

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Sarepta met in regular session Tuesday, March 12, 2019 at 6:00 p.m., in the Municipal Building, Sarepta, LA.

Present: Mayor Adkins, Melanie Dean, Michael Corley, Claire Lay, Heath Warford, David Neal

Absent: None

Also Present: Wastewater Superintendent Bob Seiple, Clerk Amanda Anglin, Town Attorney Christopher Stahl, Anthony Mullins, Casey Warford, Eddie Dale Dunn, Bro. Todd Pickard, Judge Jeff Thompson, Officer Troy Walker

Mayor Adkins called the meeting to order and Bro. Todd Pickard opened with prayer. Claire Lay led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Requests for additions to the agenda were called for. Mayor Adkins asked to add Judge Jeff Thompson addressing the Board, a request for new Wastewater/Accounting software, a safe digging proclamation, discuss annexation, dogs barking, and repairing the lights on the baseball field. Claire Lay stated that the repair of the lights did not have to be discussed at this time. Claire Lay made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by David Neal. All in favor, no opposed, motion carried.

Public comments were called for and unanswered.

Judge Jeff Thompson addressed the Board. He wanted to introduce himself and speak of his qualifications as Judge. He will be on the ballot March 30, 2019, running for 2nd Circuit Court of Appeal.

Melanie Dean read the minutes from the February regular meeting. Heath Warford made a motion to approve the minutes as read. Michael Corley seconded the motion. All in favor, no opposed, motion carried.

Financial Statements of all funds, including a current budget vs. actual, were presented. Michael Corley made a motion to approve financial statements as presented, motion seconded by Claire Lay. All in favor, no opposed, motion carried.

Mayor Adkins recognized Chief Michael McCullen to give a report. Chief McCullen stated Austin Burns had expressed interest in becoming a Reserve Officer with the Police Department. Austin is a Criminal Justice student at BPC and wants the experience of being a Reserve Officer. Chief McCullen has offered him a reserve position. As of January 29, the department had made four marijuana arrests, two methamphetamine arrests, one ecstasy arrest, and six drug paraphernalia arrests.

Mayor Adkins recognized Clerk Amanda Anglin to present a proposal from PUBLIQ Software. The new software would replace the existing wastewater billing software, debit/credit payment processor, and the accounting software. After much discussion, Melanie Dean made a motion to approve purchasing the new software, seconded by David Neal. All in favor, no opposed, motion carried.

Mayor Adkins asked for approval for her and clerk Amanda Anglin to attend a Louisiana Legislative Auditor class on March 20th in Ruston and a Mayor's Court class in Natchitoches on March 21st. The cost would be lunch and mileage. Heath Warford made a motion to approve the Mayor and Clerk attending these two training sessions, seconded by Michael Corley. All in favor, no opposed, motion carried.

Mayor Adkins presented the following 2018-2019 General Fund Budget items to be amended:

6032 Accident Reports \$150 to \$270
6095 Misc. Income \$1,000 to \$2,000
6098 Supp. Benefits Received \$6,000 to \$11,833
1310 Cash Transfer \$40,596 to \$115,500
7115 Fuel, Oil, & Tire-Equipment \$1,530 to \$3,000
7162 Pro. Fees Audit \$4,000 to \$7,750
7180 Repair & Maintenance Vehicles \$1,200 to \$3,000
7200 Supplies-Office \$1,700 to \$2,500

Melanie Dean made a motion to approve amending these budget items, seconded by Claire Lay. All in favor, no opposed, motion carried.

Mayor Adkins presented a Language Access Plan the USDA is requiring the Town to approve due to the Wastewater loan that was taken out years ago. The plan states that town hall will do its best to accommodate anyone that cannot speak English. David Neal made a motion to approve the Language Access Plan, seconded by Heath Warford. All in favor, no opposed, motion carried.

Mayor Adkins stated she received an email about making a proclamation declaring April Safe Digging Month in conjunction with Louisiana One Call. If you are going to dig, make sure you call 811 first. Heath Warford made a motion to approve declaring April Safe Digging Month, seconded by Michael Corley. All in favor, no opposed, motion carried.

Mayor Adkins reminded the Board that Charles Louis Grappe had been hired to help Bob Seiple with Wastewater work. He will not be able to work very much, so Mayor Adkins asked for suggestions on who to hire. The position had been advertised, but no one called about it.

Mayor Adkins asked the Board about possible dates for the April meeting. Michael Corley made a recommendation to change the date of the April meeting from the 9th to April 18th with court still being held on April 9th. Motion seconded by Heath Warford. All in favor, no opposed, motion carried.

Mayor Adkins told the Board that she has been working on the annexation issue. She's been in contact with the tax assessor's office to see how it will affect property taxes.

The Board decided on having sexual harassment training for town employees on April 4, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Adkins gave the Board a sample ordinance pertaining to dogs barking excessively. She asked them to think about the issue to be discussed at the April meeting.

There being no further business, Melanie Dean made a motion to adjourn, David Neal seconded. All in favor, no opposed, motion carried.

Peggy Adkins, Mayor

Amanda Anglin, Town Clerk