

**MINUTES OF TOWN OF PLAIN DEALING
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY SEPTEMBER 10, 2024
TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM
205 WEST PALMETTO AVE
6:00 P.M.
LEON SANDERS JR., MUNICIPAL COMPLEX**

1. Call meeting to order- Mayor Gay called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Invocation - Doug Dominick, led all present in the prayer.

3. Pledge of Allegiance - Alderman Cook led all present the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call -Town Clerk Rolandria McCauley, performed a roll call and verified that four of members were present. Jeffery Benson was absent.

4. **Approve Agenda**- Mayor Shavonda Gay asked for a motion and a second approve the agenda of for the September 10, 2024 meeting. A motion was made by Shanithia Gay and Emily Jennings. There was no public comment. Four of the members voted in favor of the approval of the agenda. Jeffery Benson was absent.

5. **Approve Minutes**- Mayor Shavonda Gay asked for a motion and a second approve the minutes of the August 13, 2024 regular meeting and dispense with the reading. A motion was made by James Cook and seconded by Emily Jennings. Four of the members voted in favor of the minutes.

6. **Approve the Expense Report**-Mayor Gay asked for an approval for the expense report for August 2024. A motion was made by James Cook and seconded by Emily Jennings to approve the Expense report. Three of the members of the council voted in favor of the reports, with Judith McGuffey voting against. There was no public comment. This motion passed.

7. Department reports:

Police Department - The Chief of Police reported that there were 236 civil and criminal calls in August 2024. There were 144 traffic stops. Traffic stop include motorist assist, change tires, unlock doors, direct traffic, malfunctioning signals, accidents, radar, school zone and traffic stops. The chief reminded citizens to call if there are any questions. He will do his best to assist with any public information he has.

8. **Public Works Department**- Superintendent Kevin Whitton gave an update on the water meters stating that the antenna's for the water meters should be in by August 23, 2024.

Backflows are needed for business owners, restaurants, pools and irrigation systems.

Tie in to Teal Jones will be next week.

OLD BUSINESS:

Attorney Doug Dominick gave an update on Allen's Custom Cabinets. Mr. Dominick spoke to Allen Pressler regarding the rental of the Industrial Building. Mr. Pressler has health issues and is no longer interested in renting the building. It was suggested that an advertisement be placed in the newspaper and on our website for the building rental.

NEW BUSINESS

9. The board of aldermen will introduce Ordinance #12 of 2024-AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE AS SALARY OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE of the town of Plain Dealing, Bossier Parish, Louisiana. The salary of the chief should be \$45,500.00 per year in addition to all full-time benefits. Chief Ronnie Murray advised the Board that he not had a raise in over ten years and he felt that it is time for a pay increase. Attorney Doug Dominick states he will check on the legalities. After the discussion from the council, it was decided that this concern be revisited at a later time. James Cook made a motion to table the introduction of ordinance 12 of 2024 and seconded by Shanithia Gay. All of the council members vote in favor thereof.
- B. The board of Aldermen will discuss RESOLUTION 13 OF 2024 a resolution that requires the adoption of plans and policies, appointments and authorizations of individuals for compliance with the LCDBG regulations. James Cook made a motion to adopt Resolution 13 of 2024 and Emily Jennings seconded the motion. There were no public comments. All members vote in favor of adoption 13 of 2024.
- C. The Board of Aldermen will discuss and consider the funding of Resolution 8 of 2024 unto Manchac Consulting Group now known as Waggoner Engineering Inc. and Resolution 9 to 2024 the funding unto GNF management Company, Inc. This is due to the fact that the Town has been awarded the LCDBG Grant in the amount of \$1,747,200.00 for improvements to the sewer and collection system. Gary Fontana of GNF gave the Board an overview of the award and explained the resolutions. A motion was made by James Cook and seconded by Emily Jennings to cash in a certificate of deposit in the amount of \$100,000.00 from the industrial funds, said funds shall then be placed in the general fund designated as LCDBG account and further authorize the Mayor to pay the obligations pursuant to Resolution #8 in Resolution #9 of 2024. There were no comments. This motion carried with all members voting in favor thereof.

10 COMMUNITY CENTER:

Ronald Griggs requested the use of the Community Center for a family Reunion on 10-5-2024.

The North Bossier Civics Club requested use of the Community Center for National Night Out on 10-1-2024 James Cook made a motion to approve the use of the Community Center and Shanithia Gay seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the rentals. There were no public comments.

11. COUNCIL REMARKS:

Emily Jennings asked if the property standards letters been sent out?

12. MAYORS COMMENTS:

Mr. Edwards and Dr. Anita of Plain Dealing High School would like to involve the students in a clean-up for the town. The streets that have been identified are South Perrin St and South Arkansas. Council members are urged to participate in the clean-up. This event will take place on September 28, 2024.

Marilyn Turnley stated that she would like for the Town limits to be extended.

Kim Allums asked if we will be taking on more responsibilities/what are the benefits of taking over or extending?

Gary Fontana mentioned that there is a clearance and demolition program through CDBG and applicants could receive \$250,000.00.

Levet Johnson stated the Demoss hill area needs lots of work because it has been neglected for years. The residents have been paying taxed for years but have not been receiving the work.

13. ADJOURN: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by JAMES Cook and seconded by Emily Jennings. All members voted in favor thereon. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM