TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TOWN OF KINDER, LOUISIANA

June 1, 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
Jerry Nevils, Jr., Councilman Dist. 3
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:
Maria DeWees, Councilwoman Dist. 2
Angie Van Norman, Councilwoman Dist.4

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 May 4, 2026, as presented.

Motion: To approve minutes as presented
Made by: Councilman Nevils
Second: Councilwoman Sonnier
Discussion: None
Vote: 3-0, passed

Mayor's Report

Mayor added Danny Jo Bell on the agenda to speak on Clearance and Demolition of Blighted and Dilapidated Property

Mayor advised that on June 8th Air Quality Test (DEQ ordered) June 3-5

Mayor introduced Susan Unkel w/One Tiny Seed Rescue to speak on purchasing property at 1260 US 190 – Cappel Rd and developing into a dog shelter for stray dogs. Advised coming back to council meeting for public forum next month, July 6

Susan Unkel introduced herself as a representative for One Tiny Seed Rescue, a non-profit organization which provides temporary shelter, care and second changes for animals in need throughout Allen Parish. Currently resides off Green Oak Rd on Nookie Fruge Rd and we were provided a better opportunity to be able to build a better building the way we need it. The issue is it is in city limits. The address is 12600 US 190. No restriction to the breed of dogs, we are trying to reduce the number of strays running around all over Kinder.
After much deliberation, the council advised the organization that the town cannot rush into making a sudden decision that allows them to build a shelter within the city limits. It does not happen overnight. Mayor requested that the organization draw up plan of action, guidelines, and gather much needed information and return to July 6th council meeting for the council to review what is presented.

Danny Jo Bell spoke about condemnation of blighted and dilapidated structures. June 8th we will start ordering air quality test. We will start condemnation as early as Wednesday, June 3rd.

Chief of Police Report

Chief Kevin Doise presented the council with a copy of Joshua Pitre's application and ask for approval of hiring him as a full-time Kinder Police officer.

Mayor asks the council to consider approval of hiring Joshua Pitre as a full-time officer.

Motion: To approve hiring Joshua Pitre as a full-time officer.
Made by: Councilman Nevils
Second: Councilwoman Sonnier
Discussion: None
Vote: 3-0, passed

Chief Doise advised the council that the police department was approved for a Seat blet / DWI grant.

Chief Doise gave the council an update on CAT Software.

Mayor LaFargue asks that the council consider a pay increase on the STED's pay from $35-$80 in the future.

Councilwoman Tumwar questioned the damaged police unit (F-150 Truck – Asst. Chief Manuel's unit).

Town Attorney Report

Holmes confirms that agenda item 8(a) is to conduct a public hearing to amend the budget for FY2025/2026 (Ordinance No. 891). The opposed amendment will be introduced.

Holmes advised that agenda item 8(b) is to introduce proposed budget for FY 2026/2027(Ordinance No. 892)

Mayor asks the council to consider introducing proposed budget FY 2026/2027 (Ordinance No. 892)

Motion: To approve the amended budget FY 2025/2026 (Ordinance 891) and introduce the proposed budget FY 2026/2027 (Ordinance No.892)
Made by: Councilwoman Tunwar
Second: Councilman Nevils
Discussion: None
Vote: 3-0, passed

Mayor LaFargue asks the council to consider scheduling a special meeting to amend FY2025-2026 budget (Ordinance No. 891) and to adopt the proposed FY2026-2027 budget (Ordinance 892) on June 29th, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Holmes confirms that item 8 (c.) is to adopt 2026 Millage Rates (Resolution No.2026-05). Will not Roll Forward

Mayor asks the council to consider 2026 Millage Rates (Resolution No.2026-05).

Motion: To adopt 2026 Millage Rates (Resolution No.2026-05)

Made by: Councilman Nevils
Second: Councilwoman Tunwar
Discussion: None
Vote: 3-0, passed

Holmes confirms that item 8 (d.) is to adopt recommendation of Zoning Board the variance request for Kinder Bible Church setbacks for property located at 702 4th Avenue, Lots 9 & 10 of block three (3) east of 7th Street

Mayor asks the council to adopt recommendation of variance request for Kinder Bible Church setbacks for property located at 702 4th Avenue, Lots 9 & 10 of block three (3) east of 7th Street approved by the Zoning Board.

Motion: To approve adopting variance for Kinder Bible Church setbacks for property located at 702 4th Avenue, Lots 9 & 10 of block three (3) east of 7th Street as approved by the Zoning Board.
Made by: Councilwoman Tunwar
Second: Councilwoman Sonnier
Discussion: None
Vote: 3-0, passed

Engineer's Report

Rhett Deselle of Pan American Engineers (PAE) reported: (1) status of Nixon Addition drainage project; (2) Gave the ok to start the demo process with Clearance Program on Wednesday (3.) status of USDOT Pipeline Safety Hazardous Material Safety Administration Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety

Modernization Grant application for the town to replace 100% of gas system that includes all the steel mains. Amount of applications is $5.1 million and (4.) Still waiting the hear from CWEF and LGAP application.

Council Report

Get with Jared Chaumont on considering a Truck Route through Kinder

---

Town Clerk Report

None

Adjournment

Mayor LaFargue requested a motion to adjourn.

Motion: To adjourn.
Made by: Councilwoman Tunwar
Second: Councilwoman Sonnier
Vote: 3-0, passed

With no further business to discuss, meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

/s/Wayland LaFargue, Mayor

/s/ Cynthis Tunwar, Town Clerk