolution accepting the engagement letters from Silas Simmons, LLP, for the audit of the Town’s finances for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018. Mr. Wes Gore spoke on behalf of the accounting firm. Following a short discussion, a motion for a Resolution to accept the engagement letters as presented at the meeting and authorize the Mayor to sign and forward those letters to the Silas Simmons, LLP, firm was made by Alderman Betts, seconded by Alderman Probst, and the roll call vote was as follows:

Alderman Betts – FOR;
Alderwoman Dore’ – FOR;
Alderman Gardner – FOR;
Alderman McCoy – FOR;
Alderman Probst – FOR.

The Mayor announced that the Resolution had passed unanimously.

Agenda Item No. 7 was a discussion of Legislative Auditor Report. The Mayor announced that the Louisiana Legislative Auditor’s Report has been made available to the Town and that the Town will give all interested parties time to study the report. He further stated that as soon as the Town has gathered the information from the Attorney General and discussed the matter, then there will be a special meeting to go over the report and answer questions. Alderwoman Dore’ moved to open a public comment session, seconded by Alderman McCoy, and unanimously carried. The Mayor opened the public comment session. Mr. Ray Ainsworth started the comment session with questions and comments on Project Blue. Thereafter, there being no further comments, Alderwoman Dore’ moved to close the public comment session, seconded by Alderman Probst, and unanimously carried.

At this point, the Mayor advised that there are plans for meetings in August on the Hydro Rebates and there will be advance public notice.

At this point, on motion by Alderman McCoy, seconded by Alderman Probst, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.

/s/ Jay LaSyone
JAY LASYONE, CITY CLERK

/s/ Buz Craft
BUZ CRAFT, MAYOR