

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
OF THE VILLAGE OF FRENCH SETTLEMENT, October 9, 2019**

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Village of French Settlement met at 16015 Hwy. 16, French Settlement, Louisiana on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2019 at 6 p.m. in regular session convened. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Toni Guitrau with the following members present:

Alderman Teresa Miller, Alderman Danette Carrier

Absent: Alderman Rhonda Lobell

Also, present: Chief of Police Cary Mosby, Representative Clay Schexnayder, Derek Berner with DOTD

A prayer was offered by Alderman Teresa Miller

**Public Comments on Agenda Items:** The mayor opened the floor to public comments on agenda items. There were no comments.

**Guest Speaker(s):**

- Representative Clay Schexnayder
- DOTD Representative Derek Berner – Amite River Bridge Construction Update: Mr. Berner gave an update on the proposed French Settlement Amite River Bridge replacement. Construction may begin early 2020 with the new bridge being constructed approximately 50' west of the existing bridge. The existing bridge will remain in place until the new bridge is completed. This discussion will be continued until the next regular meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen on November 13, 2019.
- Derek Babcock – Livingston Parish Council Candidate – District 6

**Reading of Minutes and Statement of Finances**

The motion to adopt the minutes for the month of September 2019, as presented, was made by Alderman Carrier and seconded by Alderman Miller. A yeas and a nays vote was called for and resulted as follows:

Yeas: Miller, Carrier

Nays: None

Absent: Lobell

Abstain: None

The motion to adopt the statement of finances for the month of September 2019, as presented, was made by Alderman Miller and seconded by Alderman Carrier. A yeas and a nays vote was called for and resulted as follows:

Yeas: Miller, Carrier

Nays: None

Absent: Lobell

Abstain: None

**Reading of Communications:** None.

**Police Department Report:** A police report was placed in the Mayor and Board of Aldermen binders. Summary as follows: 81 total calls for service of which there were 3 vehicle accidents. Officer Allen Ordineaux began Part Time on Monday, September 13, 2019 from 6:30 am – 12:00 pm. He will be on duty Monday through Friday monitoring the school zone, community policing, patrolling and answering calls.

**Old Business**

- **Grounds Report:** An additional dumpster has been ordered for the upcoming Creole Festival on October 20, 2019.
- **Road Report:** 1. Mayor Guitrau said that she has a meeting with Livingston Parish Planning & Development Department on Tuesday morning, October 15, 2019 in regard to the Mecca Road Extension being blacktopped. 2. City Limit signs are being checked by the FSPD to see how many are missing on village roads. The mayor is also waiting on estimates to mark the 1000-foot boundary on some of these village roads.
- **LGAP GRANT:** LGAP 2019-2020 Grant: Alderman Carrier read Resolution #3 of 2019. A motion to approve Resolution #3 of 2019 was made by Alderman Miller, and seconded by Alderman Carrier to apply for money toward a natural gas generator(s) to run municipal buildings during power outages. Yesterday, Mayor Guitrau completed the application for the LGAP 2019-2020 Grant to go with funding from the LGAP 2018-2019 Grant award of \$6530.00. She's received a letter of support from Representative Schexnayder and is waiting on one from Senator Lambert to go with the application. This application is due December 6, 2019.

**New Business:**

- Appoint Fire Department Board Member to French Settlement Fire Department District 8: A motion was made by Alderman Carrier, seconded by Alderman Miller to appoint Chad Porche as a Fire District 8, French

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Settlement Volunteer Fire Department board member. He will replace Gilbert Matherne. A ye and a nay vote was called for and resulted as follows:

Yeas: Miller, Carrier

Nays: None

Absent: Lobell

Abstain: None

- Alderman Carrier read Ordinance #2 of 2019 – Proposed Budget of 2020. A public hearing is set for November 13, 2019, 6 pm, to be held at the regular meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen at its regular meeting place.
- Mayor Guitrau gave a summary of the Open Meetings Law to the Board of Aldermen. She explained what constitutes a quorum for a Board of Aldermen made up of 3 aldermen, and one made up of 5 aldermen. She believes after the 2020 census; French Settlement may be reclassified as a town in which the only change will be that it requires 5 aldermen. There is always a copy of the Open Meetings Law posted in the hallway leading to the meeting room.

**Local Events:**

- The French Settlement Bridge to Bridge Yard Sale will be held on Saturday, October 19, 2019.
- The annual Creole Festival will be held on Sunday, October 20, 2019 from 10 am-5 pm. Kim Aydele said that the festival is a fundraiser to raise money for the Creole House Museum. Stone Envy and Southern Cross will play music, many people are interested in setting up craft booths, and it should be a great community event.

Mayor Guitrau thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

**Adjourn:** A motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Carrier and seconded by Alderman Miller. A ye and a nay vote was called for and resulted as follows:

Yeas: Miller, Carrier

Nays: None

Absent: Lobell

Abstain: None

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/S/Toni Guitrau, Mayor

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/S/Pam Melancon, Municipal Clerk