

THE OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE MAYOR AND OF THE BOARD OF  
ALDERMEN OF THE VILLAGE OF CANKTON, LOUISIANA  
June 8, 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, & Malcolm Bussey, Tommy Faul, Duke Hebert Ervin and Paula Menard, Harris Bellard, Lanie Richard, Angie Colligan, Chris Granger, and Cinderella Miller, Clerk.

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

Mayor Colligan called for a motion to approve the minutes of the May meeting. Alderman Uriegas stated that he wanted to amend the minutes to reflect a couple of items that he specifically wanted to be on record. The first item he wanted to amend in the record was the fact that Alderman Bussey had originally rejected the motion to resurface the entrance and exit of Noah's Ark Blvd in Dupre Oak Subdivision, but now he was voting for it. There was a comment made stating Alderman Bussey was in originally in agreement when he was not. The second item was the matter of Alderman Bussey's resignation as Mayor Pro-Tem. He wanted to apologize to Alderman Bussey. Alderman Uriegas stated that he asked Alderman Bussey if he cared to comment on why he was resigning and Alderman Bussey stated that it was none of his business. He stated that Alderman Bussey was right about it being none of his business, but he and maybe others also, just wanted to know. Alderman Uriegas stated that he had listened to the recording of the meeting and did not remember hearing Alderman Bussey state that it was a private matter, but he did hear none of your business. He wanted the records to reflect those comments. He then asked Attorney Chris Granger what was the proper procedure for amending, questioning or correcting minutes? Chris informed him the way he had done it tonight was the correct way to do it.

A motion was made by Alderman Uriegas and duly seconded by Alderman Bussey to accept the minutes of the May meeting with the corrections and amendments as stated above. Motion Unanimously Carried

Brent gave the police report. He apologized that all information is not on the report due to a glitch with the printer. He went over the calls they responded to and citations issued. He also stated that there were two arrests made. Alderman Uriegas wanted to publically thank him for responding to a complaint about a parked car. It was taken care of. Brent stated that he had purchased two radios and they were in operation. Next purchase would be in August. The computers had been installed and they were working good. There were complaints about speeders on Thibodeaux Lane and they were patrolling. Alderman Smith stated that there were signs also but they were not being followed. Mayor Colligan stated they could install speed bumps on Thibodeaux Lane. Brent stated that the speeders were hard to catch. When they see them they slow down. They would only need one speed bump, about half way down the road. Alderman Uriegas stated they worked well in the subdivision worked well. Alderman Smith asked that they defer to the engineer on the amount of speed bumps to install. Mayor Colligan

will speak to the engineer. There being no questions, the report was accepted.

Tommy stated that they would be reading meters starting on June 9. They had a problem at the well site with well #2 not coming on. Well #4 was put on hand to fill the storage tank and he called Gus to come and check it out. Gus came and stated everything was working good. Both wells were alternating. The TTHM test results had come back. They reported a 79.3 and 74.3 There was still no news on the new ground storage tank.

Harris stated that he was cutting the grass and he monitored the road work crew. He had helped Tommy with the locking and unlocking of the water meters. He had gotten sand and bags at the park along with the high water signs just in case they would have needed it because of the tropical storm. Thank God they didn't need them. They will be moving the trees that were cut down to allow the contractor to continue leveling the land at the park. Alderman Uriegas asked if he had purchased equipment lately? Harris stated that he had bought a gas powered blower. Alderman Uriegas suggested that now that they were purchasing more and more equipment, it should be logged in and recorded. He also asked who was liable when someone used the equipment? Chris answered that it depends on who was using it. He stated that employees can use the equipment but the general public could not be let to use any Village owned equipment. Alderman Uriegas stated he would like to see an inventory done on all equipment owned by Cankton. He stated that employees should not use village owned equipment on personal property. He asked if they could rent tables and chairs to the public and Chris said yes they could.

Alderman Smith asked about the property next to the park. Mayor Colligan stated that they had made the motion to clear the land and put a tax lien on the property. He was in contact with one of the land owners, but there were 26 in all. It may take a while to recoup the monies but they would eventually.

Ted Johnson, with Entergy, was at the meeting to discuss the moving of utility right of ways on Menard Rd. He stated that Entergy had a single phase distribution line on the north side of Menard Rd. The lines can be moved but the rough estimate to move the lines would be about 100,000.00 that the Village of Cankton would have to pay. He stated that he will help in any way possible with the paperwork to get it started and he would also be willing to go in person to help in the process. Alderman Smith stated that it would be something to think about and maybe consider in the future. He felt they were not in a position to do anything now. Alderman Uriegas told Ted that he had a close personal relationship with his boss and they were great people. He wanted to thank Ted and Entergy for all they do for Cankton. He also stated that he could not support this project at this time. He felt there were other more important things, road repairs and paving, that needed to be done. Mayor Colligan thanked Ted for the information and asked if he could share the new Entergy app they have. It was very good to have as they could keep up with the outages and estimated restorations. Ted gave a brief overview of the app. He also stated that they would soon have smart meters in the near future. They would help them to do a better job keeping track of the system. Mayor Colligan also said there were several street lights that were out. He would make a list and get the clerk to send it to them for repairs. There was also a new street light that needed to be installed and that information would be forthcoming as well along with the signed request. Ted informed him that

he would work on it as soon as he received the information. He stated that it was a good investment to have the lights.

Next item on the agenda was the annexation of property on Billeaud Rd. Brent stated that he had a petition with signatures and he was in the process of getting more. He stated that the annexation would be from Hwy 93 going east up to his property. Mayor Colligan informed him in order to be annexed they would need a majority of the registered voters and 25% in property value. Alderman Uriegas stated that others had approached him also. He was thankful that the parish had finished the resurfacing of the road and the repairs on the bridge. If annexed would the Village annex the private right of way. Brent stated no they would not. Alderman Uriegas stated he was all for the annexation. Mayor Colligan stated that lower sales tax and police protection along with street lights were a few perks of being annexed. They would also maintain the vegetation along the road way ditches. Alderman Smith asked if they were going all the way to the bridge? Brent stated no, just up to his property for now but Mayor Colligan stated that he wanted to do it all now. They would also be sales tax collected from the bar. He suggested they do Billeaud and Clarence Cormier Rd. First responders and EMT would be able to locate properties easier and faster if they were all in. Alderman Uriegas asked what happened if the POD received a call and they were not in the city limits. Brent explained that they could go to the scene and secure it for the Sheriff's Dept. until they arrive. They could not enforce anything unless Sheriff gave the ok. Mayor Colligan also stated that going from a Village to a town would make grant monies more available to Cankton. They had not received grant monies because of the Village status. He authorized Brent and Chris to start the process for moving the boundary lines on Clarence Cormier and Billeaud Rds. The council agreed.

Mayor Colligan informed them they he had a bid for the road drainage project from C & B Construction. The cost of the drainage to be done on the three roads was \$4,900.00 and was broken down as follows. A miscellaneous amount of \$750.00 that covered transport of equipment and travel time was also in the quote.

Lydia St.	\$1450.00
Noah's Ark Blvd	850.00
Menard Rd	1850.00

A motion was made by Alderman Bussey and duly seconded by Alderman Uriegas to accept the road drainage project as presented. Motion Unanimously Carried

Mayor Colligan informed them that Chris had sent a letter to each resident on Lydia Street informing them they would have to purchase a replacement culvert. Those could be bought at state contract price through the Village. Chris read the letter to those in attendance. Alderman Smith wanted all 18" culverts on Lydia Street. At present the culverts and ditches they do have are not very big. One has no ditch at all. They may not be happy once they are in place. Alderman Uriegas stated that he spoke with Mr Duffy who lives there and he said he's okay with. Alderman Uriegas did say that he wishes they would have allowed for a variance in the size. Mayor Colligan asked if the ditch will go all the way to the end of Lydia St. It would but a culvert will not be put at the end. The residents will not have to get a culvert permit either. Council agreed. Alderman Bussey asked if a payment plan was in place if these people can't pay the amount in full. Chris stated yes, as long as the payment plan was paid in full at the end

of the FY the culvert was purchased in. Cankton would purchase gravel to cover to put over culverts.

Alderman Uriegas stated that people had questioned him as to why he did not support the paving of aggregate roads. He stated because he knew it would be costly. Lydia Street alone was costing \$18,500.00 plus the cost of engineer fees and financing of culverts. His point was that other streets could have been more easily done. His opinion was that they had made a mistake with Lydia Street.

In the Dupre Oak Subdivision they were going to fix the ditch on the south side of Noah's Ark Blvd entrance in order to divert the water on either side and the north side of the entrance they were going to dig a ditch as there was nothing there.

A motion was made Alderman Bussey and duly seconded by Alderman Smith to introduce Ordinance 01-2020 FY Budget. Motion Unanimously Carried. A public hearing will be held on July 13, 2020 at 5:00 pm for the purpose of discussing the FY 20-21 Budget. It is open to the public and the public is encouraged to attend. A vote on the passage will be at the regular meeting held on July 13, 2020 at 6:00 pm.

Chris informed the Mayor and Council that Bill Godell, environmental attorney, has filed a lawsuit against the Mar Service Dump site for possible contamination of water. The parish is on board with the lawsuit. He wanted to know if the Village would be on board also? Mr. Godell will be at the council meeting on July 13 to speak to them about the law suit. Mayor Colligan commented on the end of the current FY. In looking at the budget he stated that they had done good things. They had received a 12,000.00 grant from Solid Waste. While it helped pay for the road paving, it did not pay for all of it. They had purchased a new water truck, had hired a daytime officer, created a web site, and had new radios for the police units. They had also donated an asset, a piece of property, worth 36,000.00, to the fire department for the construction of a new fire station. There was \$200,000.00 of improvements not in the budget. May look like they are in the hole but it was worth it. They had a good year. Alderman Uriegas stated that it was a pleasure to work and finally getting done things they had been working on. It showed progress. It was great and they now have something to be proud of.

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

