

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN

TOWN OF WELSH

WELSH, LOUISIANA
SEPTEMBER 5, 2017

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Welsh met in regular session at the Welsh Town Hall on Tuesday, September 5, 2017, at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Carolyn Louviere called the meeting to order and Lawrence Mier led the pledge.

Roll call follows:

Present: Mayor Carolyn Louviere; Aldermen: Andrea King, Rodney Trahan, Lawrence Mier, Colby Perry, and Robert Owens.

Absent: None

Others in attendance: Richard Arceneaux, Town Attorney; Stephanie Benoit, Town Clerk; Michelle Ramagos, Director of Parks and Recreation.

131. It was moved by Robert Owens, seconded by Lawrence Mier to adopt the Agenda of the Day which consisted of 139. Gail-Golf Cart Rules; 140. Rodney Trahan-CID roof and TED Program; 141. Robert Owens-Meeting for 5 year plan
Roll Call Vote:
Yeas: Andrea King, Rodney Trahan, Lawrence Mier, Colby Perry, Robert Owens
Nays: None
Abstaining: None
Absent: None
Motion Carried. Vote 5-0.
132. It was moved by Robert Owens, seconded by Rodney Trahan to approve the minutes of August 1, 2017 as presented. Motion Carried. Vote 5-0.
138. Michelle Ramagos, Director of Parks and Recreation introduced the Welsh All Star Mustang and Bronco Teams who made it to the Zone Tournament in Tampa, Florida. Mayor Carolyn Louviere presented the team with a Proclamation declaring September 5, 2017, as "2017 Welsh Mustang and Bronco Baseball Team Day".
134. It was moved by Colby Perry, seconded by Robert Owens to appoint Ben Cormier as the Town of Welsh Magistrate.
Roll Call Vote:
Yeas: Andrea King, Rodney Trahan, Lawrence Mier, Colby Perry, Robert Owens
Nays: None
Abstaining: None
Absent: None
Motion Carried. Vote 5-0.
133. Jamie Festervand brought up important information about the Animal Control process and that there needs to be some consequences in place in our ordinance. We currently take animals if they are surrendered to the Town by the owner which cost the Town money and doesn't cost the owner anything. There needs to be a cost in place so the Town is not putting out money for picking up unwanted animals. People need to be held accountable for their pets.
135. It was moved by Robert Owens, seconded by Andrea King to approve the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire. Motion Carried. Vote 5-0.
137. It was moved by Robert Owens, seconded by Rodney Trahan to accept the recommendation of the Police Department to move Randall Murphy from PT to FT. Motion Carried. Vote 5-0.

It was moved by Rodney Trahan, seconded by Robert Owens to accept the recommendation of the Police Department to hire Chris Manuel as a Reserve Officer. Motion Carried. Vote 5-0.

139. A citizen of the Town of Welsh would like to see different crossings in Town for Golf Carts to get to Sportsman Park, allow children to ride with proper seat belts, and be able to pass with the golf cart over the bike bridge that crosses the bayou to Sportsman Park. Council and the Mayor spoke about the safety hazards of allowing this, the bridge is work in progress, and the State assigned the current crossing locations and the Town cannot change or make any other crossings.
136. Robert Owens stated that there will be a meeting at 6pm at the Community Center regarding the 5 year plan for the Town on Thursday, September 7, 2017. He urges all citizens to attend because your concern and input is wanted. There will be a survey for everyone to complete. If you are not able to attend, you can pick one up at City Hall. Four years ago the Town got with their Engineers, Meyer & Associates, Inc., to work on a plan for drainage in the Town. At that time, the Town was not in financial shape to move forward. Today, they are ready to do the next step which will be getting the current drainage system surveyed as per Byron Racca with Meyer & Associates, Inc. The Town was broken up into four quadrants. After the quadrant is surveyed they will then be able to design and system. Once they have a design, they will then get bids on putting that system in place. This will be very time consuming but the Mayor has put drainage as a priority. Starting with drainage and fixing drainage problems will correct some of our current sewer problem in the Town. Before Harvey hit, the mayor had Janco come out and clean out some of the drains in problem areas and will continue to do this throughout Town. Many items were found in the drains: speed bumps, bicycle parts, dirt build up, cell phones, etc.
140. Alderman, Rodney Trahan, brought up his concern about the Police CID building with the roof leaking in several areas. Some areas, it's not just leaking, it is pouring in. The Police Departments evidence room is located in that building and there are concerns if the roof in that area starts leaking, evidence will be destroyed. He feels if we raise the TED amount of \$25 per hour to \$35 per hour for the Police Officers, they will be willing to go out and work it more and bring in more revenue that will allow us to fix the roof and bring in more revenue. Robert Owens said the Police Chief needs to bring to the Council what he would like to increase it to and they can vote on it.
141. Alderman, Robert Owens, said again that they would like everyone to come to the meeting on Thursday, September 7, 2017, at 6pm at the Community center to discuss the 5 year plan for the Town and allow citizens to complete a survey on what they would like to see happen in the next 5 years here in our Town.
142. There being no further business, it was moved by Lawrence Mier, seconded by Rodney Trahan to adjourn the meeting. Motion Carried. Vote 5-0.

ATTEST:

APPROVAL:

Stephanie Benoit, Town Clerk

Carolyn Louviere, Mayor