

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE
BLANCHARD MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL
Tuesday, November 8, 2022 – 6:00 P.M.**

Present: Mayor Galambos, Alderpersons Lee, Fuller, Guin, Presley, Chief Presswood, Attorney William Bradford, Candy Foshee, Town Clerk, Perry Fuller, Utility manager

Meeting called to order by Mayor at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Fuller

Invocation given by Pastor Sam Paris of First Baptist Church of Blanchard

Questions and Statements of Citizens – Scott Durfee was in attendance and announced that he was recently named Interim Deputy Fire Chief of Caddo parish Fire District 1. Mayor Galambos congratulated him and he was given a round of applause and invited back to future meetings.

Motion made by Fuller, second by Lee, to approve the Regular meeting minutes of October 11, 2022. All voted yea.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 11 of 2022 – A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Complete and Submit an Application for a Grant for Funds from the Community Water Enrichment Fund (CWEF)

RESOLUTION NO. 11 OF 2022

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO COMPLETE
AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR A GRANT FOR FUNDS
FROM THE COMMUNITY WATER ENRICHMENT FUND (CWEF)**

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen for the Town of Blanchard, Parish of Caddo, State of Louisiana, wish to apply for a grant of funds from the Community Water Enrichment Fund (CWEF) for improvements and upgrades at the elevated water tank at the old water treatment plant site on La. Hwy. 169;

WHEREAS, the Town of Blanchard owns, operates, and maintains a large public water system serving approximately 22,000 water customers in north-central Caddo Parish, Louisiana.

WHEREAS, the Town's water distribution system includes four (4) elevated water tanks situated at various locations in the water system service area including a 100,000 gallon tank at the old water treatment plant site on La. Hwy. 169;

WHEREAS, the La. Hwy. 169 elevated tank has inherent circulation problems that occasionally impact water quality including disinfection levels;

WHEREAS, the proposed CWEF funding will be used to purchase and install a tank mixing system that will greatly improve water circulation inside of the elevated water tank;

WHEREAS, these improvements will directly and beneficially impact all residents of the Town by preserving treated water quality and addressing direct threats to public health, safety, and welfare;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Aldermen, in a special session convened, this 8th day of November, 2022 that they do hereby authorize and fully support the application for CWF funds in the amount of \$35,000, and do authorize the Mayor of the Town of Blanchard to execute the application.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all resolutions or parts thereof in conflict with this resolution are hereby repealed.

Motion made by Lee, seconded by Fuller, to adopt Resolution 11 of 2022 this 8th day of November, 2022. All voted yea.

Resolution 12 of 2022 – A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Complete and Submit an Application for a Grant for Funds from the Louisiana Governmental Assistance Program (LGAP)

RESOLUTION NO. 12 OF 2022

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO COMPLETE
AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR A GRANT FOR FUNDS
FROM THE LOUISIANA GOVERNMENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LGAP)**

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen for the Town of Blanchard, Parish of Caddo, State of Louisiana, wish to apply for a grant of funds from the Louisiana Governmental Assistance Program (LGAP) for the purchase and installation of in-car video camera systems in six (6) police department vehicles;

WHEREAS, the Town of Blanchard maintains a municipal Police Department that provides law enforcement functions for the Town's 3,556 residents;

WHEREAS, the existing in-car video camera systems in the Town's six (6) police vehicles are over 10 years old and are functionally obsolete;

WHEREAS, Town's Police Department understands that there are elevated community expectations associated with documenting interactions between law enforcement officers and the public;

WHEREAS, the Town's Police Department is committed to maintaining public safety built on a foundation of justice and through stronger alliances with the communities it serves;

WHEREAS, in-car video camera systems will greatly benefit the Town's Police Department in meeting these stated goals and help improve public trust;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Aldermen, in a special session convened, this 8th day of November 2022 that they do hereby authorize and fully support the application for LGAP funds in the amount of \$35,000 and do authorize the Mayor of the Town of Blanchard to execute the application.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all resolutions or parts thereof in conflict with this resolution are hereby repealed.

Motion made by Lee, seconded by Fuller, to adopt Resolution 12 of 2022 this 8th day of November, 2022. All voted yea.

Introduction of Ordinance 14 of 2022 - An Ordinance To Amend Chapter 3, Section 3.7, Municipal Officers, Of The Code Of Ordinances, Town Of Blanchard, Relating To The Compensation Of The Chief Of Police Of The Town Of Blanchard, And Otherwise Providing With Respect Thereto.

Title to Ordinance 14 of 2022 was read by Fuller.

Update on 211 Jo Lacey property

A Sheriff Sale was held November 2, 2022 and the property was sold to Texas bank. As soon as the transfer deed is recorded, Texas Bank can move forward in getting the property cleaned and ready to sell.

Update on events: Small Town Christmas - Saturday, December 10, 2022 and Fall Market - Saturday, November 12, 2022

The last Fall Market is this Saturday, November 12, in the parking lot of First Baptist Church of Blanchard on Attaway Street. There will be 60 plus vendors so please come out and support these vendors. The Small Town Christmas will be held Saturday, December 10. This year, all events will be held in the parking lot and The Well at First Baptist Church of Blanchard on Attaway Street. There will be a parade at 10:00 a.m. with Santa riding in a fire truck and delivered to The Well at the church where he will be until 12.30 p.m. to see children and have pictures taken with him. All crafts for the children will be held in The Well. Food Vendors and arts and craft vendors will be located in the parking lot across from The Well. Please come out and support our local events!

October 2022 financials

Will be emailed when completed

REPORT FROM:

Gary Presswood, Chief of Police – New police vehicle should be delivered by Thanksgiving.

Effective Wednesday, November 9, 2022, Sammy Yount will begin working part-time at the Blanchard Police Department as a Patrol officer, at a rate of \$15.00 per hour.

COMMENTS BY THE MAYOR

Two new businesses will begin construction soon, O'Reilly's Auto Parts and Golden Chik Restaurant on Hwy. 1 and Old Mooringsport Road. The letter to proceed to begin construction on the Love's water line has been sent. The LA Hwy 173 Water Main Extension project is 50 days in and has a completion date of January 1, 2023. Ivy's Lumber project – working with DOTD and Love's to use their turn lane.

There being no further business, motion made by Fuller, second by Presley to adjourn. All vote yea. Meeting adjourned at 6:29 p.m.

Jim Galambos, Mayor

Candy Foshee, Town Clerk

