

REGULAR SESSION
TOWN OF PLAIN DEALING
STATE OF LOUISIANA
AUGUST 11, 2020

The Plain Dealing Town Council met in regular session on the 11th day of August, 2020, at 6:00 p.m., in the Council Meeting Room at the Leon Sanders, Jr. Municipal Complex, 205 W. Palmetto Avenue, Plain Dealing, Louisiana. Mayor Cindy Dodson called the meeting to order. The invocation was given by Mr. James Southerland, and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ms. Emily Jennings. The Town Clerk, Ms. Sandra McMillan, called the roll, with the following members present:

Alderman James Cook	Alderman Howard Haynie
Alderwoman Shanita Gay	Alderwoman Judy McGuffey
Alderwoman Emily Jennings	

Others present were: Ms. Cindy Dodson, Mayor; Mr. James Southerland, Town Attorney; Ms. Sandra McMillan, Town Clerk; Mr. Ronnie Murray, Marshal; and other guests.

Motion was made by Alderman J. Cook, seconded by Alderwoman S. Gay, 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 H. Haynie, seconded by Alderwoman J. McGuffey, to approve the minutes of the July 14, 2020, 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 Alderwoman S. Gay, seconded by Alderwoman E. Jennings, to approve the expenses for the month of July, 2020. The Mayor called for public comment. There being none, votes were cast, and the motion carried unanimously.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Motion was made by Alderman J. Cook, seconded by Alderwoman S. Gay, to approve the Financial Statements for the period ending June 30, 2020. The Mayor called for public comment. There being none, votes were cast, and the motion carried unanimously.

The following Ordinance offered and adopted:

Public Comments: None

ORDINANCE NO. 1 OF 2020

AN ORDINANCE PURSUANT TO LA R.S. 33:1181, AMENDING SECTION 3, SUBSECTIONS (C.) AND (D.), OF THE CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF PLAIN DEALING, A MUNICIPALITY OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA.

WHEREAS, the Mayor, Board of Aldermen and the Town Marshal of the Town of Plain Dealing, Bossier Parish, LA, currently serve an elected term of office of two years; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Mayor, Board of Aldermen and the Town Marshal of the Town of Plain Dealing to amend the term of office for each of these elected officials from two years to four years; and

WHEREAS, this four-year term of office shall begin and become effective for those officials elected at the Municipal Primary Election held on November 3, 2020, and at the December 5, 2020 General Election, if required for any run-off vote.

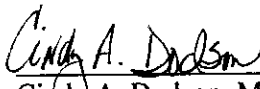
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Town of Plain Dealing Board of Aldermen, that Section 3, Subsections (C.) and (D.) of the Charter for the Town of Plain Dealing, a municipality of the State of Louisiana, be and are hereby amended to read as follows:

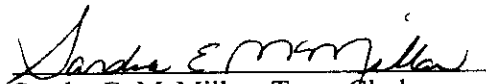
- C. The municipal election shall continue to be held every four years on the date that coincides with congressional elections.
- D. The Mayor, Board of Aldermen and Town Marshal shall take office on the first day of January following their election and shall hold their offices for four years.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the Charter of the Town of Plain Dealing be and is hereby amended as set forth, and said amendments shall be published for three weeks in the official journal for the Town of Plain Dealing and shall be posted for said time in three public places within the municipality, and thereafter submitted to the Governor for approval. Said amendment shall also be filed with the Louisiana Secretary of State.

The ordinance was offered by Alderman J. Cook, seconded by Alderwoman E. Jennings. It was duly adopted on this 11th day of August, 2020, by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Alderman J. Cook, Alderwoman S. Gay, Alderman H. Haynie, Alderwoman E. Jennings, Alderwoman J. McGuffey
NAYS : None
ABSTAIN : None
ABSENT : None


Cindy A. Dodson, Mayor


Sandra E. McMillan, Town Clerk

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Article 7, Section 23(C) of the Louisiana Constitution and R.S. 47:1705(B) that a public hearing of The Town of Plain Dealing in Bossier Parish will be held at its regular meeting place Town Hall Meeting Room, located at 205 West Palmetto, Plain Dealing, LA 71064 on Tuesday October 13, 2020 at 5:45 p.m. to consider levying additional or increased millage rates without further voter approval or adopting the adjusted millage rates after reassessment and rolling forward to rates not to exceed the prior year's maximum. The estimated amount of tax revenues to be collected in the next year for General Alimony from the increased millage is \$31,955.10 and the amount of increase in taxes attributable to the millage increase is \$1,830.19.

Publish 8/19 & 8/26

Proposed Ordinance No. 2 of 2020 was introduced, as follows:

STATE OF LOUISIANA
TOWN OF PLAIN DEALING

ORDINANCE NO. 2 OF 2020

MOTION BY: _____
SECONDED BY: _____

ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE GENERAL ALIMONY "ADJUSTED" MILLAGE RATES IN THE TOWN OF PLAIN DEALING FOR 2020 TAX YEAR.

SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Plain Dealing Louisiana, in regular and legal session convened, that the Town of Plain Dealing of the Parish of Bossier, Louisiana, in a public meeting held on October 13, 2020, which meeting was conducted in accordance with the Open Meetings Law and the additional requirements of Article VII, Section 23(C) of the Louisiana Constitution and R.S. 47:1705(B), that the following adjusted millage rates be and they are hereby levied upon the dollar of each assessed valuation of all property which is subject to ad valorem taxation within said Town for the year 2020 for the purpose of raising revenue:

	<u>MILLAGE</u>
General Alimony (5080 001):	8.230 mills

SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Assessor of the Parish of Bossier, shall extend upon the assessment roll for the year 2020 the taxes herein levied, and the tax collector of said Parish shall collect and remit the same to said taxing authority in accordance with law.

The foregoing ordinance was read in full, and was duly adopted on this ___ day of _____, 2020, by the following roll call vote:

- YEAS:
- NAYS:
- ABSTAINED:
- ABSENT:

ATTEST:

Sandra E. McMillan, Town Clerk
TOWN OF PLAIN DEALING

Cindy A. Dodson, Mayor
TOWN OF PLAIN DEALING

Motion was made by Alderwoman E. Jennings, seconded by Alderman J. Cook, to set a public hearing beginning at 5:45 p.m., Tuesday, October 13, 2020, to receive public input on proposed Ordinance No. 2 of 2020, and to vote on the adoption of Ordinance No. 2 of 2020 at the regular council meeting on October 13, 2020. The Mayor called for public comment. There being none, votes were cast, and the motion carried unanimously.

Proposed Ordinance No. 3 of 2020 was introduced, as follows:

STATE OF LOUISIANA
TOWN OF PLAIN DEALING

ORDINANCE NO. 3 OF 2020

MOTION BY: _____
SECONDED BY: _____

ORDINANCE WHICH SETS FORTH THE GENERAL ALIMONY "ADJUSTED" MILLAGE RATE AND ROLL FORWARD TO MILLAGE RATES NOT EXCEEDING THE "MAXIMUM" AUTHORIZED RATE.

SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Plain Dealing of the Parish of Bossier, Louisiana, in a public meeting held on October 13, 2020, which meeting was conducted in accordance with the Open Meetings Law and the additional requirements of Article VII, Section 23(C) of the Louisiana Constitution and R.S. 47:1705(B), that the taxing district voted to increase the millage rate(s), but not in excess of the prior year's maximum rate(s), on all taxable property shown on the official assessment roll for the year 2020, and when collected, the revenues from said taxes shall be used only for the specific purposes for which said taxes have been levied. Said millage rate(s) are:

	<u>Adjusted Rate</u>	<u>2020 Levy</u>
General Alimony (5080 001):	8.230 mills	8.730 mills

SECTION 2. BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Plain Dealing of the Parish of Bossier Louisiana, that the Assessor of the Parish of Bossier, shall extend upon the assessment roll for the year 2020 the taxes herein levied, and the tax collector of said Parish shall collect and remit the same to said taxing authority in accordance with law.

The foregoing ordinance was read in full, the roll was called on the adoption thereof, and the ordinance was adopted by no less than two-thirds of the total membership of the taxing authority voting in favor as required by Article VII, Section 23(C) of the Louisiana Constitution and R.S. 47:1705(B). The votes were:

- YEAS:
- NAYS:
- ABSTAINED:
- ABSENT:

ATTEST:

Sandra E. McMillan, Town Clerk
TOWN OF PLAIN DEALING

Cindy A. Dodson, Mayor
TOWN OF PLAIN DEALING

Motion was made by Alderwoman E. Jennings, seconded by Alderwoman S. Gay, to set a public hearing beginning at 5:45 p.m., Tuesday, October 13, 2020, to receive public input on proposed Ordinance No. 3 of 2020, and to vote on the adoption of Ordinance No. 3 of 2020 at the regular council meeting on October 13, 2020. 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 ratify the acceptance of a proposal from Atakapa Services in the amount of \$36,943.00, for performing a Sanitary Sewer Evaluation Survey (SSES), in accordance with a Compliance Order issued by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality. The Mayor called for public comment. There being none, motion carried unanimously, with the following roll call vote recorded:

YEAS: Alderman J. Cook, Alderwoman S. Gay, Alderman H. Haynie, Alderwoman E. Jennings,
Alderwoman J. McGuffey
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Mayor C. Dodson stated that Mr. James Bates, Bates, Murray & Company, was unable to attend the meeting, advising that the following statement has been received from Bates, Murray & Company regarding completion of the Town of Plain Dealing 2019 Audit:

“On behalf of Ms. Marsha Millican and Bates, Murray & Company, we would like to thank the Mayor, the Town Clerk and the staff for the assistance they provided during the COVID 19 pandemic crisis. No audit findings for 2019.”

Council members were each provided a copy of the 2019 Town of Plain Dealing audit.

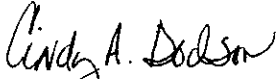
Motion was made by Alderman J. Cook, seconded by Alderwoman E. Jennings, to ratify the hiring of Michael Lowe, Attorney at Law, Kean Miller, LLP, to amend and update Town of Plain Dealing employee policies and procedures manuals for all departments of the Town of Plain Dealing to bring employee policies in compliance with all current labor laws and regulations. The Mayor called for public comment. There being none, motion carried unanimously, with the following roll call vote recorded:

YEAS: Alderman J. Cook, Alderwoman S. Gay, Alderman H. Haynie, Alderwoman E. Jennings,
Alderwoman J. McGuffey
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None


Alderwoman J. McGuffey gave an update on the status of seeking quotes for repair of the fence at the cemetery.

The Mayor and members of the Council expressed their sincere appreciation to Ms. Kim Allums and Mr. Randy Hays for their hard work in coordinating the first annual Team Up to Clean Up in Plain Dealing and appreciation to the Bossier Parish Police Jury for allowing use of its grapple truck for the event. Alderwoman E. Jennings stated that the event was a success.

There being no further business to come before the Plain Dealing Town Council in regular and legal session on this 11th day of August, 2020, motion was made by Alderman H. Haynie seconded by Alderwoman E. Jennings, to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 6:11 p.m.



Cindy A. Dodson, Mayor



Sandra E. McMillan, Town Clerk