

REGULAR SESSION
TOWN OF PLAIN DEALING
STATE OF LOUISIANA
FEBRUARY 9, 2021

The Plain Dealing Town Council met in regular session on the 9th day of February, 2021, at 6:15 p.m., in the Council Meeting Room at the Leon Sanders, Jr. Municipal Complex, 205 W. Palmetto Avenue, Plain Dealing, Louisiana.

Mayor Tammy Murray called the meeting to order. The invocation was given by Mr. Doug Dominick, and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. James Cook. The Town Clerk, Mrs. Katelynne Rich, called the roll, with all members present as follows:

Alderman James Cook	Alderman/Mayor Pro Tem Jeff Benson
Alderwoman Shanita Gay	Alderwoman Judy McGuffey
Alderwoman Emily Jennings	

Others present were: Mr. Doug Dominick, Town Attorney; Mrs. Katelynne Rich, Town Clerk; Mr. Ronnie Murray, Marshal; and other guests.

Motion was made by Alderwoman S. Gay, seconded by Alderwoman E. Jennings, to approve the agenda. The Mayor called for public comment: There being none, votes were cast and the motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Alderman J. Cook, seconded by Alderwoman S. Gay, to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2021, regular meeting, and dispense with the reading. The Mayor called for public comment: There being none, votes were cast and the motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Alderman J. Cook, seconded by Alderwoman E. Jennings, to approve the expenses for the month of December, 2020. The Mayor called for public comment. There being none, votes were cast, and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Benjamin Rauschenbach, P.E.- Senior Project Manager- Manchac Consulting Group, Inc. Stated he was here to update the council on how Manchac has been working with the Town of Plain Dealing on our water and sewer Departments. Engagement with The Town's operator's began in July. On July 13th Manchaic and the Town of Plain Dealing responded to a Letter from DEQ for a Compliance order for The Towns Wastewater treatment facility, which went into great detail, responding to numerous effluent exceedances, etc., Following this Manchaic also engaged in detail assessments in the waste water treatment plant and working through the water distribution system doing a chlorine cleanse. We prepared a nitrification control plan, etc. in response to Chlorine Violations. September 16, 2020 Manchaic prepared a report issued to the town, which goes into great detail, of what was sampled, what those sample results were and the success of the program, etc. On or about November, after the initial response to the compliance order, after some back-and-forth communications, DEQ came back and wanted Manchaic to re formalize the response and it was resubmitted on the 17th of November. The Focus of the compliance order was improvements to the Town of Plain Dealings Waste Water collection system, which is old, the Town is under an order to begin making investments to improve the system. The Plan that Manchac has developed a plan that is broken down three major areas in town, which we are calling critical phase1, phase 2 & phase 3. This document was submitted to the Town on December 25, 2020,

outlining the proposed improvements. Manchaic began work on critical phase 1, which is HWY 3 between the Relay Station and the main part of town. The town's sewer main is located in the middle of the north bound lane in the middle of the highway; DOTD must give permission to work in this area because we don't own the right of way. It being so heavily trafficked is the cause of great concern to DOTD on how the Traffic will be diverted in this area once work has begun. Steve Crishiner DOTD district engineer has given Manchaic verbal approval of the plan, the plans have been submitted to the state for formalized approval back, then we will solicit quotes to come in and perform the work. Manchaic has been supporting The Town's new personnel to improve the operations of the sewer plant, and have plans to continue.

Alderman J. Cook asked Mr. Ben Rauschenbach when the Critical phase 1 work will begin. In which Ben clarified that DOTD had already reviewed the plans and we are waiting on the permit from them so work can begin. Alderman J. Cook requested individual copies of the plans presented to the council be made and provided to each council member for further review.

Mayor Murray asked if Manchaic was aware of any non-compliance orders as of now. In Response to this as of now there were no chlorine violations, etc.

Town Attorney, Doug Dominick asked if there were any deadlines specifically that needs to be addressed and are, they addressed in the plan. Ben responded by stating yes, there are definitely deadlines all of which are addressed in the proposed plans. And Manchaic will respond quarterly to DEQ on where we are and what we are doing to continue showing that we are making improvements to the Town's waste water system.

Alderwoman J. McGuffey stated that she wanted to know how the town would appropriate funds for the proposed plans. She was aware that the grant money the town had previously applied for was denied. She requested that The Town reapply for the sewer grant, with our new survey, in hopes for approval. In response Ben discussed other avenues we are actively reviewing with the Mayor to find funds for the completion of the plans.

Alderman J. Cook requested that the council receive quarterly updates as Manchaic assists The Town of Plain Dealing in the critical phases.

Alderwoman J. McGuffey Thanked the Mayor and Town marshal, keep Bossier Beautiful, Next Level Divas, and Plain Dealing Proud, Fire District 7, and all the citizens of Plain Dealing for the Clean Up Saturday. GREAT JOB! And also, a thank you to Jeff, and Tracy at Big Dup's and Plain Dealing Proud for the fish fry that followed.

Alderwoman J. McGuffey stated that several citizens have questioned her about vendors in town, in the past have umbrellaed under one permit, and she wanted clarification that this would continue under the new administration.

Town Attorney, Doug Dominick stated that after a discussion with the Mayor the town could adopt and Ordinance that would allow Vendors to Umbrella under one permit for Festivals as long as they were in accordance with the law. As per the Example of the Redbud Festival like the Town of Vivian holds.

Alderwoman J. McGuffey questioned if the Bossier Press Tribune would continue to be the Town's publication source, The Town Attorney referred to the statute in which The Town has to select who will be the Town's official journal annually, which will put on the next agenda to pursue to that statute.

Alderwoman E. Jennings stated that Keep Bossier Beautiful did a great job and want to come back to help with Kim and Randy's next clean-up. Alderwoman E. Jennings address if all the vendors in town would need to apply for insurance, for the functions here in Town and at the Lake. Alderwoman J. McGuffey clarified that if any Organization is having a function in town, they need to provide proof of insurance to the Town.

Town Attorney, Doug Dominick, stated that most Town's have an Ordinance to cover this situation. If the organization is going to have to close roads etc. would need to get with the Chief of Police. Any vendors participating the event would need to provide proof of insurance.

E. Jennings stated that we need to adopt an ordinance to cover this for future functions held in Town. Alderwoman J. McGuffey also stated that the council needed to know the proper process so nothing was skipped over.

There were several public comments.

A motion by Alderman J. Cook, seconded by E. Jennings to lobo and table Ordinance 1, Ordinance 2, and Ordinance 3 of 2021 until the March 9th Council Meeting.
Votes were cast, and the motion carried unanimously.

A Motion by Alderwoman J. McGuffey, seconded by J. Cook to approve and waive the fee for the Community Center application for Plain dealing Proud Dec. 3rd 2021.
Votes were cast, and the motion carried unanimously.

A Motion by Alderwoman J. McGuffey, seconded by E. Jennings to approve the Community Center application for Shavonda Stumon Feb. 20, 2021.
Votes were cast, and the motion carried unanimously.

A motion by J. Cook, seconded by Alderwoman S. Gay to approve the financial report from Bates & Murray Co. LLC.
Votes were cast, and the motion carried unanimously.

The Mayor Recognized Senator Robert Mills and Representative Danny McCormick for all their hard work for The Town of Plain Dealing, and Thank them for their attendance in our Council Meeting.

Senator Robert Mills introduced himself and extended his concerns for financial assistance throughout Louisiana. He extended his approval for our work with Manchac and encouraged our continued work with them. He Continued to extend his help to the Town, through a suggestion of teamwork with the new administration, and continued encouragement along the way.

State Representative Danny McCormick introduced himself, and gave some boundaries of District 1, and concurred with Robert Mills that hard times are upon us, with shortages everywhere across the state. He extended his help with anything that was necessary to help Plain Dealing in this new administration as we continue through this rough time.

Alderman J. Cook stated he needed clarification on who needed to sign off on new community center applications. The Mayor stated we would continue using the form that was originally used in the past. Alderman J. Cook also requested for an update monthly from the Chief of Police and the Water & Sewer Superintendent.

Alderman J. Benson said he had been updated at the cleanup Saturday that the town was in compliance with the state regulation for water as of current.

Alderwoman J. McGuffey and Alderwoman E. Jennings requested that there be an update from the Chief of Police monthly.

Chief of Police stated he would not be making any updates because the matters of the Police Department were none of the council's business. The Chief of Police stated everything going on at the Police Department is not a matter of public record until it has been adjudicated.

The Town Attorney suggested that the council requests for a report from The Chief of Police and The Water & Sewer Dept intended be placed on the next month's agenda.

There were several public Comments

Alderwoman S. Gay asked if there were any updates on the bridge. The Mayor stated she was working with Steve the water superintendent to get a call back from the engineer and if she didn't hear anything tomorrow, she would call and get an update from the contractor herself.

Alderman J. McGuffey updated the council that Plain Dealing Proud is wanting to donate some picnic tables to the lake, and they will be purchasing and replacing the wood planks on the dock. Plain Dealing Proud will also be holding a sunrise service at the lake for Easter Sunday morning. They will be inviting several pastors around to help in the services.

Alderwoman J. McGuffey informed the council that Ms. Liz Matlock would be opening a new business in town, located in the old Doles building. The name of the business is Lizzy B's and Company.

Alderwoman E. Jennings asked for any updates on applications turned in for the position of Water & Sewer Superintendent. There being none, she asked to be updated when any applications were turned in.

There were several public comments.

There being no further business to come before the Plain Dealing Town Council in regular and legal session on this 9th day of February, 2021, motion was made by Alderwoman E. Jennings, seconded by Alderwoman S. Gay, to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 6:22 p.m.