

TOWN OF WASHINGTON  
PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
405 N. Washington St. Washington, LA

PUBLIC HEARING MEETING MINUTES  
Monday January 18, 2023, at 5:50 pm

The Public Meeting was opened at 5:50 pm by Mayor Landreneau. Mayor Landreneau welcomed any discussions or questions the public may have regarding Ordinance 1 of 2023 Utility Rates. The public did not take on any discussion. The Public Hearing Meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
Monday January 18, 2023, at 6:00 pm

Mayor William Dwight Landreneau called the regular council meeting to order. Town Clerk Halli Polotzola completed roll call the following council members attended: Erick Fontenot, Beau Wilson, Rogers Malveaux, Tanya Doucet, and Mary Lavergne. There were no absences. Town Clerk Halli Polotzola recognized a quorum was established. Prayer and Pledge was recited.

Clerk of Court Charlie Jagneaux administered the oath of office for Halli Polotzola, Town Clerk and Darlene Vidrine, Utility/Traffic Clerk as ex-officio notary for the Town of Washington.

Clerk of Court Charlie Jagneaux administered the oath of office for the following Town Council Members Erick Fontenot, Beau Wilson, Rogers Malveaux, Tanya Doucet, and Mary Lavergne.

Clerk of Court Charlie Jagneaux administered the oath of office for William Dwight Landreneau as Mayor.

Mayor Landreneau noted that the Chief of Police William R Worthy was sworn in at an early date.

Mayor Landreneau recommended the following appointments Halli Polotzola, Municipal Clerk, Jimmy Alfred, Public Works Supervisor, Christopher Granger, Attorney, Ben Trant, Magistrate and Kolder, Slaven, & Company, CPA/Auditor. No discussion. Tanya Doucet motioned to assign the appointments as recommended by the Mayor, the motion was seconded by Mary Lavergne, no opposition, the motion carried.

A motion was made to accept and approve the minutes of the regular Council Meeting held December 19, 2022, by Beau Wilson; Mary Lavergne second the motion; no discussion and the motion carried.

Mayor Landreneau updated the council advising the debt has been reduced to approximately \$210,000 compared to 2020 debt owed over \$650,000. The town has been removed from fiscal watch. A motion was made acknowledging receipt of the December Financials including Balance and Profit & Loss Budget to Actual Comparison, by Tanya Doucet; motion was seconded by Beau Wilson, no discussion and the motion carried.

Mayor Landreneau presented Ordinance 1 of 2023 Utility rates authorizing rate changes and welcomed discussion and vote for approval. Council member Beau Wilson asked if this was an emergency increase. The Mayor advised this is to get the Town in compliance and attempt to break even the income and expenses. They Mayor recommended a rate study be completed as soon possible to re-evaluate. A discussion took place with the audience regarding the quality of water. Mayor Landreneau advised that the Town was graded and received an A from Louisiana Department of Health and the Town will continue to maintain the water quality. A motion to approve Ordinance 1 of 2023 Utility Rates was made by Beau Wilson, the motion was seconded by Tanya Doucet. YAYS: Beau Wilson, Tanya Doucet, Erick Fontenot, Mary Lavergne and Rogers Malveaux. NAYS: None The motion passed to approve Ordinance 1 of 2023 Utility Rates authorizing rate changes.

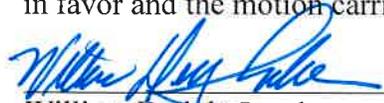
Mayor Landreneau provided an update on the Police Department. The Mayor and Chief of Police have been working closely with St. Landry Parish Sheriff Department and Opelousas City Marshal's Office to organize the Police Department. A plan was developed to staff the agency. All employees who were actively working for the previous administration are no longer with the Police Department. The employees resigned prior to the current Chief taking office.

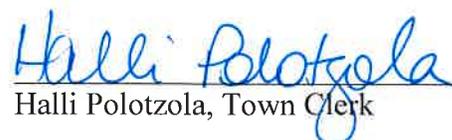
Easton Shelvin was presented as an applicant for the Police Department as the Assistant Chief of Police. Easton Shelvin is an 18-year veteran as a POST certified officer. A motion was made by Tanya Doucet to approve Easton Shelvin to be hired, the motion was seconded by Mary Lavergne, YAYS: Beau Wilson, Tanya Doucet, Erick Fontenot and Mary Lavergne NAYS: Rogers Malveaux The motion passed to hire Easton Shelvin as Assistant Chief of Police.

Applications are being taken for part-time POST certified officers. The Sheriff will assist with dispatching once the department is staffed. Since January 1, 2023, the Sheriff Department is handling all calls until the department is staffed.

Mayor Landreneau announced DOTD has completed an overlay on sections of St Landry Veteran's Memorial Hwy and LA10. Safety stripes have been added at St. Landry Veteran's Memorial Hwy to avoid going the wrong way.

A motion was made by Beau Wilson to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Tanya Doucet; all in favor and the motion carried.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
William Dwight Landreneau, Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Halli Polotzola, Town Clerk