

Council Members
Anthony Guillory
Erica Francis
Kim Thibodeaux
Key Hebert
Trudy Patterson

P.O. Box 369 Elton, La 70532 (337)584-2992 Fax: (337)584-3215 Chief of Police Bruce A. Lemelle

> Attorney Mike Holmes

Mayor Michael Pierrotti Sandrez West, Town Clerk

Town of Elton Meeting of the Mayor and Aldermen

Meeting Date: Wednesday, September 3,2025

Time: 6:00 PM

Call to Order: Mayor Pierrotti

Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence led by Kay Hebert

Roll Call: Town Clerk, Sandrez West

Tony Guillory Present
Trudy Patterson Present
Kay Hebert Present

Erica Francis Kim Thibodeaux Present Present

Ouram is present

- 1. Mayor statement: Open door policy is available, FB is not the place to air rumors, appreciate if Council will not make comments on FB; Kay Hebert is doing admin and TOE would have lost grants if she were not here working for no pay; I am the final say in all matters; public comments are limited to 3 minutes
- 2. Comments on Agenda Items-None
- 3. Motion to adopt Agenda by Kay Hebert, seconded by Trudy Patterson Yeas-5 Nays-0 Motion Carried
- 4. Motion to approve minutes from August 6, 2025 meeting and Special Meeting on August 20, 2025, and dispense with reading of the same by Kay Hebert, seconded by Tony Guillory, noting publication has been done
- Motion to transfer funds and pay bills after discussion on bills by Kay Hebert, seconded by Kim Thibodeaux with Clerk West stating all bills are current and up to date on payments
- Yeas-5 Nays-0 Motion Carried
- 6. Welcome Mike Stanton, Director of JD Public Libraries, with introduction of new Drug Free Zones with an Ordinance for all local governments and will return with the Ordinance requiring amendment to current Ordinance of such Zones with amendment adding JD Libraries
- 7. Resolution to adopt current millage rate levied on 2025 tax roll on all property subject to taxation by the Town of Elton as General Alimony of 5.480 mills read in full by Attorney Michael Holmes with motion to adopt led by Kay Hebert, seconded by Tony Guillory

Roll Call Vote: Tony Guillory-Yea Kim Thibodeaux—Yea Erica Francis-Yea Trudy Patterson-Yea Kay Hebert-Yea Yeas-5 Nays-0 Motion Carried



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Council Francis stated that the Chief has never come in to discuss the budget, he was in many discussions of budget and offers to discuss which he never did; stated all Council looked over the budget and input was given; Mayor stated he is in control of the Town. Called attention to the fact only 2 tickets have been written-Chief stated he did not have to write tickets. Clerk stated the budget does not have a line item for everything and she printed a GL of all invoices which he denied he spent in funds on the Misc. line; Chief stated Police Retirement was insufficient as well; Clerk stated the paperwork had to be amended due to former admin not preparing and sending in timely manner; Council asked Chief what he should have done when he realized his was going to be over budget, he did not respond. Council & Clerk stated he was responsible for letting Council know when he was within 5% of expending his budget and offer a solution which he did neither, and this is according to Lawrason Act which he functions under; Chief countered by stating he did not know how much his officers pay rates were; accused the Council of spending his budget monies and denied he spent his budget; stated Council put up \$250K for Retirement; this was never done; told residents TOE was bearing additional liability of \$364K due to the layoff of the Police Department; Council Hebert stated Chief was aware of Retirement system and did not call attention to it, justifying Chief's joint responsibility for the Retirement lawsuit; blamed the previous administration, denied knowing it was mandatory-stated he found out about this at the Chief Conference; insinuated his budget problem is MPERS related; questioned janitorial expenses; stated no one ever did this; stated \$16K should be in STED account and he can't tell when this was done; he has no dates; Council Hebert asked Clerk to find this particular statement of \$1 Million for viewing; stated Council was pointing fingers at former admin; Chief stated Council Hebert gave him an account statement of \$1 million a CD; Hebert denied ever seeing account when this CD was at a \$1 million; questioned CD's spent; Council Hebert stated bills that had not been paid. City Hall had to be shut down due to nonpayment of internet; over \$250K was paid for overdue bills including 941's that had not been paid for 2 years. Questioned why Hebert was adding notations on a budget statement of to date on what has been spent until the evening of the meeting and what would be expected to continue to be over budget for the department going forward, Hebert stated Clerk called it to her minutes before the meeting for the Council's awareness: also noted offense at tone and accusations, which incited crowd jeering at Council Hebert, noting the notations added are future payroll, payroll tax, phone and IT department because department cannot be closed under Lawrason Act, the utilities part of your bill, the auto and liabilities insurance, and fuel costs are unknown for the rest of the year; questioned who was the department head of the police; read



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- 8. Resolution to adopt the current Speeding Ticket and Traffic Violation Fines imposed by Jeff Davis Parish Office and reflecting the same increases as the Court establishes in Jeff Davis Parish by Kay Hebert, seconded by Kim Thibodeaux Yeas-5 Nays-0 Motion Carried
- 9. Park Discussion: Return or Retain? Public Comments were in favor of retaining the park, Council is split on what to do as sustainability is not available at the present time; other Council state point of no funds in budget for continuing upkeep. Attorney Holmes stated there was a State Grant in the 1970's and that the Park is established under 'perpetual use obligation'; Mayor stated if residents want the park they may have to pass a tax to have revenue for it; Volunteer List to sign up at the City Hall is available for residents who want to do work for the park; Attorney Holmes stated he would be happy to look into founding a Park Foundation and would get information to Council on how to do this at a later date Motion to table until further research is conducted on the grant is completed by Kay Hebert, seconded by Tony Guillory Yeas-5 Nays-0 Motion Carried
- 10. Motion to adjust the contract fees for Attorney Mike Holmes for Mayor's Court to be switched to a quarterly basis and being paid \$166.67 per quarter moving forward by Kay Hebert, seconded by Tony Guillory
- 11.Motion to accept bid on LCDBG Blighted Properties Project from L & L Erectors, Micah Landry (the lowest bid) by Kay Hebert, seconded by Kim Thibodeaux Yeas-5 Nays-0 Motion Carried Resident voiced concerns about the wood pile in need of burning being so large and next to a gas site-Mayor stated it would be burned 'shortly' and Fire Department would be notified and on stand-by during burning
- 12.Dog Pound Grant update: TOE has received first round of funds and construction has begun by Timothy Lavergne (lowest bid) and should be completed within a few weeks
 - Residents voiced concerns how to pay for dog catcher, operations, etc.,; Mayor stated these things would be financed by grants
- 13. Police Report: Budget Issues
 - Mayor's competence was called into question at opening; questioned Mayor why Hebert was running the town; Mayor was asked who prepared the budget-questioned Mayor if Kay Hebert prepared the budget; accused Kay Hebert as having prepared the budget and then voted on the budget. Hebert stated she took offense at the accusation and denied having prepared the budget, that she only does what the Mayor authorizes her to do-for no money- Clerk stated Hebert has not done anything she has not been told to do within the confines of the law;



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email from the Mayor request for key to the police department for emergency only; Mayor stated he has not responded to any emails; Chief stated he could not access his email; but he read the emails directly from his phone; Chief stated he was an elected official and he would not follow through with the Mayor's request to monitor his PO's; Chief questioned why lock was changed; Attorney Holmes stated he had instructed TOE to change lock; Chief stated he was responsible for evidence, guns; Attorney stated the key is for front access only for emergency. Council Hebert went on record as stating "I feel personally attacked in my position as a Council member, when you made comments about the Mayor's competency, Mayor Pro Temp and about what I should be doing and what I should not be doing. And I have not done anything that I have not been able to do legally; everything that comes across that desk has the Mayor's signature on it or he has said what to be done and it goes through the Town attorney, so I have not done anything illegally. I want that to be on the record."

Public comments about the water bill increase

Mayor declared 5 minute recess and then will convene in Executive Session

14. Executive Session: Attorney Holmes spoke with Council/Mayor

15. Motion to close Executive Session and reenter to Regular Session by Kay Hebert, seconded by Erica Francis

Yeas-5 Nays-O Motion Carried

17. Motion to adjourn by Kay Hebert, seconded by Kim Thibodeaux

Yeas-5 Nays-0 Motion Carried Meeting adjourned at 8:28 PM

Sept. 30, 2025

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