

**MINUTES  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
TOWN OF KINDER, LOUISIANA**

February 3, 2025

The Notice of Meeting/Agenda having been duly posted in accordance with requirements, and a quorum being present, the meeting was called to order by Mayor Wayland LaFargue at 6:00 p.m.

**Mayor, Council and Staff Present:**

Wayland LaFargue, Mayor  
LaToya Tunwar, Councilwoman Dist.1  
Jerry Nevils, Jr., Councilman Dist. 3  
Angie Van Norman, Councilwoman Dist.4  
Susanne Sonnier, Councilwoman at Large  
Traci Fontenot, Town Clerk  
Michael Holmes, Town Attorney  
Eric Fontenot, Public Works Superintendent  
Tom David, Pan American Engineers  
Rhett Desselle, Pan American Engineers

**Council and Staff Absent:**

Maria DeWees, Councilwoman Dist. 2  
Paul Courville, Chief of Police

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**Approval of Minutes**

Mayor LaFargue asked the council to consider approving the minutes for the regular council meeting of January 6, 2025.

**Motion:** To dispense with the reading of the minutes from January 6, 2025, and approve them as distributed.

**Made by:** Councilman Nevils

**Second:** Councilwoman Sonnier

**Vote:** 4-0, passed

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**Mayor's Report**

Mayor LaFargue reported that local organizations have begun inquiring about the date for Trick-or-Treat as they plan their events. He announced that Trick-or-Treat will be held on Thursday, October 30th, to avoid conflict with the scheduled football game on Friday, October 31st.

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**Chief of Police Report**

No report was given due to the absence of Chief Paul Courville.

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## **Town Attorney Report**

Mr. Holmes opened a public hearing regarding Ordinance No. 885, which provides for the continued levy of a 0.3% sales and use tax in the Town of Kinder, as authorized by voters in a special election held on December 7, 2024. Mayor LaFargue opened the floor for public comments. Councilwoman Tunwar had a question about whether this was already voted on. Hearing no further comments, the public hearing was closed.

**Motion:** To adopt Ordinance No. 885.

**Made by:** Councilman Nevils

**Second:** Councilwoman Sonnier

Mayor LaFargue called for a roll call vote:

Councilwoman Tunwar:	Nay
Councilwoman DeWees:	Absent
Councilman Nevils:	Yea
Councilwoman Van Norman:	Yea
Councilwoman Sonnier:	Yea

**Motion passed, 3-1.**

Mr. Holmes asked the council to consider Resolution No. 2025-04, approving a Joint Services Agreement with the Allen Parish Police Jury. Additionally, the resolution authorized the payment of Additive Alternates 1 and 2 for the Park Rd. Bridge Project using Town funds. After some discussion, a motion was made.

**Motion:** To adopt Resolution No. 2025-04, approving a Joint Services Agreement with the Allen Parish Police Jury relative to the Park Rd. Bridge project.

**Made by:** Councilwoman Van Norman

**Second:** Councilman Nevils

**Vote:** 4-0, passed

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## **Engineer's Report**

### **Condemnation Hearing – Case No. 2024-08, 1402 2nd Ave.**

The council revisited the condemnation hearing for the property at 1402 2nd Ave., which had been tabled at the December 2, 2024, meeting. The attorney appointed to represent the property was present and reported that the owner wishes to rehabilitate the structure and is requesting additional time. Tom David stated that, in his professional opinion, the property is salvageable and recommended that the council terminate the condemnation process, allowing the owner to proceed with rehabilitation. After some discussion, a motion was made.

**Motion:** To dismiss the condemnation and record the cancellation with the Allen Parish Clerk of Court.

**Made by:** Councilwoman Tunwar

**Second:** Councilwoman Sonnier

**Vote:** 4-0, passed

### **Condemnation Hearing – Case No. 2024-20, 1301 Carver Ave.**

The council revisited the condemnation hearing for the property at 1301 Carver Ave., which had been tabled at the December 2, 2024, meeting. Family members were present, and their attorney reported that the property had been inspected, and that the family was considering whether to rehabilitate the house or

demolish the structure. She noted that efforts were ongoing to contact all family members and finalize a plan. Their attorney requested that the council terminate the condemnation and remove the property from the condemnation list. Tom David recommended granting the family 90 days to finalize their plan for either renovation or demolition. After further discussion, the council agreed to extend the timeframe to six months. A motion was made.

**Motion:** To postpone the condemnation hearing for six months, with a review at the August council meeting.

**Made by:** Councilwoman Van Norman

**Second:** Councilwoman Tunwar

**Vote:** 4-0, passed

Rhett Desselle, with Pan American Engineers, presented Resolution No. 2025-05 for the council's consideration, requesting acceptance of the work performed by Spinks Construction, Inc. on the Wastewater Treatment Pond project as "Substantially Complete." He provided an update on the project's progress and confirmed that the work met the required specifications.

Tom David then addressed the council regarding Resolution No. 2025-06, which proposes the adoption of the revised Citizen Participation Plan in connection with the Louisiana Development Block Grant. After discussion, the following motions were made.

**Motion:** To adopt Resolution No. 2025-05, accepting the work under the contract with Spinks Construction, Inc. for the Wastewater Treatment Pond project as "Substantially Complete".

**Made by:** Councilwoman Sonnier

**Second:** Councilwoman Van Norman

**Vote:** 4-0, passed

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## Council Report

Councilwoman Angie Van Norman revisited questions raised at the January council meeting regarding the town's noise ordinance. She requested that the town attorney draft an amendment to simplify the ordinance and make it easier to enforce. Town Attorney Mike Holmes stated that he will prepare a draft for the council's review at the next meeting.

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## Public Works Report

Public Works Superintendent Eric Fontenot provided an update on recent projects and maintenance efforts by the public works crew. He reported that the town's water loss for January was reduced to 11%, marking a significant improvement. Fontenot also presented photos of several lift stations, highlighting ongoing issues such as grease buildup and other maintenance concerns. Additionally, he commended his crew for their dedication and hard work, particularly for the long hours they put in during the January freeze.

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## Town Clerk Report

Traci Fontenot reported that the monthly budget-to-actual financial statements are included in the council packets.

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## **Adjournment**

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

**Motion:** To adjourn.

**Made by:** Councilwoman Tunwar

**Second:** Councilwoman Sonnier

**Vote:** 4-0, passed

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**/s/Wayland LaFargue, Mayor**

**/s/ Traci B. Fontenot, Town Clerk**