

**MINUTES OF  
TOWN OF PLAIN DEALING  
REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY JULY 12, 2022  
TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM  
205 WEST PALMETTO AVE  
6:00 P. M.  
LEON SANDERS JR., MUNICIPAL COMPLEX**

- 1. Call meeting to order** – Mayor Pro temp Benson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- 2. Invocation - Town Attorney, Douglas C Dominick**, led all present in the prayer.
- 3. Pledge of Allegiance** - Alderman Cook led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call** - Town Clerk Rolandria McCauley, performed a roll call and verified that three members were present. The following Board of Aldermen were present: Jeff Benson, Shanithia Gay, Emily Jennings, James Cook. Judith McGuffey was absent.

**4. Approve Agenda** - Mayor Pro temp Benson asked for a motion to approve the agenda. A motion was made by Emily Jennings and seconded by Shanithia Gay. All members voted in favor of the approved agenda.

**5. Approve Minutes** - Mayor Pro temp Benson asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2022 minutes. Motion was made by Shanithia Gay and seconded by Emily Jennings. All members voted in favor of the approval of the minutes.

**6. Approve the Expense Report** - Mayor Pro temp Benson asked for an approval for the expense report for June 14, 2022. A motion was made by Emily Jennings and seconded by Shanithia Gay to approve the expense report. All members of the council voted in favor of the reports.

**7. Department reports:**

a. **Police Department** - Mayor Pro temp Benson reported that the Chief of Police had provided a written report on activity of the Plain Dealing Police Department however, there was a discrepancy with the information provided. Chief Murray stated that the correct information will be provided at the next meeting.

b. **Public Works Department** - Superintendent Kevin Whitton gave an update on the lift station on Mockingbird Lane. It is up and running. The Police Jury has been notified and asked to assist.

**8. OLD BUSINESS**

Attorney Doug Dominick gave an update on the Town's water. It is known that the last rate increase occurred in 2016. It was suggested that the water rates increase in three-year increments.

There will also be two appointments to the board to be made by the Town. Two of members terms will expire in July of 2022 therefore a replacement will be needed for August 1,

2022. The members of the council were given an opportunity to make suggestions for the upcoming fire district seats.

Mayor Pro temp Benson asked for a motion and a second to open the floor for nominations for the two members of the Fire District Board. A motion was made by James Cook and Seconded by Shanithia Gay. All member were in favor of the opening the floor for nominations.

James Cook nominated Cindy Dodson and Lenora Green.  
Shanithia Gay nominated Lenora Green and Charlotte Hamiter  
Emily Jennings and Jeff Benson nominees are already listed.

James Cook made a motion to close the nominations and Emily Jennings seconded.  
Council member voted on the said nominees. There were 4 votes for Lenora Green, and a tie between Charlotte Hamiter and Cindy Dodson. Lenora Green is named as the Fire District 7 board member. There will be a special called meeting held to break the tie Charlotte Hamiter and Cindy Dodson.

## **9. NEW BUSINESS –**

**a.** Attorney Doug Dominick gave an update regarding the sawmill.

The ground breaking ceremony was held on July 12, 2022. There are a few things that need to work out as far as the contract goes.

**b.** The board of Council was made aware of the fact that the Police Department in need of new officers. No applicants at the time.

**c.** A motion was made by James Cook to introduce ordinance 2 of 2022- being an ordinance to adopt Section 30-3- Industrial Water Rates and Sewer Rates (outside of the Town limits) of ARTICLE I- IN GENERAL OF CHAPTER 30 UTILITIES of the Code of Ordinance of the Town of Plain Dealing. A motion was made by James Cook and seconded by Emily Jennings. All members voted in favor of the introduction of ordinance.

**d.** A motion was made by James Cook to authorize the mayor to sign and execute THE WATER AND /OR SEWER SERVICE AGREEMENT AND RESTRICTIVE COVENANT by and between the town of Plain Dealing, Bossier Parish Police Jury and Tea! Jones (this agreement will authorize the Town of Plain Dealing to allocate the sum of \$700,000.00 to the project and further authorize the Town to operate the water and sewer system to the saw mill upon completion of the project). Motioned seconded by Shanithia Gay. All member voted in favor of the resolution

Community Center applications- The Plain Dealing Community Group is sponsoring a back-to-school bash on July 30, 2022 as has requested that the rental fees are waived. The council members denied the request for the fee to be waived but granted permission to use the facility for the back-to-school bash. A motion was made by James Cook and seconded by Emily Jennings to use the community center. All members were in voted favor of the rentals. Shanithia Gay abstained from voting.

**Council Remarks-**Emily Jennings encouraged the citizens to use the Towns website to pay bills.

Attorney Doug Dominick verified that the proclamation is valid and the council members do not have to qualify for seats.

**Mayor's Comments-** None

Adjourn: Motion was made by Emily Jennings and seconded by Shanithia Gay to adjourn the meeting. This motion passed with all members voting in favor thereof. Meeting was adjourned at 7:03 P M

Approved by:

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Rolandria McCauley

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Shavonda Gay