

Regular Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 18, 2023 7:00 P.M.

Members in Attendance at Roll Call:

Alderman Wilbert Reed Jr.

Alderman Simeon Profit
Alderman Janice Fleming
Alderman Leola Keys
Alderman Wysinger Cleveland

The Town of Richwood met for Regular Meeting held on May 18, 2023 at 7:00 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 7:05 P.M.
- II. Prayer- was offered by Mayor Gerald Brown
- **III.** Pledge of Allegiance recited in unison.
- **IV. Roll Call-** Mayor Gerald Brown called roll with the following results:
 - The record shall reflect all (5) Aldermen present at time of roll call.

Present:Alderman Wilbert Reed Jr.Alderman Simeon ProfitAlderman Janice FlemingAlderman Leola KeysAlderman Wysinger Cleveland

V. Adoption of the Agenda-

It was motioned by Alderman Wilbert Reed Jr and seconded by Alderman Wysinger Cleveland to remove Item XIII from tonight's agenda.

• The record shall reflect a vote was taken to amend the agenda to remove Item # XIII from tonight's agenda with the following results: (5) Yes to remove Item # XIII from tonight's agenda..

Alderman Wilbert Reed Jr. Yes Alderman Simeon Profit Yes
Alderman Janice Fleming Yes Alderman Leola Keys Yes
Alderman Wysinger Cleveland Yes

It was motioned by Alderman Wilbert Reed Jr. and seconded by Alderman Wysinger Cleveland to adopt the amended agenda.

• The record shall reflect a vote was taken to adopt the amended agenda with the following results: (5) Yes to remove Item # XIII from tonight's agenda..

Alderman Wilbert Reed Jr. Yes Alderman Simeon Profit Yes
Alderman Janice Fleming Yes Alderman Leola Keys Yes
Alderman Wysinger Cleveland Yes

VI. Adoption of April 20, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes

It was motioned by Alderman Simeon Profit and seconded by Alderman Janice Fleming to adopt the April 20, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes.

• The record shall reflect a vote was taken to adopt the April 20, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes with the following results: (2) Abstain, (2) Yes and (1) No Vote

Alderman Wilbert Reed Jr. Abstain Alderman Simeon Profit Yes
Alderman Janice Fleming Yes Alderman Leola Keys Abstain
Alderman Wysinger Cleveland No

VII. Adoption of Financial Reports

It was motioned by Alderman Simeon Profit and seconded by Alderman Janice Fleming to adopt tonight's Financial Reports.

• The record shall reflect a vote was taken to adopt the Financial Reports with the following results: (2) Abstain, (2) Yes and (1) No Vote

Alderman Wilbert Reed Jr. Abstain Alderman Simeon Profit Yes
Alderman Janice Fleming Yes Alderman Leola Keys Abstain
Alderman Wysinger Cleveland No

VIII. Public Comments as they relate to items on the agenda

None- agenda proceeded

IX. Mayor's Dialogue

No Comments

X. Commissioner Charles Burks: Asking permission to raise the Washitaw Nation Flag

Commissioner Charles Burks- addressed the forum and provided back information on the Nation of Washitaw and their relationship with the Town of Richwood through their Empress Mrs. Verdaicee Hampton Gholston who was also the Mayor of Richwood.

Commissioner Burks- requested the Board allow the Washitaw Nation Flag to fly for a short time during the Juneteenth Holiday to mark the day and the relationship between the Washitaw Nation and the originating Mayor Verdiacee Hampton Gholston.

It was stated in agreement by the Board that as long as legal council gives okay everyone agrees to allow the flag to be raised.

XI. Discussion of MPC Building HVAC

Mayor Gerald Brown- advised the Board that we have had multiple technicians come in and look at the unit and it was stated with each of them the unit needs replacement, it has a leak that is unable to be repaired. Mayor Brown submitted the (3) estimates that was received and it was decided to go with Williams Heat & Air.

XII. Discussion of Street Improvements

The forum discussed the method streets are decided by the Parish to be repaired, basically those with not much traffic would not be in the most expedient repair choice where as those with more traffic flow would probably consider a must to be repaired more quickly.

A listing of streets in Richwood in need of repair along with the prospective cost to repair the streets were provided to the Board in March,

XIII. Introduction of Ordinance 2023-02 An ordinance adopting the Town's expenditures for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023(an Ordinance amending Ordinance 2017-04 and set a yearly salary for the Town Clerk.

Alderman Wilbert Reed Jr. – addressed the forum and stated he would like to add an amendment to the end of Ordinance 2023-02 to forensic requested a forensic audit for the years 2021 & 2022.

It was then motioned by Alderman Wilbert Reed Jr. and seconded by Alderman Wysinger Cleveland to add amendment to the end of the ordinance to request a forensic audit.

Mayor Gerald Brown – reminded the Board the Budget does not require an audit, but the budget is required.

Mayor Gerald Brown- asked for clarity of what is being requested.

Alderman Wilbert Reed Jr. – stated he is asking for a forensic audit for 2021 & 2022 and attach it to the current ordinance.

- The record shall reflect a vote was taken to amend Ordinance 2023-02 to include a forensic audit with the following results: (3) Yes and (2) No votes to add a forensic audit phrase to the end of Ordinance 2023-02 for 2021 and 2022.
- Alderman Wilbert Reed Jr. Yes Alderman Simeon Profit No Alderman Janice Fleming No Alderman Leola Keys Yes Alderman Wysinger Cleveland Yes
- XIV. Introduction of Ordinance 2023-03 (An ordinance amending ordinance 2017-04 and set a yearly salary for the Town Clerk).

Mayor Gerald Brown- advised the last increase the Town Clerk received was 6 years ago.

XV. Introduction of Ordinance 2023-04 (An ordinance amending ordinance 2018-02 and set a yearly Salary for the Chief of Police).

Mayor Gerald Brown- advised the last increase the Chief received 5 years ago.

XVI. Adjournment:

It was motioned by Alderman Wilbert Reed Jr. and seconded by Alderman Simeon Profit to adjourn @ 7:54 p.m.