

MINUTES OF TOWN OF PLAIN DEALING
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2025
TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM
205 WEST PALMETTO AVE
6:00 P.M.
LEON SANDERS JR., MUNICIPAL COMPLEX

1.Call meeting to order- Mayor James Cook 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 Shanithia Gay led all present the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call -Town Clerk Rolandria McCauley, performed a roll call and verified that five of members of the board were present.

4. Approve Agenda- Mayor James Cook asked for a motion and a second approve the agenda. A motion was made by Shanithia Gay and seconded by Emily Jennings. There was no public comment. All of the members voted in favor of the approval of the agenda.

5. Approve Minutes- Mayor James Cook asked for a motion and a second approve the minutes of the January 07, 2024 meeting and dispense with the reading. A motion was made by Emily Jennings and seconded by Louis Welch. There was no public comment. All of the members voted in favor of the approval of the minutes.

6. APPROVE EXPENSES- A motion was made by Jeff Benson and seconded by Sheila Player to Approve the expense reports for January 2025. All of the members of the council voted in favor of the approval expense reports. There were no public comments.

7. Department reports:

Police Department - The Chief of Police reported that there were 117 civil and criminal calls in January 2025. There were 156 traffic stops.

8. Street Department report-Kevin Whitton gave his report for the water department. He reported that There are seventy meters with issues. We are working to resolve the issues. Kevin requested that an ordinance be created to be able to criminally charge customers for damaged meter boxes. Kevin also mentioned that there are customers that have meters in their driveways and need to be moved.

9. OLD BUSINESS:

A. The council will discuss the status of Ronnie Murray's request to remove employee insurance for pay. No information has been received from the Attorney General's office concerning this matter.

B. Council will discuss the status of the insurance bids for the Town of Plain Dealing. The town is currently insures with Parnell Robinson. There are three companies that have been asked to give bids and there has not been a response.

10. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE #1 OF 2025-An ordinance to adopt water and sewer rates (inside and outside the Town's limits) of Article I-IN GENERAL, OF CHAPTER 30 UTILITIES of the code of Ordinances of the Town of Plain Dealing. (This will be an increase in the rates pursuant to rate study by the Louisiana Rural Water Association). Mayor James Cook requested that the public hearing be opened. There were no public comments. The meeting was declared closed.
- B. THE BOARD OF ALDREMEN WILL CONSIDER THE ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE #1 OF 2025- An ordinance to adopt water and sewer rates (inside and outside the Town's limits) of Article J- IN GENERAL, OF CHAPTER 30 UTILITIES of the code of Ordinances of the Town of Plain Dealing. (This will be an increase in the rates pursuant to rate study by the Louisiana Rural Water Association) A motion was made by Sheila Player and seconded by Emily Jennings. There was no public comment. All members voted in favor thereof.
- C. RE INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE 13 OF 2024- AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO 3 OF 2024- THE OPERATING BUDGET OF REVENUES AND EXPEDITURES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2024 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2024. (There will be a public hearing prior to the adoption at the Town's regular meeting place in the Town Hall Meeting Room located at the LEON SANDERS JR., MUNICIPAL COMPLEX, 205 WEST PALMETTO AVE, PLAIN DEALING, LOUISIANA ON MARCH 11, 2025 AT 6:00PM) A motion was given by Jeff Benson and a second by Emily Jennings to reintroduce # 13 of 2024. There was no public comment. All members voted in favor thereof.
- D. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE# 2 OF 2025- AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AN OPERATING BUDGET OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2025 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2025. (There will be a public hearing prior to the adoption at the Town 's regular meeting place in the Town Hall Meeting Room located at the LEON SANDERS JR., MUNICIPAL COMPLEX, 205 WEST PALMETTO AVE, PLAIN DEALING, LOUISIANA ON MARCH 11, 2025 AT 6:00PM). A motion was given by Jeff Benson and a second by Emily Jennings to introduce ordinance #2 of 2025. There was no public comment. All members voted in favor thereof.
- E. The board of aldermen will consider Resolution #14 of 2025 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MAYOR COOK TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TO THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN OF PLAIN DEALING. Jeff Benson gave a motion and Shanithia Gay seconded the motion to consider resolution# 14 of 2025. There was no public comment. All members voted in favor thereof.
- F. The board of aldermen will discuss and consider proposed changes to the guideline's rules for the Plain Dealing Community Center. A motion was made by Jeff Benson and seconded by Louis Welch to consider the proposed guidelines for the community center. There was no public comment. All members vote in favor of the vote.

COMMUNITY CENTER:

There were twelve application that were submitted for community center rental approval. A motion was made by Jeff Benson and seconded by Louis Welch to rent the community center. Emily Jennings, Jeff Benson and Louis Welch voted in favor of the community center rentals. Sheila Player and Shanithia Gay abstained from the votes. No public comments.

Council Remarks: Shanithia Gay suggested that street signs be replaced at James and Perrin St.
Emily Jennings asked if the current ordinance regarding trash can be revisited.
Jeff Benson asked if the Justic of Peace can deal with property standards?
Jeff Benson asked if there can be an ordinance made to make customers responsible for broken water meters?

12. MAYORS COMMENTS: NONE

ADJOURN: Mayor James Cook asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Jeff Benson and seconded by Louis Welch. There was no public comment. All members voted in favor of the meeting being adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 7:22 PM.