**Minutes of the Town of Jonesboro Jonesboro, Louisiana**

**Regular Meeting – 6:00 P.M. November 12, 2019**

**Call to Order**

Mayor Leslie Thompson called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:00pm.

**Roll Call**

Roll call was taken by Mayor Leslie Thompson.

Flowers – present

Ginn-present

Johnson-present

Siadek-present

Stringer-present

A quorum was present

**Invocation –** Flowers

**Pledge –** Siadek

**Public Comments**

**James Bradford –** Request for council for Stringer law suit

**Wilda Smith-** Christmas activities in Jonesboro – Life skills for Jonesboro youth

**Seantel Norred-Ross –** Restoration of the Rodeo

Public comments expressed

**Mayors update**

One issue that I would like to discuss the that troubles our community is the water situation. There was a major water leak the other day. We were alerted by CodeRed.

This system was put in place to help the residence understand what’s going with the water and when the pressure is low or if it’s off.

**Police – Hire/Termination**

**Termination – Fredricka Watkins, Karen Wimberly**

**Motioned:** Johnson

**Seconded:** Siadek

**Motioned Carried**

**Hires-**

 **La’Secret Jones-FT-$11.00**

 **Dustin Davis – PT-$13.00**

**Motioned:** Ginn

**Seconded**: Siadek

**Motioned carried**

**Approval of Minutes – 10/8/19 -10/29/19**

**Motioned:** Johnson

**Seconded:** Flowers

**Motioned carried**

**Fire Department – a.) Declare Engine #6 surplus**

 **b.) Donation of fire apparatus to another fire department**

**Motioned:** Stringer

**Seconded**: Flowers

**Motioned carried**

**Department Head Reports**

**Fire Department –** Issues with brand new truck – The manufactures will correct problems or give them another truck. Air packs are essential for the protection of the firemen when entering a burning building. The air packs we currently own are scheduled to expire and the firemen cannot go into a fire without the proper equipment. Monies is need for this important equipment.

**Police Department-**

The Wise family lost their daughter due to a four-wheeler accident yesterday.

Mr. Devin Hammond was hit by a car yesterday. Please be vigilant when driving, it’s getting darker. Please keep these families in your prayers.

**Public Works-** Absent – report submitted.

**Approval of Department Head Reports**

**Motioned:Flowers**

**Seconded: Siadek**

**Motioned carried**

**Budget – Adopt**

**Mayor-**Last and most important item, the budget. Hopefully we can get the budget adopted tonight. I would like to apologize to council I said I would have my numbers to you guys by Tuesday I didn’t get those numbers to you until Friday. I thank you for your patience and consideration, since I didn’t get a call, I guess y’all were ok. When it comes down to a budget

this is how the administration runs the day to day operation. I have to be able to see and know how much we are spending and how close we are for being out of compliance. We been so tight in watching money spending so closely since we been back, that we have had no problems. Before Wendy left, she gave me a print out in terms of where we were with each department and we have been in pretty good shape. The cars you are driving in the dark, when you drive you have to be a little bit more careful. You have to make sure you don’t have too much spending going on. Sometimes the department head or the individual will have a problem with cause you not allowing them to do the things they want to do. It took Mark Treadway to come over here and say I appreciate it now, I’m now on this side and I can see what goes on and how tuff it is to make those monetary decisions. When you are a department head, you want what you want and you need what you need and I came to tell the council what I need. I understand that, but I also want to say when you are a unit or municipality considering budget amendments and budget adoptions, you have to act according to the Louisiana governing budget act. There are laws that govern how budgets are adopted. The budget should be adopted prior to and at the end of the last fiscal year, prior to the beginning of the new fiscal year. When you don’t do that, you find that you are in the phase or a period of non-compliance. When you find yourself in non-compliance then you are in a position to lose funding for the town, that would come from the state and federal, that’s why I have been pushing as hard as I have to get this done. We have the water department on the hook, 1.3 million dollars that we have applied for to help with our infrastructure, sewer, water problem. We have the LGAP that we pretty much got approved. We have the CWEP that we have been approved for, $30- $40,000 more dollars; these are things we are trying to do. Mrs. Simmons has applied for Capital Outlay from North Delta, little bit over $200,000.00 dollars. We have quite a bit of money out there that is coming our way. It is fearful to me that we can potentially lose this funding after a year of hard work. “Lawson Act” (The governing budget act) The process is, the Mayor makes a presentation. Presents the budget instrument to the council, the council either accepts it or rejects it. If in event the council rejects it, the Mayor has to go back based upon their assessment to see if he can make some more adjustments, and make another recommendation. That’s where we are tonight. I have submitted the budget to council. There were problems and concerns. We have advertised in the newspaper, that is a requirement by law and required by the budget act. We have made sure the budget was available for public inspection. We have followed the rules and letter to the “T”. Now we are here again. The council has submitted new numbers and am have taken those numbers and is trying to do the best that I could to make sure that we get the best that we need and move on. While I have those numbers, I’m going to let it be known and let you know what those numbers are. Then I’m going to ask the council if they would be so kind as to adopt these numbers.

**Motioned** – to table until next meeting

**Council comments-** Council comments were expressed

**Mayor comments –** Mayor council were expressed

**Motioned – to have a special meeting 6:00pm, Tuesday, November 19, 2019**

**Adjournment- Motioned – Flowers**

**Seconded- Johnson**

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Mayor Leslie Thompson Vivian McCarden, Clerk

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