

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

September 9, 2024

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
Maria DeWees, Councilwoman Dist. 2
Jerry Nevils, Jr., Councilman Dist. 3
Angie Van Norman, Councilwoman Dist.4
Susanne Sonnier, Councilwoman at Large
Paul Courville, Chief of Police
Traci Fontenot, Town Clerk
Michael Holmes, Town Attorney
Eric Fontenot, Public Works Superintendent
C.W. Roland, Pan American Engineers

Council and Staff Absent:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor LaFargue asked the council to consider approving the minutes for the regular council meeting of August 5, 2024.

Motion:	To dispense with the reading of the minutes from August 5, 2024, and approve them as distributed.
Made by:	Councilman Nevils
Second:	Councilwoman Sonnier
Vote:	5-0, passed.

MAYOR REPORT

Mayor LaFargue gave an update on several projects that are ongoing. He also recognized Barbara Savant, Executive Director of the Kinder Chamber of Commerce and Jacob Dillehay, Allen Parish Police Jury who were both at the meeting to address the council. Mrs. Savant reported on several upcoming events in Kinder and reminded citizens to shop locally. Mr. Dillehay gave an update on the Park Rd. bridge project.

CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT

Chief Paul Courville gave a report on the calls and reports for the month of August.

TOWN ATTORNEY REPORT

Mr. Holmes asked council to consider adopting Resolution No. 2024-09 ordering and calling a special election to authorize the extension and rededication of a .3% sales and use tax. After some discussion, a motion was made.

Motion: To adopt Resolution No. 2024-09 ordering and calling a special election to authorize the extension and rededication of a .3% sales and use tax.
Made by: Councilman Nevils
Second: Councilwoman DeWees

Mayor LaFargue called for a roll call vote:

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

Motion passed 3 – 1, 1 Abstained.

Mr. Holmes opened a public hearing regarding Ordinance No. 884 relative to the compensation of the Town Clerk. There being no public comment, the public hearing was closed.

Motion: To adopt Ordinance No. 884, setting the compensation for the Town Clerk at \$56,709 per year effective October 1, 2024.
Made by: Councilwoman Van Norman
Second: Councilwoman Sonnier

Mayor LaFargue called for a roll call vote:

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

Motion passed, 4 – 1.

Mr. Holmes also asked the council to consider a resolution authorizing the mayor to enter into a joint service agreement allowing the Town of Kinder to participate in the Allen Parish Police Jury's stand-by debris hauling and monitoring contracts if necessary, during future natural disasters. After some discussion, a motion was made.

Motion: To adopt Resolution 2024-10.
Made by: Councilwoman Van Norman
Second: Councilman Nevils
Vote: 5-0, passed.

ENGINEER REPORT

C.W. Roland, Pan American Engineers, reported on the progress of the ongoing wastewater treatment plant project and the Louisiana Watershed Initiative grant project for improved drainage in the Nixon Addition. He also said that he and Eric Fontenot talked about looking into grants that could be used to upgrade the Town's gas system.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Eric Fontenot reported on water leaks, culvert washouts and other maintenance issues that the public works crew has been working on throughout town.

TOWN CLERK REPORT

Traci Fontenot thanked the mayor and town council for approving a pay increase. She also reported that income statements with monthly budget-to-actual comparisons are included with the mayor and council meeting packets.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Motion: To adjourn.
Made by: Councilwoman Tunwar
Second: Councilwoman Van Norman
Vote: 5-0, passed.

Adjournment

/s/Wayland LaFargue, Mayor

/s/Traci B. Fontenot, Town Clerk