

**TOWN OF ROSEPINE - MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING & PUBLIC HEARING
JULY 13, 2017 - 7:00 P.M.**

Item #1 Mayor Duvall called the meeting to order.

Item #2 Invocation was given by Alderman Solinsky.

Item #3 The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Item #4 Officials Present: Mayor Donna Duvall, Aldermen BJ Bjornberg, Ray Blanchard, Damon Johnson, Jeff Solinsky, Leonard Johnson, Town Clerk Melissa Davis, and Town Attorney Steven Oxenhandler.

Absent was: Chief of Police Delbert Keel.

Employees Present: Assistant Chief Andre Westlake, Utility Clerk Lisa Book, Asst. Clerk Eve Duhon, Public Works Director Mike Numbers, and CPA Randy Brown.

Guests present: Sabrina Salling with Cleco, Randal Jackson, Lisa Nelson, Tony Bennett, Greg Crawford, Rachel Steffan, and Rocky Numbers.

Item #5 Lisa Nelson, candidate for district judge, introduced herself and told of her qualifications for district judge.

Item #6 Tony Bennett, candidate for district judge, also introduced himself and told of his qualifications for district judge.

Item #7 Alderman Damon Johnson made a motion to accept the minutes from the June 8, 2017 regular meeting. Seconded by Alderman Bjornberg. All I's.

Item #8 Mayor Duvall thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She then updated everyone on the deployment at Ft. Polk along with what has been happening in the town. She also updated everyone on the events that will be taking place around the area.

Item #9 A motion was made by Alderman Damon Johnson to accept the financial reports for the month ending June 30, 2017 as presented. Seconded by Alderman Bjornberg. All I's.

Item #10 Randall Jackson, a resident of Rosepine, explained to the board of aldermen that The Church of Rosepine has been playing their music so loud that it was disturbing him in his home. He informed them that he had reached out to the mayor and chief of police and had found no resolution and he was hoping the board would remedy the problem. A lengthy discussion was held between Mr. Jackson, Pastor Greg Crawford, and the board members concerning how to handle the situation. Pastor Crawford stated that it was his commitment to work together with Mr. Jackson. The discussion ended with it being the board of aldermen's understanding that Mr. Jackson and Pastor Crawford would work it out between each other.

Item #11 Mayor Duvall opened a public hearing concerning Ordinance #5 of 2017 (An ordinance granting franchise to Cleco Power LLC). No one commented and Mayor Duvall closed the public hearing.

Item #12 Alderman Solinsky made a motion that was seconded by Alderman Blanchard to adopt Ordinance # 5 of 2017. All I's by roll call vote.

Item #13 Alderman Solinsky made a motion to present Ordinance #6 of 2017 (An Ordinance to adopt an amended operating budget of revenue and expenditures for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2017). Seconded by Alderman Damon Johnson. All I's.

Item #14 Mayor Duvall opened the discussion of the annual utility rates review which is set to be discussed annually by ordinance. Alderman Solinsky explained why it was put into ordinance to adjust the rates in accordance with the cost of living increase instead of waiting years and having an extensively large increase. The cost of living increase was deemed to be 2.1%. There were mixed feelings amongst the board concerning raising the rates. Alderman Damon Johnson made a motion to raise the utility rates 1%. A discussion was held concerning the operating cost increase. The board ultimately decided to table the item until next month and look into the operating cost increase of the last two years before a decision is made.

Item #15 Alderman Solinsky made a motion that was seconded by Alderman Leonard Johnson to adjust the Customer Utility Accounts Policy to state if a customer has a water leak that the Public Works Director deems did not travel into the sewer treatment system, the sewer portion of the bill can be adjusted back to the average sewer bill. Any leak amount over the average bill can be paid out over a maximum of six months. If more time is needed it will need to come before the board. All I's.

Item #16 Attorney Oxenhandler informed the board that he was asked to start back working with LSU concerning the road to the future recreational ball park. He stated that he ran into some issues. The issues were the the curve on the survey had never been approved by LSU, the road would have to be paved within three years of donation, and another railroad crossing would have to be installed. He stated that the town would have until 2020 to have it completed. He also asked the board for permission for him and mayor to go to a police jury meeting to request help from them. The board granted them permission.

Item #17 There being no further business the meeting was adjourned. No objections.

Melissa Davis, Town Clerk

Donna W. Duvall, Mayor