TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TOWN OF KINDER, LOUISIANA

August 10, 2026

The Notice of Meeting/Agenda having been duly posted in accordance with requirements, and a quorum being present, the council meeting was called to order by Mayor 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
Cynthia Tunwar, Town Clerk
Michael Holmes, Town Attorney
Kevin Doise, Chief of Police
Rhett Deselle, City Engineer

Council and Staff Absent:
None

Public Comments on Agenda Items

None

Approval of Minutes

Mayor asks the council to consider approval of the minutes for the regular council meeting of July 6, 2026, as presented.

Councilwoman Tunwar advised that at the resent LMA convention she was informed that the council should the minutes are to be sent / receive by the council members five (5) days before the scheduled meeting. Unsure when it went into effect, but we were informed at the meeting.

Holmes advised he will research to see if it is a legal requirement or suggested.

Note: The following amendment was made by Councilwoman Tunwar at the regular council meeting on September 14, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.: Councilwoman Tunwar adds that before approval of the minutes, she would like to insert an email sent from Attorney Michael Holmes on August 11, 2026, at 5:18 p.m., confirming the legality of "LA ACT 867". The email reads as follows:

"LA Act 867 of 2026 amended the provisions of LaRevStat 42:20 to add section 1b. Section 1b requires the circulation of draft minutes of a public body meeting 5 days prior to the meeting at which the minutes will be adopted. So practically that means that the proposed minutes should be provided to each council member five days prior to the monthly meeting. It might be good practice to simply prepare and circulate the agenda along with the draft minutes on the Wednesday prior to the Monday meetings. This law took a fact on August 1 2026, so the minutes from the meeting we just had are the first two come under this new law".

Mayor asks the council to consider approval of the minutes for the regular council meeting of July 6, 2026, as presented.

Motion: To approve minutes as presented
Made by: Councilman Nevils
Second: Councilwoman Sonnier
Discussion: None
Vote: 5-0, passed

Mayor's Report

None

Chief of Police Report

Chief Kevin advised the council that Kinder Police had 542 calls of service for the month, meaning someone needed a police officer at some point or time. Not all crime related.

Chief Kevin advised the council that Ptm. Ben Fontenot started SW Regional Police Academy Training today.

Chief Doise advised they are working with other jurisdictions on the burglary ring that was advertised on KPLC.

Chief Kevin advised KPD has been approved for the 287d I.C.E. Four of our officers are involved in that training.

Chief Kevin advised that the cameras are installed and working at the intersection of 8th and 4th Ave, along with 9th St & 4th Ave. In the process of putting cameras at 4th Ave & 11th St, 12th and 13th St. to be able to monitor traffic as well as the Kinder Elementary School.

Chief Kevin advised that he has been working with DOTD to expand the school zone on 3rd Ave. from 10th St to 14th St.

Town Attorney Report

Holmes confirms that agenda item 8(a) is to consider a Vape Shop Ordinance per the subject of the public forum at 5:00 p.m. The Vape Shop Ordinance was drafted and presented at the last meeting that clause a 500-foot buffer as indicated at the beginning of the public forum. The thing that need to be decided before this ordinance is adopted is what period is going to be placed into the ordinance that as s sunset or amortization period for businesses that if this ordinance is passed will be required to cease operations by dates curtained. As what was presented in public forum I believe that will affect one business. I believe that business is under a lease. We believe that business has a lease that terminates according to the mayor 2026, according to the councilwoman the owner said it was December 2026 or December 2027. So that is an item that I would encourage the council to discuss to debate and to decide upon to insert into the

appropriate section (Sec.4) of the ordinance that currently provides as written immediately upon the date such Veto is overridden. I would suggest that the effective date be inserted as a date certain that the council can agree upon based on some time period.
If you want to make an amendment we can say after December 2026 get rid of the days and that would be the end of that sentence we would strike the language from days following the effective day of this ordinance. That would be striken and it would be in compliance with this ordinance after December 31, 2026. So there's a motion to amend that for the ordinance to read after December 31, 2026 and to strike all the words after that to include days following the effective date of the ordinance.

Motion: To amend the ordinance to read after December 31, 2026 and to strike all the words after that to include days following the effective date of the ordinance.
Made by: Councilwoman Tunwar
Second: Councilwoman Van Norman
Discussion: None
Vote: 5-0, passed

Mayor asks the council to consider adopting the ordinance as amendment
Motion: To adopt the ordinance as amended.
Made by: Councilwoman Sonnier
Second: Councilwoman Dewees
Discussion: None
Vote: 5-0, passed

Mayor ask if there's any other comments from the public, in particular about the sunset dates after December 31, 2026.
No comments

Roll call vote to adopt the ordinance as amended.

NAME	**YEA**	**NAY**	**ABSTAIN**	**ABSENT**
Latoya Tunwar	**Yea**			
Maria Dewees	**Yea**			
Jerry Nevils	**Yea**			
Angie VanNorman	**Yea**			
Susan Sonnier	**Yea**			
TOTALS	**5**	**0**	**0**	**0**

Holmes advised that agenda item 8(b) is to consider approval of Class A Alcohol Beverage License for Los Hermanos Mexican Restaurant, 1315 1st Ave.

Mayor asks the council to consider approval of Class A Alcohol Beverage License for Los Hermanos Mexican Restaurant, 1315 1st Ave.

Councilwoman Tunwar advised that the application is incomplete.

Holmes recommends the council table the consideration of the application until the clerk notifies the applicant that the application is incomplete.

Motion: To table application until the applicant completes application
Made by: Councilwoman Tunwar
Second: Councilman Nevils
Discussion: None
Vote: 5-0, passed

Engineer's Report

Rhett Deselle of Pan American Engineers (PAE) reported: (1) status of Nixon Addition drainage project; (2) LCDBG Clearance program – currently have Lot 1 complete (3.) Still monitoring the application that was sent in to US Pipeline Safety and Hazordous Material for the grant to replace the steel mains for the gas system.

Council Report

Councilwoman Tunwar revisits a motion from last month's meeting in reference to 915 1st St. This is a business that used to be a feed store so an email was sent out to the mayor, clerk and the town attorney requesting that the condemnation be halted until additional information is gathered. Such as inspection reports, written findings, photographs, engineering reports and also I would like to know their financial ability to tear this down themselves instead of using grant funds for this business. It changed owners in September 2025, as well as being taken off of the list but we did make a motion to add it back. But I didn't know at that time where that property was exactly. After researching, it was sold to another business owner in September 2025 and I would like to know a little more information before we move forward with that demolition.

Mayor advised it was on the list and removed because the owner was going to restructure the structure. But the building was in poor condition and the load was not approved so the owner requested the structure to be placed back on the demolition list. Town Engineers advised that the structure met the qualifications and last meeting a motion was made to put back on the list because Rhett said it passed the asbestos test and we could put it back on the list.

Councilwoman Tunwar added we could have put another business there or a house.

Rhett advised that the property is zoned for certain things and the program even though being funded through the state they can come back and try to recoup the money from the owner if there is an opportunity to do so.

Holmes advised once a structure is condemned it remains condemned until the council votes to lift that prior decision. This structure was condemned even if it changed ownership it doesn't mean the structure came uncondemned. Someone can by a condemned structure but they take it subject to the public records law. We didn't have a vote to have uncondemned the structure. Simply took it off the grant list. It remains condemned it was just no longer on the list. I guess the legal question would be can it be put back on the list without a vote of the council or does

that require council approval to put it on the list. I think the only question is does it require council action to put it back on the list of property that's going to be paid for under the grant.

Rhett advised that we went through the condemnation process. We had public hearings, the council voted to condemn those properties. We had a list, some property owner went took care of their property and some property owners in this particular case ask to be excluded from the original bidders list of properties. We went through condemnation we got the property approved programmatically through the state. So it was eligible for the state funds.

Councilwoman Tunwar request to hold demolition until she get information requested.

Holmes makes a recommendation in order to address your concerns you need to make a motion and get a second to remove that property from the list pending the resolution of your concerns because it is currently on the list. The only thing I think can be done is to get an affirmative vote to remove from the list. To see if it can carry the day, if it can carry the day then if can be removed from the list and we will have to report it to the state. If you don't get three votes in favor of that then it stays on the list as part of the program. I think that's the only answer from a procedural standpoint.

Councilwoman makes a motion amend the agenda to add to the consider the removal of 915 1st Ave from the Blighted property list.

Motion: amend the agenda to add to the consider the removal of 915 1st Ave from the Blighted property list.

Made by: Councilwoman Tunwar
Second: Died for lack of votes
Discussion: None
Vote: None

Town Clerk Report

None

Adjournment

Mayor LaFargue requested a motion to adjourn.

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

With no further business to discuss, meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

/s/Wayland LaFargue, Mayor

/s/ Cynthis Tunwar, Town Clerk