Town of Bernice Council Meeting April 8, 2025

Mayor Mildred Ferguson and the Town Council met in regular session April 8, 2025, in the Council Room of the Town Hall with the following present: Amy Pesnell, Joanna Ward, and Lanell Clubbs with Gene Terral and Karen Hall being absent. Also present: Town Attorney Joe Cusimano; Lana Patton, Town Clerk; Brittany Jackson, Asst. Town Clerk; Police Chief Larry Jones; Shelby Kelley, Water and Sewer Superintendent; and citizens.

Mayor Ferguson called the meeting to order. Joanna Ward led the prayer. Lana Patton called the roll. Lanell Clubbs made a motion to approve the previous minutes with Amy Pesnell seconding the motion to approve the previous minutes. Vote was unanimously approved.

Mayor Ferguson held a Public Meeting to explain that the town will be applying for a LCDBG Grant to make improvements to the water system. Shelby Kelley explained to the group that the water tank at the north well is leaking and that a larger tank is needed.

Joanna Ward introduced Proposed Ordinance No. 424 to set salaries to be voted on at the next regular meeting.

Mayor Ferguson and the Council went to an Executive Session to discuss legal matters. Lanell Clubbs made a motion with Amy Pesnell seconding the motion to come out of Executive Session. Vote was unanimously approved.

Mayor Ferguson reported on the activities of the town. Mayor Ferguson said that U.S. Senator Bill Cassidy will be the speaker at the Union Parish Chamber of Commerce Banquet to be held on April 16th.

Police Chief Larry Jones reported on arrests made by the Bernice Police Department. Chief Jones recommended hiring Kendric Buggs and Cedric Montgomery as part-time patrol officers pending a psychological test, drug test, and getting qualified on a weapon. Joanna Ward made a motion to approve Chief Jones' recommendation with Lanell Clubbs seconding the motion. Vote was unanimously approved.

Amy Pesnell made a motion with Lanell Clubbs seconding the motion to approve payment of bills. Vote was unanimously approved.

Amy Pesnell made a motion to adjourn with Joanna Ward seconding the motion to adjourn.

Attest: Lana Patton, Town Clerk

Approve: Mayor Mildred Ferguson