OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN

TOWN OF WELSH

 WELSH, LOUISIANA

 APRIL 04, 2017

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Welsh met in regular session in their

regular meeting place, the Town Hall, on Tuesday, April 04, 2017, at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Carolyn Louviere called the meeting to order and Rodney Trahan led the pledge.

Roll call follows:

Present: Mayor Carolyn Louviere; Aldermen: Andrea King, Rodney Trahan, Lawrence Mier,

Colby Perry, and Robert Owens.

Absent: None

Others in attendance: Richard Arceneaux, Town Attorney; Stephanie Benoit, Town Clerk;

Marcus Crochet, Police Chief; Michelle Ramagos, Director of Parks and Recreation; John Hall,

Fire Chief; Co-Superintendent, Wayne Hebert; Co-Superintendent, Tracy Goodwin.

061. It was moved by Rodney Trahan, seconded by Robert Owens to adopt the Agenda of the Day which consisted of 070. Kyle Todd, Police Department; 071. Jim Wright, Police Department

 Roll Call Vote:

 Yeas: Andrea King, Rodney Trahan, Lawrence Mier, Colby Perry, Robert Owens

 Nays: None

 Abstaining: None

 Absent: None

 Motion Carried. Vote 5-0.

062. It was moved by Robert Owens, seconded by Lawrence Mier to approve the minutes of March 7, 2017, March 13, 2017, March 22, 2017, and March 27, 2017 as presented. Motion Carried. Vote 5-0.

063. It was moved by Colby Perry, seconded by Andrea King to defer Resolution 007-2017.

 Roll Call Vote:

 Yeas: Andrea King, Rodney Trahan, Lawrence Mier, Colby Perry, Robert Owens

 Nays: None

 Abstaining: None

 Absent: None

 Motion Carried. Vote 5-0.

064. It was moved by Rodney Trahan, seconded by Lawrence Mier to set a public hearing for Proposition No. 265, Ordinance No. 769 “An Ordinance Amending, Adopting, and Enacting a Budget for the Town of Welsh” on May 2, 2017.

Roll Call Vote:

 Yeas: Andrea King, Rodney Trahan, Lawrence Mier, Colby Perry, Robert Owens

 Nays: None

 Abstaining: None

 Absent: None

 Motion Carried. Vote 5-0.

065. It was moved by Rodney Trahan, seconded by Robert Owens to approve the Alcohol Permit for Hot to Trot. Motion Carried. Vote 5-0.

066. Skip Broussard, Business Owner, said he was tired of seeing the town in the media for negative reasons. He also stated that enough is enough and that the Mayor is in charge and we need to bring back manners and respect to our town. He also stated that the money is there so why are we making a mountain out of a molehill.

067. Larry Cox spoke about an abandoned street called Wildman Street that is currently his driveway. He said it had never been activated as a street. It is next to Turner Vaults off of Russell Avenue. The council deferred the vote to allow Larry Cox the property until it could be looked into further.

068. Eva Wyble wanted to block off her street at her property to the corner of MLK & Polk for a graduation party to be held on June 10, 2017 from 2pm-6pm.

 It was moved by Andrea King, seconded by Colby Perry to approve this road block.

Roll Call Vote:

 Yeas: Andrea King, Rodney Trahan, Lawrence Mier, Colby Perry, Robert Owens

 Nays: None

 Abstaining: None

 Absent: None

 Motion Carried. Vote 5-0.

069. Town Clerk, Stephanie Benoit, reported that the Town would be having their annual rabies clinic on April 29, 2017 from 2pm-4pm. A Rabies shot would cost $12 and an All In One Shot would cost $30.

070. Resident, Kyle Todd, voiced his opinion on the current negative press in the Town. He also stated Law and Order should be a priority in our Town and if the budget went over, the Police Department can’t just stop doing their jobs because they were over budget. He was also for the Police Budget pay increases and said that the Chief has done a great job for the past four years.

071. Jim Wright, business owner, spoke of years prior to Marcus Crochet and how our citizens gathered and decided to change the town’s direction concerning law enforcement because people were scared to come to Welsh and a murder happened next door the Police Chief’s home at that time. He stated if we do not have cooperation, people will die and if anyone in this town who makes an effort to denigrate the town’s employees is irresponsible and has no place in government, and this is my opinion. He also said if it continues, he would do his best to eliminate them as a member of government. Jim said he works very hard when he has to.

 Michelle Ramagos, Director of Parks and Recreation, said that Opening day would be Saturday, April 8, 2017, with the Ceremony starting at 8:30am. She said that games would start at 9:45am on all three fields.

 Tracy Goodwin, Co-Superintendent, said that there would be an electrical outage on Tuesday, April 11, 2017, starting at 4am.

 John Hall, Fire Chief, reported that he would be starting the first phase of building the area for fire training that will help with our fire ratings in the future.

 District Attorney, Michael Cassidy, spoke on behalf of Marcus Crochet and stated he did not find the account to be illegal and he also read an email from the Town Auditors who also said what the Town was doing was not illegal. He also said he felt if anyone accuses someone of illegal activity, they should have their facts straight and it is not fair to accuse someone without just cause.

072. There being no further business, it was moved by Rodney Trahan, seconded by Robert Owens to adjourn the meeting. Motion Carried. Vote 5-0.

ATTEST: APPROVAL:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Stephanie Benoit, Town Clerk Carolyn Louviere, Mayor