

## PUBLIC HEARING

July 13, 2020

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Village of Cankton held a public hearing. Present were Mayor Colligan, Aldermen Matt Smith, Malcolm Bussey and Danny Uriegas were present at the meeting. Mayor Colligan called the meeting to order and announced that a quorum was present. He stated that the purpose for the meeting was to hear discussions and comments on Ordinance 01-2020, FY 20-21 Village of Cankton Budget. He stated that 3 minutes would be allowed for each person in the audience to comment on the proposed ordinance which was introduced at the last Council meeting.

They went over the each funds budget and Mayor Colligan explained the expenses and revenues. The council stated that the sales tax and water system funds looked good. Alderman Smith questioned the final budget costs for the Village of Cankton web site design and didn't think it was that amount. The clerk stated that she will look into the numbers and get back with him. Mayor Colligan asked if there were any additional comments on the budget as presented.

Their being no further comments a motion was made by alderman Uriegas and duly seconded by Alderman Bussey to close the public hearing. Motion Unanimously Carried

## ALDERMEN OF THE VILLAGE OF CANKTON, LOUISIANA

July 13, 2020

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Village of Cankton met in regular session. Present at the meeting were Mayor Kevin Colligan, Aldermen Danny Uriegas, Matt Smith, and Malcolm Bussey. Police Chief Brent Breaux, Darren and Paulette Benoit, Duke Hebert, Tommy Faul, Ervin and Paula Menard, Lainie Richard, Jennifer Bourgeois, Damon Savoie, Kole Menard, Charles Cravins, Chad Pitre, Lincoln Savoie, Elmo Broussard, Harris Bellard, Village attorney Chris Granger, and Cinderella Miller Clerk.

Mayor Colligan announced that a quorum was present and ready to transact business. He opened the meeting with a prayer and the pledge of allegiance.

A motion was made by Alderman Uriegas and duly seconded by Alderman Smith to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion Unanimously Carried

The police report was presented by Brent Breaux. He stated that the computers and equipment were in the vehicles and were being used. He also stated that they would be getting fingerprinting equipment to use as well. Mayor Colligan gave an update on the officers and the hours they worked. Cheyenne Platte works 1 or 2 days a week, Brandon Garcia works mostly weekends average of 35 per pay period, and Richard Breaux works about 20 hours weekly. Everything else was going good and he had nothing to add.

Tommy Faul gave the water report. He stated that they would be reading meters soon. He asked about the replacement of the ground storage tank and stated that the existing one is leaking more and more. Mayor Colligan stated that the 1.1 million dollar grant should be awarded in next year's round of funding. They would be able to do something then. Alderman Uriegas asked what the problem concerning the discolored water. He stated that he had received several calls from concerned customers. Tommy explained that the only thing he could see that could have happened was if the fire hydrants would have been opened. He stated that all was good at well site. The Board of Health had taken chlorine samples and he had also. All chlorine counts were good. He had no other explanation, but did say that the water was clear again.

Harris Bellard gave the maintenance report. He was cutting grass on the road sides and in the park. He was behind on cutting in the park but he would start again on that tomorrow. The speed bumps had been installed on Noah's Ark and Thibodeaux Ln. He thanked Mayor Colligan for the use of the equipment for the installation. Mayor Colligan asked Brent how the speeding was on Thibodeaux since the installation of the speed bumps and Brent said it had cut down the speeding quite a bit. He also thanked Harris and Damon Savoie on the parks appearance. It was very nice.

Chris Granger informed the Mayor and Council that he had compared the Village's map with the Assessors map and wanted permission to go ahead with the annexation process. The

properties located on Billeaud Rd up to the canal at the St Landry parish line and on Clarence Cormier Rd. to the curve at the bridge at the parish line would be considered for annexation.

A motion was made by Alderman Uriegas and duly seconded by Alderman Bussey to authorize Chris Granger to go ahead with the annexations as discussed. Motion Unanimously Carried

Chad Pitre, candidate for St Landry Parish District Attorney, was present at the meeting to let them know about his candidacy. He stated that he was running to make a positive change and keep St Landry Parish safe. He stated that its time for a change in St Landry Parish and when he gets in office he will keep the promises made. He is the candidate of change and will have an open door policy. He has 30 years in law enforcement and as a prosecutor. He wants an opportunity to serve the people of St Landry Parish. He thanks them for allowing him to speak and asked for their support.

Next item on the agenda was a discussion on Phase 1 and 2 of road paving project. Alderman Bussey asked if Phase 1 was complete? Mayor Colligan stated that it was completed. Payment for the project would come out of the 2020-2021 FY budget. The only thing left from Phase 1 was the drainage on Lydia St. When that project will start, each property owner will purchase their own culvert and installation will be done for them. Alderman Bussey asked if they will wait and look into Phase 2 with the FY 2021-2022 budget? Mayor Colligan stated that at the end of the 20-21 FY budget they can revisit and see what is left in the budget. Alderman Smith suggested that the subdivision be left for Phase 3 of the road project. He also said that the remainder of Menard Rd is in the parish's Safe Road Home project but he was not sure if that work was still being done by the parish. Mayor Colligan stated that he had spoken with Jerry Domengeaux who owns property on the north side of Menard Road and he would not be against giving property for a utility right of way. The only problem is moving the electrical lines would be cost prohibitive for the village at this time.

A motion was made by Alderman Smith and duly seconded by Alderman Uriegas to adopt Ordinance 01-2020, Village of Cankton FY 2020-2021 Budget. Motion Unanimously Carried

Said Ordinance, having been introduced, with a public hearing, was adopted with the vote being as follows:

Yays: Aldermen Smith, Uriegas, & Bussey  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

Darren Benoit, a resident on Billeaud Rd, was present at the meeting to discuss police department matters. He informed the mayor and the council of ongoing problems with a neighbor of his. He has had to call the sheriff's department several times for various reasons. On May 2<sup>nd</sup> he called the sheriff's department to lodge a complaint concerning loud motorcycles next door. They responded and were in his yard when the Cankton police chief Brent Breaux showed up. He stated that Mr Breaux parked in the middle of the road in the Cankton unit and was fussing about him calling the sheriff's department. He stated that the chief then proceeded to go onto his property and argue with him because he had called the cops on the neighbors

which are good friends of the chief. He stated that the deputy had to ask him to leave the property and that the entire incident was captured on the deputies body cameras. Mr. Benoit said this was not the first time this had happened with the chief and he had spoken to the mayor about it before. He also said that now the Cankton police car passes in front of his and blows the siren or it is parked at the neighbors house and someone gets on the bull horn and makes comments directed at he and his wife. Mayor Colligan acknowledged that he had spoken with Mr. Benoit about the situation and he stated that he had also spoken with the chief concerning professionalism on and off the job. Mr. Benoit went on to inform the Mayor and Council that he had a letter, a copy of which he gave to each of them, from Sherif Bobby Guidroz stating that Chief Breaux is no longer commissioned through the Sherif's department. Sherif Guidroz was made aware of the incident and, after further investigation and getting all sides of the story, stated that he had pulled the commission and he would not allow Chief Breaux to answer any calls for the St. Landry Parish Sherif's Department. Mayor Colligan and the Council stated they had not been made aware of this so they did not know anything about this. Alderman Uriegas stated that these were serious accusations and they would be in touch with the Sherif's Department to verify these claims. Mayor Colligan stated that if a formal complaint was made, then they will move forward at that time. They would stay in touch with Mr. Benoit.

Mayor Colligan recognized Mr. Charles Cravins, District Attorney and asked if he wanted to say a few words. He thanked him but said he would be asked to be put on the agenda at a later date.

Lincoln Savoie stated that he was a Veterans Advocate and if they knew of any veteran that needed assistance of any kind to please get in touch with him. He would do his best to help out.

A motion was made by Alderman Bussey and duly seconded by Alderman Uriegas to pay the bills. Motion Unanimously Carried

A motion was made by Alderman Bussey and duly seconded by Alderman Uriegas to adjourn the meeting. Motion Unanimously Carried

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Kevin Colligan, Mayor

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Cinderella Miller, Clerk