



## Public Hearing & Regular Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 17, 2017

7:00 P.M.

### Members in Attendance:

Aldersperson Simeon Profit

Aldersperson Donald Richard

Aldersperson Janice Fleming

Aldersperson Leola Keys

- *Aldersperson Wysinger Cleveland joined the meeting @ 8:10 P.M.*

The Town of Richwood met for a Public Hearing Meeting held on August 17, 2017 at 7:09 P.M. at the Richwood Multi-Purpose Center, 2710 Martin Luther King Drive, Richwood, Louisiana to consider the following business:

### I. Meeting Called to Order by Mayor Gerald Brown at 7:09 P.M.

II. **Prayer-** was offered by Aldersperson Simeon Profit

III. **Pledge of Allegiance** - recited in unison.

IV. **Roll Call-** Mayor Gerald Brown called roll with the following results:

**The record shall reflect that four (4) Alderspersons are Present at roll call:**

Aldersperson Simeon Profit

Aldersperson Donald Richard

Aldersperson Janice Fleming

Aldersperson Leola Keys

### V. Public comments as they Relate to Items on the Agenda:

**Mr. Jimmie Thomas (Public Attendee)-** questioned what recreations were being provided to the Town through the millage appropriation, because he was not aware of any other than the park. Mr. Jimmie Thomas commented that previously peewee football, baseball etc. were offered but he was not aware of anything.

**Public Attendee** – questioned if this was a new tax?

**Mayor Gerald Brown-** advised this is not a new tax nor a renewal per say, but rather a setting of the millage tax, they had already approved.

**VI. Closing of Public Hearing**

**Mayor Gerald Brown** – asked if there were any other questions?

*\*(With no additional questions the Public Hearing portion ended).*

**VII. Adoption of Agenda:**

**Mayor Gerald Brown-** requested a motion to adopt the Regular Meeting Agenda.

- **It was then motioned by Alderperson Simeon Profit and seconded by Alderperson Janice Fleming to adopt the agenda as presented.**

*A vote was taken with the following results:*

- *The record shall reflect All (4) Alderpersons voted Yes to adopt the agenda as presented.*

Alderperson Simeon Profit	yes	Alderperson Donald Richard	yes
Alderperson Janice Fleming	yes	Alderperson Leola Keys	yes

**VIII. Adoption of July 20, 2017 Minutes:**

Mayor Gerald Brown- requested a motion to adopt July 20, 2017 Minutes.

- *It was motioned by Alderperson Simeon Profit and seconded by Alderperson Donald Richard to adopt the July 20, 2017 Minutes as presented.*

A vote was taken with the following results:

**The record shall reflect All (4) Alderpersons voted yes to adopt the July 20, 2017 Minutes.**

Alderperson Simeon Profit	yes	Alderperson Donald Richard	yes
Alderperson Janice Fleming	yes	Alderperson Leola Keys	yes

**XI. Barbara Sidney (concerns in Regard to the Needs of a Traffic Light on 165 & Richwood Road # 2)**

**Mrs. Barbara Sidney-** advised the forum of the need of a signal light on HWY 165 and the Richwood Road # 2 intersection, because of the traffic and the safety issue it poses to pedestrians.

**Per Mrs. Barbara Sidney-** the area is very dark and presents a safety issue for residents driving and the children having to cross at that intersection. Mrs. Sidney explained there has been numerous traffic accidents at this crossing; children are crossing back and forth on the highway, and immediate attention is needed to address this issue.

**Mr. Ward (Public Attendee)-** advised the forum a stop sign or something to make the traffic stop is needed because of the amount of traffic and how dangerous it is.

**Mayor Gerald Brown-** informed the forum, he had contacted LADOT concerning a traffic study, which is scheduled to occur by November 30, 2017 which will provide the needed data to access the best steps to take to address this issue.

**Mayor Gerald Brown-** advised the forum he agrees that something must be done to address the accidents and traffic flow in the area, he wants to make sure the steps taken are the best answer for the residents.

**Public Attendee-** inquired as to a cross walk.

**Mayor Gerald Brown-** stated a crosswalk alone, in itself may not be the best answer; the reason why is this is a highway where the speed limit is 65 mph, its' not the same as a residential area where a school is and the speed limit is 15 to 25 mph and the drivers have time to brake; if children are crossing this area and a car is coming 65 mph, it would not have time to brake, and because of that a crosswalk alone would not resolve the problem.

**Mrs. Barbara Sidney-** also read an open forum letter to the Mayor and Board indicating a Community Action group had been started and their purpose is to observe what the mayor and board does to make sure they are representing the citizens of Richwood.

**Mayor Gerald Brown-** asked if there were any other questions?

\*\* (with no additional questions the agenda proceeded) \*\*

## **XII. Adoption of Resolution 2017-08 (*A Resolution for Levying Millage Taxes for the Town of Richwood, La.*)**

**Mayor Gerald Brown-** asked for a motion to adopt Resolution 2017-08, (*A Resolution for Levying Millage Taxes for the Town of Richwood, La.*).

**A Question was posed by a public attendee\*\*\* if this was a new tax?**

**Mayor Gerald Brown-** advised no this is not a new tax, nor is this a renewal, this is to reset the millage rate for the tax which they had voted on previously, which is for the Police & Recreation.

- *It was then motioned by Alderperson Wysinger Cleveland and seconded by Alderperson Donald Richard to adopt Resolution 2017-08.*

**A vote was taken with the following results:**

- *The record shall reflect all (5) Alderpersons voted to adopt Resolution 2017-08 (A Resolution for Levying Millage Taxes for the Town of Richwood, La.).*

Alderperson Simeon Profit	yes	Alderperson Donald Richard	yes
Alderperson Janice Fleming	yes	Alderperson Leola Keys	yes
Alderperson Wysinger Cleveland	yes		

**XIII.**

**Adoption of Ordinance 2017-10** (An Ordinance Pertaining to Residential Households Receiving Garbage Collection Services contract6ed by the Town of Richwood)

**Ms. Blackmon Public Attendee-** questioned how the fees for this would be collected, if it would be dropped off at the Town?

**Mayor Gerald Brown-** advised the Town has approached Greater Ouachita Water to discuss the possibility of them adding this item to the water bill, however if this is to proceed the Board of Greater Ouachita Water would have to agree.

**Public Attendee-** inquired if pickup was for one common site location for dumping or for individual pickup?

**Mayor Gerald Brown –** advised this would be for individual residential pickup with a container to be placed at each home.

**Public attendee-** commented their water bill is high enough and adding garbage would cost too much.

**Mayor Gerald Brown-** advised many of the residents already have garbage pickup through many privately-owned garbage pickup companies, and this is to centralize pickup to one company and help clean up the garbage in the yards and different areas that have been seen.

**Mayor Gerald Brown-** requested a motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-10.

- **It was then motioned by Alderperson Donald Richard and seconded by Alderperson Janice Fleming to table this item.**

**XIV. Adoption of Ordinance 2017-11** *(An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 2004-01 to set a fine to Bars/ Nightclubs Classified as Restaurants to Include establishments which are classified as earning less than 95% of Revenue sells of Alcohol*

**Mayor Gerald Brown-** requested a motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-11.

- **It was motioned by Alderperson Simeon Profit and seconded by Alderperson Donald Richard to adopt ordinance 2017-11.**

**\*\*A vote was taken with the following results: The record shall reflect Ordinance 2017-11 Passed with (4) Yeas and (1) No vote. \*\***

Alderperson Simeon Profit	yes	Alderperson Donald Richard	yes
Alderperson Janice Fleming	yes	Alderperson Leola Keys	no
Alderperson Wysinger Cleveland	yes		

**XV. Adoption of Ordinance 2017-12** *(An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 2001-02 to Set a Fine to Businesses Which Operate without a Liquor License.*

**Mayor Gerald Brown-** requested a motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-12.

- **It was motioned by Alderperson Donald Richard and seconded by Alderperson Simeon Profit to adopt Ordinance 2017-012.**

**\*\* A vote was taken with the following results: The record shall reflect Ordinance 2017-012 Passed with (4) Votes Yes and (1) Vote no to adopt Ordinance 2017-012.**

Alderperson Simeon Profit	yes	Alderperson Donald Richard	yes
Alderperson Janice Fleming	yes	Alderperson Leola Keys	no
Alderperson Wysinger Cleveland	yes		

**XVI. Adoption of Ordinance 2017-13** *(An Ordinance Setting the Town Clerk Salary*

**Mayor Gerald Brown-** requested a motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-13*((An Ordinance Setting the Town Clerk Salary)*

- **It was motioned by Alderperson Simeon Profit and seconded by Alderperson Donald Richard to adopt ordinance 2017-13.**

**\*\* A vote was taken with the following results: The record shall reflect Ordinance 2017-13 Failed with a (2) Yea, (2) Nay and (1) Abstain vote.**

Aldersperson Simeon Profit	Yes	Aldersperson Donald Richard	Abstain
Aldersperson Janice Fleming	Yes	Aldersperson Leola Keys	No
Aldersperson Wysinger Cleveland	No		

**XVII. Adoption of Ordinance 2017-14 (An Ordinance Setting the Chief of Police Salary)**

**Mayor Gerald Brown-** requested a motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-14 (*An Ordinance Setting the Chief of Police Salary*)

- It was motioned by Aldersperson Wysinger Cleveland and seconded by Aldersperson Donald Richard to adopt Ordinance 2017-14(*An Ordinance Amending Ordinance # 2014-04 and Set a Yearly Salary for the Richwood Police Chief*)

**\*\* A vote was taken with the following results: The record shall reflect Ordinance 2017-14 Failed to be Adopted by a (1) Yea, (3) No and (1) Abstain vote.**

Aldersperson Simeon Profit	Yes	Aldersperson Donald Richard	Abstain
Aldersperson Janice Fleming	No	Aldersperson Leola Keys	No
Aldersperson Wysinger Cleveland	No		

**XVIII. Adoption of Ordinance 2017-15 (An Ordinance to regulate fencing Around Commercial Buildings)**

**Mayor Gerald Brown-** requested a motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-15 (*An Ordinance to Regulate Fencing Around Commercial Buildings*)

- It was motioned by Aldersperson Donald Richard and seconded by Aldersperson Simeon Profit to Adopt Ordinance 2017-15.

**A vote was taken with the following results:**

**\*\* The record shall reflect All (5) Alderspersons voted Yes to Adopt Ordinance 2017-15 ( An Ordinance to Regulate Fencing Around Commercial Buildings)**

Aldersperson Simeon Profit	Yes	Aldersperson Donald Richard	Yes
Aldersperson Janice Fleming	Yes	Aldersperson Leola Keys	Yes
Aldersperson Wysinger Cleveland	Yes.		

**XIX. Adjournment:**

**Mayor Gerald Brown-** requested a motion to adjourn.

- *It was motioned by Aldersperson Donald Richard and seconded by Aldersperson Simeon Profit to adjourn @ 8:37 P.M.*