

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
TOWN OF KINDER, LOUISIANA**

July 7, 2025

The Notice of Meeting/Agenda having been duly posted in accordance with requirements, and a quorum being present, the council meeting was called to order by Mayor LaFargue at 6:00 p.m.

**Mayor, Council and Staff Present:**

Wayland LaFargue, Mayor  
Maria DeWees, Councilwoman Dist. 2  
Jerry Nevils, Jr., Councilman Dist. 3  
Angie Van Norman, Councilwoman Dist.4  
Susanne Sonnier, Councilwoman at Large  
Cynthia Tunwar, Town Clerk  
Michael Holmes, Town Attorney  
Paul Courville, Chief of Police  
Rhett Deselle, City Engineer

**Council and Staff Absent:**

LaToya Tunwar, Councilwoman Dist.1

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**Public Comments on Agenda Items**

None

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**Approval of Minutes**

Mayor asked the council to consider approval of the minutes for the special council meeting of June 30, 2025 as presented.

**Motion:** To approve minutes as presented

**Made by:** Councilman Nevils

**Second:** Councilwoman Sonnier

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:** 4-0, passed

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**Mayor's Report**

Mayor provided population increase from 1,600 to 2,170 according to Census Bureau, also updates on cosmetic finishes / concerns to Park Road bridge. Advised of R&R guidance with Pipeline Safety audit. Also, advised the council of Beatrice is doing such great job red tagging / enforcing ordinances.

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**Chief of Police Report**

Chief Courville ask the council to consider rehiring of Devin Fontenot as part-time patrolman.

**Motion:** To approve to rehire Devin Fontenot

**Made by:** Councilwoman Sonnier

**Second:** Councilman Nevils

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:** 4-0, passed

Chief Courville announce the retirement of Brian Fontenot in January 2026 and ask the council to consider hiring Nicholas Vincent as full-time officer.

**Motion:** To approve the hiring of Nicholas Vincent

**Made by:** Councilwoman Van Norman

**Second:** Councilman Nevils

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:** 4-0, passed

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### **Town Attorney Report**

Mr. Holmes opened a public meeting to ask that final adoption of proposed Ordinance 889 (Prohibition of Camping) be tabled.

Mr. Holmes requested motion to table final adoption of Ordinance No. 889. Mayor agreed.

**Motion:** To table Ordinance No. 889

**Made by:** Councilwoman Van Norman

**Second:** Councilwoman Dewees

**Discussion:** None

**Roll Call Vote:** Tunwar-Absent; DeWees-Yes; Nevils-Yes; Van Norman-Yes; Sonnier-Yes

**Vote:** 4-0 adopted

Mr. Holmes requested and Mayor called for motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-08 (2025 Millage rates).

**Motion:** To adopt Resolution 2025-08.

**Made by:** Councilwoman Sonnier

**Second:** Councilman Nevils

**Discussion:** Van Norman – ask if everything stays the same as 2024.; Holmes - advised everything stays the same; it is estimated to bring in the same Advalorem tax on the 4.52 mill, the 966 mill, alimony and general purpose.

**Roll Call Vote:** Tunwar-Absent; DeWees-Yes; Nevils-Yes; Van Norman-Yes; Sonnier-Yes

**Vote:** 4-0 passed

Mr. Holmes request motion to adopt LCDBG Block Grant - Equal Opportunity / Fair Housing, Resolution No. 2025-10, for the annual / semi-annual requirement of the Housing Assistance Program that set forth the requirements that are required for equal opportunity to the fair housing procurement.

**Motion:** To adopt Resolution No. 2025-10

**Made by:** Councilman Nevils

**Second:** Councilwoman Van Norman

**Discussion:** Nevils – ask if this is similar to HUD Grant. Holmes – advised it is part of the HUD Program. The funding part basically says that in general the town will comply with the policy in order to remain eligible to have the citizens participate in various housing programs, including HUD.

**Roll Call:** Tunwar-Absent; DeWees-Yes; Nevils-Yes; Van Norman-Yes; Sonnier-Yes  
**Vote:** 4-0 passed

Mr. Holmes request motion to adopt LCDBG Block Grant - Financial Management, Resolution No. 2025-1010-1, relates to following certain financial managements rules and regulations related to LCDBG funds and to designate an official depository (Jeff Davis Bank) and the requisition of funds to apply the payments that is required when receiving LCDBG funds when they are received. Wayland Lafargue and Cynthia Tunwar are authorized to sign the checks according to the resolution.

**Motion:** To adopt Resolution No. 2025-10-1

**Made by:** Councilwoman Susan Sonnier

**Second:** Councilman Nevils

**Discussion:** None

**Roll Call:** Tunwar-Absent; DeWees-Yes; Nevils-Yes; Van Norman-Yes; Sonnier-Yes

**Vote:** 4-0 passed

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### **Engineer's Report**

Rhett Deselle of Pan American Engineers (PAE) reported: (1) on status of Waste Water Treatment Plant; (2) on status of Nixon Addition drainage project.

Holmes added – I spoke with Mr. Deselle pursuant to instructions from the Mayor - I have consulted with four lot owners of property immediately to the west of Veteran's Park / 12<sup>th</sup> St., their desire to build a fence along their property line. We have two legal issues to deal with; (1.) 15' servitude that the town has along the north side of the main drainage canal that runs through the edge of that property (east / west). We want to make sure we have access to maintain that ditch and (2.) there is a small lateral ditch that burdens two of the four lots that are to the south – Jaquella Manuel and Mr. Benoit - that ditch is wholly on their property. Plans must be submitted to the town so that we can submit to engineers for approval, a set of gates (locked - double 6' gates) that will be built across the back of the property line for the town to gain access (keys to locked gate) to the property in the need the town needs to get equipment inside the gate. Ask if the town will consent to approximately 20-24" of the fence being on town's property line along the backside / south side, due to the way the property line runs. Van Norman asks if it was at the expense of the property owners. Holmes - no expense to the town.

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### **Council Report**

Van Norman inquired about the progress of condemnations (Clearance Grant). Van Norman had a complaint of fiber optic companies not notifying homeowners that they are doing work in front of property / leaving exposed facilities / fiber optic lines on right of way. Holmes – Courtesy to advise but if working exclusively in right of way they have the right to work by a franchise or some other statute, legally they are not required to give notice to the adjacent landowner.

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## **Town Clerk Report**

None

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## **Adjournment**

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:31 pm

**Motion:** To adjourn.

**Made by:** Councilwoman Sonnier

**Second:** Councilwoman Van Norman

**Vote:** 4-0, passed

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**/s/Wayland LaFargue, Mayor**

**/s/ Cynthia Tunwar, Town Clerk**