

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING OF THE
MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN
OF THE TOWN OF VIDALIA, LOUISIANA,
HELD ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2021 AT 6:00 P.M.
IN THE TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM, 200 VERNON STEVENS BLVD., VIDALIA,
LOUISIANA**

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Vidalia, Louisiana, met, in regular session, in the Town Hall Meeting Room on Tuesday, February 9, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.

There were present: Mayor Buz Craft, Aldermen Brent Smith, Tommy Probst, Robert Gardner (by telephone), and Alderwoman Rosa I. Demby (by telephone). Alderwoman Demby later joined the meeting in person.

There was absent: Alderman Jon Betts.

There were also present: Jay LaSyone, Town Clerk; Debra Moak, Town Accountant; and members of the press.

The meeting was opened by the Mayor and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present, followed by the invocation given by Mayor Craft.

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.

Town Clerk LaSyone then announced that a correction has been requested of the minutes of the December 8, 2020, regular meeting. He then read the wording of the correction as prepared by the Town Attorney after consulting with Alderman Gardner. A motion was made by Alderman Probst, seconded by Alderman Gardner, and unanimously carried by those present, that Alderman Gardner's vote is corrected to read as follows: "NAYS: Alderman Gardner who states that he votes no because it's not in the budget."

After being reviewed, the typed minutes of the regular meeting of January 12, 2021, were approved. The motion for approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of January 12, 2021, was made by Alderman Probst, seconded by Alderman Smith, and unanimously carried by those present.

The Mayor then opened the floor for public comments on current agenda items. No one made any public comments. There being no comments, the Mayor closed the floor for comments.

Addressing Agenda Item No. 1, the Mayor called on the Town Accountant, Debra Moak, who presented the financial statement for the month ending December 31, 2020. As is customary, she began by explaining the various fund balances, which summaries included a comparison of actual expenses to budget expenses. The summary sheets, previously given to the Aldermen, were reviewed and she reported on the various positive and negative fund balances and indicated the net changes in the various funds through December 31, 2020. After specifically reporting on the amounts in the various fund balances, she again reminded the Aldermen that those statements were provided to them in their meeting packet. There being no questions, the Mayor thanked Mrs. Moak for her usual thorough presentation.

Agenda Item No. 2 was the consideration of occupational license applications. The first application was by Finley Hootsell, Kyle Greer and Charles Bearden for "1827 Spirits, LLC" at 1622 Carter Street. It was noted that the application included an accompanying liquor permit application. There being no comments or questions, on motion by Alderman Probst, seconded by Alderman Smith, and unanimously carried by those present, the application for the occupational license and the liquor and beer permits were approved. The next application was by Michael Smith for "Smith's Sno-N-Go" at 2000 Carter Street. It was noted that there is an accompanying sign application. There being no comments or questions, it was moved by Alderman Gardner, seconded by Alderman Probst, and unanimously carried by those present, that the applications be granted. The third application was by Adam Scott for "LA VDL CLARK ALPHA, LLC" at 113 Clark Drive. There being no comments or questions, a motion was made by Alderman Probst, seconded by Alderwoman Demby, and unanimously carried by all present, that the application be granted. The

last application was by Jordan Farmer and Matthew Vines for “Delta Coffee Company, LLC”, at 2096 Carter Street. There being no comments or questions, it was moved by Alderman Probst, seconded by Alderman Smith, and unanimously carried by those present, that the application be granted.

Agenda Item No. 3 was Board discussion and vote on appointment of Mr. Floyd W. Gardner as a new member of the Town of Vidalia Board of Adjustment. The Mayor gave a brief explanation of the powers and duties of the Board of Adjustment of the Town of Vidalia and advised the Board of the need to appoint Mr. Gardner as a new member. Following a brief discussion, Alderman Smith moved to appoint Mr. Floyd W. Gardner as a new member of the Town of Vidalia Board of Adjustment. The motion was seconded by Alderwoman Demby, and the motion unanimously carried by the members present.

Agenda Item No. 4 was Board discussion and vote on approval of a Resolution of support of the Community Water Enrichment Fund for fiscal year 2020-2021. The Mayor then gave the reasons for the need of a Resolution in support of the Community Water Enrichment Fund for the current fiscal year and called on Utility Department Superintendent Roth to be available to answer questions. There followed a short discussion of the terms and conditions of the fund and of the agreement with the Division of Administration to administer the fund. Following the discussion, a Resolution was offered, as presented at the meeting, by Alderman Probst, seconded by Alderman Smith, and unanimously carried by all present, to support the Community Water Enrichment Fund for the fiscal year 2020-2021. A roll call vote was called for and the vote thereon was as follows: YEAS: Aldermen Brent Smith, Robert Gardner, Tommy Probst, and Alderwoman Rosa I. Demby. NAYS: NONE. ABSTAINING: NONE. ABSENT: Alderman Jon Betts. And the Clerk declared the Resolution was adopted on the 9th day of February, 2021.

(A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION IS ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF).

Agenda Item No. 5 was Board discussion and vote on approval of a Resolution of support of the Local Government Assistance Program 2020-2021 grant application. The Mayor explained the need for the Resolution whereby the Town is applying for a grant of up to \$28,011.60 from the Local Government Assistance Program (LGAP) for funding of public works equipment. Following the Mayor’s presentation of the Resolution to the Board, a motion was made by Alderwoman Demby, seconded by Alderman Smith, and unanimously carried by all present, to approve the Resolution of support as presented at the meeting. The roll call vote was called and the vote thereon was as follows: YEAS: Aldermen Brent Smith, Robert Gardner, Tommy Probst and Alderwoman Rosa I. Demby. NAYS: NONE. ABSTAINING: NONE. ABSENT: Alderman Jon Betts. And the Clerk declared the Resolution adopted on on the 9th day of February, 2021.

(A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION IS ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF).

Agenda Item No. 6 was Board discussion and vote on approval of agreement for professional services between the Town of Vidalia and Neel-Schaffer, Inc. (engineering cost related to expansion of Vidalia Water Treatment Plant). The Mayor explained the need for approval of the agreement for professional services, which agreement was provided in the packet and was presented at the meeting. The agreement consisted of 17 pages plus exhibits “A” through “E”. After a short discussion of the project and the Agreement, as presented, a motion to approve the agreement, as presented, was made by Alderman Probst, seconded by Alderwoman Demby, and unanimously carried by all present.

Agenda Item No. 7 was Board discussion and vote on entering into agreement between Town of Vidalia and American Cruise Lines related to new docking port. Representatives of American Cruise Lines were available by phone and made a presentation on what they would like to do and presented a pictorial sketch as well as three different scenarios for the construction of the new dock. The pictorial diagram as well as the discussion document of the various three scenarios was in the packets distributed and available for discussion. There following a discussion between the Board and the American Cruise Lines representatives by phone. Following the discussion, a motion was made by Alderman Probst, seconded by Alderwoman Demby, and unanimously carried by all present, to have the American Cruise Lines representatives prepare an Agreement, in accordance with the discussions had during the meeting, and presented at a later date to the Board for approval.

There being no additional agenda items, motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Smith, seconded by Alderman Gardner, and unanimously carried by those present, and the meeting was declared adjourned.

/s/ Jay LaSyone
JAY LASYONE, TOWN CLERK

/s/ Buz Craft
BUZ CRAFT, MAYOR

The following resolution was offered by Alderman Probst, seconded by Alderman Smith:

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT OF THE COMMUNITY WATER ENRICHMENT FUND FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021

WHEREAS, the Division of Administration, State of Louisiana, has been delegated the responsibility of the administration of the Community Water Enrichment Fund, authorized by the Louisiana State Legislature, setting up necessary procedures governing the project application under the program; and

WHEREAS, said procedures established by the Division of Administration require a Resolution certifying the approval of the filing of the application before submission of the application:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Board of the Town of Vidalia, Louisiana, that the said Town of Vidalia hereby:

- (1) Approves the filing of an application for funding of up to \$35,021.65 to the Community Water Enrichment Fund; and
- (2) Appoints Mayor Buz Craft as Agent of the Town of Vidalia to conduct all Negotiations, execute and submit all documents, including, but not limited to, applications, agreements, payment requests and any other documents which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned project.

THE ABOVE RESOLUTION was called to a vote and the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Aldermen Brent Smith, Robert Gardner, Tommy Probst and Alderwoman Rosa I. Demby.

NAYS: NONE.

ABSTAINING: NONE.

ABSENT: Alderman Jon Betts.

And the Resolution was declared adopted on this 9th day of February, 2021.

/s/ Jay LaSyone
JAY LASYONE, TOWN CLERK

/s/ Buz Craft
BUZ CRAFT, MAYOR

The following resolution was offered by Alderwoman Demby, seconded by Alderman Smith:

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LGAP) 2020-2021 GRANT APPLICATION

WHEREAS, a 2020-2021 Grant for up to \$28,011.60 is available from the local Government Assistance Program (LGAP) for the funding of public works equipment; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Buz Craft needs to be authorized to sign all documents and contracts pertaining to the local Government Assistance Program (LGAP) Grant;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Vidalia, Louisiana, are in support of the local Government Assistance Program (LGAP) 2020-2021 Grant; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Mayor Buz Craft is hereby authorized to sign all documents and contracts pertaining to the local Government Assistance Program (LGAP) 2020-2021 Grant.

THE ABOVE RESOLUTION was called to a vote and the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Aldermen Brent Smith, Robert Gardner, Tommy Probst and Alderwoman Rosa I. Demby.

NAYS: NONE.

ABSTAINING: NONE.

ABSENT: Alderman Jon Betts.

AND THE RESOLUTION was declared adopted on this 9th day of February, 2021.

/s/ Jay LaSyone
JAY LASYONE, TOWN CLERK

/s/ Buz Craft
BUZ CRAFT, MAYOR