TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TOWN OF KINDER, LOUISIANA

May 4, 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 April 6, 2026, as presented.

Councilwoman Tunwar questions the overlay funding of Nielson and Guillory Road. Mayor Lafargue advised it was funded by the refund from Park Rd. bridge of $60, 000 plus Dewitt of $30, 000. Councilwoman Tunwar asked if Dewitt had already committed to the funds. Mayor Lafargue advised that Dewitt has committed to the funds. Tunwar asked if Guillory Road was a Joint Service Agreement. Lafargue advised it is a Joint Service Agreement to where the parish pays for engineers, site plans, equipment, etc. so we saved a lot of money participating in a Joint Agreement that the parish is voting on tonight. Tunwar also questioned the funding of the project should it go over the estimated cost. Lafargue advised that it would be funded by Sales Tax – Capital Outlay / Improvements. Tunwar asked how to request roads in our district to be repaired. Lafargue suggested that each district get a list of streets that need repairs and we will add it in the budget to repair at least two roads per district.

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

Motion: To approve minutes as presented
Made by: Councilman Nevils
Second: Councilwoman Dewees

Discussion: None
Vote: 5-0, passed

Mayor's Report

Mayor introduced Mr. James "Jimmy" Anderson to speak on the 2026 Flag Retirement Ceremony to be held on May 21st at 5:30 p.m.

Mayor reminds council that May 15th is deadline to file 2025 Annual Financial Disclosure Statements.

Mayor advised that National Day of Prayer will be at Grand Church on Thursday, May 7th at 1:00

Mayor reminded council that we are currently working on 2026/27 budget if anything needs to be added please advise. The town is also permitting to budget playground equipment for Long Johnson and Veterans Memorial Park .

Chief of Police Report

Chief Kevin Doise presented the council with a copy of John Cumming's termination letter.

Chief Doise asked the council to accept Dale McGee's letter of resignation.

Mayor Lafargue request a motion to accept the approval of the termination of Officer John Cummings

Motion: To accept the approval of the termination of John Cummings
Made by: Councilwoman Tunwar
Second: Councilman Nevils
Discussion: None
Vote: 5-0, passed

Mayor Lafargue request a motion to accept resignation of Dale McGee

Motion: To accept Dale McGee's resignation
Made by: Councilman Nevils
Second: Councilwoman Tunwar
Discussion: None
Vote: 5-0, passed

Chief Doise asked the council to consider a salary increase for the appointment of Assistant Chief Marie Manuel from Sergeant pay of $21.40 to Assistant Chief pay of $23.88 hr. She will also be our lead detective.

Holmes suggests that the council consider adopting an ordinance that sets forth pay scales based on ranks. That makes it easier budget wise, pay increase, hiring new officers, promotions, etc. This doesn't set precedence in locking in a rate for a certain position.

Mayor Lafargue request a motion to increase the Assistant Chief Marie Manuel to $23.88 effective immediately

Motion: To increase the Assistant Chief Marie Manuel to $23.88
Made by: Councilwoman VanNorman
Second: Councilwoman Tunwar
Discussion: None
Vote: 5-0, passed

Chief Doise gave update on CAD software through the Allen Parish Sheriff's Office.

Town Attorney Report

Holmes confirms that agenda item 8(a) is to approve rezoning 123 N 4th St. which was approved at the last council meeting. However, we don't typically do this after a change in zoning, I don't recollect us ever amending a zoning map to reflect the zoning changes that have been approved. So, I have not drafted an ordinance. I think on an annual basis moving forward we need to update the zoning, it's called an overlay map, annually.

Holmes advised that agenda item 8(b) the Vape Shop Ordinance did not get drafted in a form to actually adopt.

Engineer's Report

Rhett Deselle of Pan American Engineers (PAE) reported: (1) on status of Wastewater Treatment Plant project. Also advised the WWTP was established in 1963 (2) status of Nixon Addition drainage project; (3.) status of Clearance Program waiting on Section 3 documentation from contractors. Once received we will schedule preconstruction conference. After that we should have an authorize to start date. (4). U.S. Pipeline and Safety Hazardous Materials Administration, we are working on that grant for replacement of hazardous gas lines and regulators. (5.) Updated zoning map

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Council Report

None

Town Clerk Report

None

Adjournment

Mayor LaFargue requested a motion to adjourn.

Motion: To adjourn.
Made by: Councilman Tunwar
Second: Councilwoman Dewees
Vote: 4-0, passed

With no further business to discuss, meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

/s/Wayland LaFargue, Mayor

/s/ Cynthis Tunwar, Town Clerk