

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
TUESDAY, JANUARY 8TH, 2019
CHAIRMAN LENNIX MADERE
VICE-CHAIR LARRY SNYDER

The Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session in the Rudolph Sorapuru Chambers, Edgard, Louisiana on Tuesday, January 8th, 2019 at 6:30 PM.

CALL TO ORDER:

PRESENT AT ROLL CALL: Larry Sorapuru, Jr., Councilman-at-Large, Div. A, Kurt Becnel, Councilman District I, Julia Remonet, Councilwoman District II, Lennix Madere, Councilman District III, Marvin Perrilloux, Councilman District IV, Michael Wright, Councilman District V, Larry Snyder, Councilman District VI, Thomas Malik, Councilman District VII, Jaclyn Hotard, Councilwoman-at-Large, Div. B

ABSENT: None

Councilwoman Hotard led the Prayer. Councilwoman Remonet led the Pledge.

Legal Counsel Keith Green, Jr., and Law Clerk Kennilyn Schmill were present.

PUBLIC COMMENT - AGENDA ITEMS ONLY (2 minutes per citizen)

There was no public comment at this time.

INTRODUCTION OF BUSINESSES

There was no businesses to introduce.

COUNCIL - Selection of Officers

Councilman Madere stated, *"First on the agenda is Council-Selection of Officers. We do that every year at the beginning of the New Year and Mr. Snyder."*

Councilman Snyder stated, *"Yes I'd like to nominate Mr. Malik as our Chairman of the...and Mr. Becnel as our Chairman."*

Councilman Madere stated, *"Okay so Mr. Thomas Malik as Regular Council meeting, okay and Mr. Becnel as Finance Chair. Okay so we do them individual, separate yeah. And we also need a Vice-Chair, I want to do the Finance first to get in the right way."*

Councilman Sorapuru stated, *"I's like nominate Councilman Perrilloux for the Finance Chair."*

Councilman Madere stated, *"For the Finance Chair, Perrilloux? Okay we also need a nominee for Vice-Chair."*

Councilwoman Hotard stated, *"Well I'll second that [CROSSTALK], I'll second that."*

Councilman Madere stated, *"Okay well motion on the floor by Becnel and Mr. Perrilloux, that's..."*

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "No Mr. Sorapuru."

Councilman Madere stated, "Mr. Sorapuru, I'm sorry Mr. Sorapuru. Mr. Perrilloux as Finance Chair and Vice-Chair for that position..."

Councilwoman Hotard interrupting stated, "No we need to vote."

Councilman Madere stated, "I'm moving too fast. Okay use your lights please."

Councilman Malik stated, "I got a hang on one second! Just for clarification cuz I know Mr. Snyder made a motion already..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "Yeah but we never got a second on this."

Councilman Malik stated, "We didn't get a second, okay I'm sorry."

Councilman Madere stated, "We didn't get a second on it."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Oh wait, wait, wait! Now I'm confused. [LAUGHTER]"

Councilman Madere stated, "Well, see Mr. Snyder made a motion first he nominated two individuals and then before we got a second you said that we need to separate them..."

Councilwoman Hotard interrupting stated, "But I guess I didn't catch Mr. Snyder was nominating Mr. Becnel for the Finance Chairman, is that what it was?"

Councilman Madere stated, "Right he did he made a nomination for the Regular meeting and for the Finance at the same time."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Okay I thought that was regular and Vice. I didn't hear. So now we have another motion for somebody else for Finance, and let me make a comment. I just want to make this comment and I know I mean it's obvious this is talked about before we came here, I hadn't had any conversations. But what I don't like and we've done this before, is when we do have one motion for a Councilman for a position and then we have another motion for Councilman for that same position, because it puts me, I mean I don't know who's interested and who's not interested, and so now I'm having to select between my Council members that I believe are both capable of doing this. So I don't think it's appropriate of fair. Those are just my comments, and again I thought when the original motion was made it was for Chair and Vice-Chair, and we usually vote it separately. So that's why I said separate them, but now I'm realizing we've got almost conflicting and like I said, I'm sure of it there were conversations about this before we got here I don't know if they had conflicts before we got here, but it's just an uncomfortable position to have to pick between Council members and I'm not sure who is interested and who is not interested. But I don't want to have to do that, you know it's just not fair."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Yeah I just make a comment, and I agree with some of what Ms. Hotard said. So Larry, as Councilman I would say withdraw the motion for me as Finance Chair and put Kurt, I'll reject that position."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I think we had some agreement some 6/7 years ago that we'll already have a new person and everybody would have a chance to be in a position and learn from this position? And that's one of the reasons why I asked I nominated Mr. Malik, because he never been in that position before, and all of

us have been in this position before. And I think it was an understanding back 4, 5, 6 years ago, that we would rotate this thing around for someone that haven't been in it then. Which is an understanding with that."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Right and we usually do. We change it every year, we've had some times we've stayed, but it's always been with somebody who's interested in doing it. And so if we do have two Councilman to consider, interested in doing it, and I can support either of you, I don't want to have to like I said, pick. It just throws everybody off guard when we have a motion for someone and someone ask us to pick someone else. But right we did say we would rotate it around, some are not interested you know in doing it for a variety of reasons. If we truly follow Roberts Rules of Order, um and that's why Mr. Dale Wolfe never wanted to be the Chairman, because if you follow Roberts Rules of Order it's a silencing thing, you're not supposed to offer commentary, you're not supposed to take a position one way or another, you're supposed to be the neutral party and so if we are actually going to work towards that, then you know that's something to take under consideration. But that's why some Council members have chosen not to be interested and some are chosen to be interested in it. But whatever the wishes are of my fellow Council members here, I'm all for allowing other people, you know, the opportunity to do it it's a good experience. But you know like I said, some do stay away from it for that for that reason."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay I just want to make a comment and I appreciate what you said, comments was made and I appreciate Mr. Perrilloux for you know withdrawing his name, we don't have that conflict like you said getting Council people against each other without knowing if you really want to be involved. And what I also think was a good video feed, one rotating and giving everybody and opportunity to handle it, you know so but I mean it's up to them. But like I said, I want to thank Mr. Perrilloux for withdrawing his name for that so we won't have that conflict and put the Council people in that type of position. Okay so we have a motion now?"

MOTION: Councilman Sorapuru moved and Councilwoman Hotard seconded the motion to nominate Councilman Kurt Becnel as Chairman of the Finance Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Councilman Malik moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to nominate Councilwoman Julia Remonet as the Vice-Chair for the Finance Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilwoman Hotard seconded the motion to nominate Councilman Tom Malik as Chairman of the Council. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Councilman Sorapuru moved and Councilwoman Hotard seconded the motion to nominate Councilman Marvin Perrilloux as the Vice-Chair of the Council. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Madere stated, "Mr. Malik Congratulations! Take over!"

Councilman Malik stated, "Moving on, we're going to take a quick 5 minutes."

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilwoman Hotard seconded the motion for a 5 minute recess. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Snyder seconded the motion to return to the Regular Session. The motion passed unanimously."

Natalie Robottom - Proclamation - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Monday, January 21, 2019

Natalie Robottom, Parish President read the proclamation for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - Monday, January 21, 2019.

Councilman Malik asked, "*President Robottom quick question. Where are the marches going to begin?*"

Natalie Robottom stated, "*Actually that's in my remarks.*"

Councilman Malik stated, "*Ok.*"

CONSENT AGENDA:

ITEMS: Approval of Minutes - December 26th, 2018, Regular Meeting

MOTION: Councilman Becnel moved and Councilman Sorapuru seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes - December 26th, 2018, Regular Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:

18-36 (Carry Over 11-13-18) An ordinance naming the Baseball Complex located in the Juan Anthony Park in Edgard - the "DeVante Smith Baseball Complex" (K. Becnel)

The above item will remain a carry over.

18-37 (Carry Over 11-13-18) An ordinance naming the Airnasium located in the Juan Anthony Park in Edgard - the "Raeaneka Small Airnasium" (K. Becnel)

The above item will remain a carry over.

18-48 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance amending St. John the Baptist Parish Code of Ordinances, specifically Chapter 20. - Health and Sanitation, to reaffirm the prohibition on smoking in Parish-owned buildings and to include a restriction on smoking nearby certain Parish-owned buildings (N. Robottom)

Rene Pastorek stated, "*This ordinance amends the Code of Ordinances to reaffirm the ban on smoking in all public buildings, as required by the Louisiana Smoke Free Air Act. The ordinance also includes a prohibition on smoking within 50 feet of all exterior doors of the St. John Parish Government Complex. Administration recommends approval.*"

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "*Is the motion to approve?*"

Councilman Malik stated, "*Motions are approve to, yeah there should be a clarification, but the motion is to approve the ban on smoking in Parish buildings and certain areas around them.*"

Councilman Madere stated, "*Okay you said 50 feet, I'm against smoking period myself you know so, I definitely. You said 50 feet, how do we reinforce that?*"

Rene Pastorek stated, "*State Law provides that any law enforcement officer can issue a citation...*"

Councilman Madere interrupting asked, "So you mean the officer that's in the Security of our building?"

Rene Pastorek stated, "Ah yes, any police officer or officer of the law..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "Yeah I mean they see somebody within 50 feet of the building."

Rene Pastorek stated, "Yes."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I have a question."

Councilman Malik stated, "Yes ma'am."

Natalie Robottom asked, "Would ya'll consider amending it for all Parish buildings?"

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "I thought that's..."

Councilman Malik stated, "I thought this is for all Parish buildings."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "I thought it was all Parish [CROSSTALK]."

Councilman Malik stated, "Can't smoke inside..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "No it say certain Parish..."

Councilwoman Hotard interrupting stated, "No it says prohibition in Parish-owned buildings."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Okay, so it's just the remarks that specifically said. Good! Physically it was meant to be all buildings. And just for informational purposes, we got a lot of complaints about people having to walk through people smoking to get into our buildings, unfortunately that's where the ashtrays were, where they smoked and this was initiated by that."

Councilman Madere stated, "We got a little conflict because on here it says, prohibition on smoking nearby certain Parish-owned buildings, it doesn't say all. So we need to..."

Rene Pastorek interrupting stated, "Sir, the Ordinance and the caption read; the prohibition on smoking within in all Parish-owned buildings as required by state law and extending that prohibition to the exterior 50 feet of the Government Complex Building."

Councilman Madere stated, "But it still say certain..."

Rene Pastorek interrupting stated, "However..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "If we say all well it should be all."

Natalie Robottom stated, "That's what I'm asking."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right, that's why I agree with Ms. Robottom."

Rene Pastorek stated, "The Ordinance that's drafted only includes the out

exterior 50 feet of the Government Complex. However, Parish President Robottom is recommending that we look at extending that to all Parish buildings."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right."

Natalie Robottom stated, "And just amend to."

Councilman Madere stated, "Amend it to all buildings."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "I had a motion I'll withdraw the motion. Well make a motion to amend the Ordinance Chapter 20 to include all Parish owned buildings."

Councilman Malik stated, "Within 50 feet of all Parish buildings, inside and out 50 feet. Do we have a second? We have a second from Ms. Hotard."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "No I have a question. For clarification, just for procedural, are we amending the Ordinance that's on the agenda right now?"

Councilman Malik stated, "We are amending the, yes we are. So it will change the second part to include all building wise certain Parish owned buildings."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "Okay. So I'm not sure if legal would say this is a substantial change, if it's not then you can procedurally amend it, vote on it to amend it and then vote on the Ordinance as amended, if it would be a substance have changed, then it would have to be something that we would have to introduce with the language change how we want it at the next meeting. So I'm not sure um."

Keith Green, Jr. stated, "We can research that for you guys..."

Rene Pastorek interrupting stated, "And it really wouldn't be a problem to approve this one..."

Councilwoman Hotard interrupting stated, "We can approve it now and then introduce the change. Right just to make sure we do it right."

[CROSSTALK BETWEEN MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL AND RENE PASTOREK]

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "And so I'll withdraw my motion again, then make a motion to accept the Ordinance as written, Ordinance 18-20 I think it was. It's 18-48."

MOTION: Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 18-48. The motion passed unanimously.

18-49 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the re-subdivision of Lot 2-RM of Farm Lot 18 and Farm Lot 19 of Hope Plantation into Lots 2-RM-1 and 2-RM-2 of Farm Lot 18 and Farm Lot 19 of Hope Plantation, located in the area generally bound by Esperance Street, Miano Street, and South Church Street, containing municipal address 125 Miano Street, Garyville, LA, as shown in a survey prepared by Stephen P. Flynn, P.L.S. on October 23, 2018 (N. Robottom)

Rene Pastorek stated, "This re-subdivision request was recommended for approval unanimously by the Planning Commission at its December 17th meeting. Based on consistency with the zoning district requirements and intent of the Land Development Code, Administration recommends approval."

MOTION: Councilwoman Remondet moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion for discussion of Ordinance 18-49. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "I wanted to see about postponing this approval because we have drainage concerns in that area. There's some drainage issues along Miano Street, and that's been a big concern with residents in that area. I'm not saying we won't finally approve it but, I would like to say the developer could at least talk to a few people within that area about that before we approve this, and just reintroduce it at the next meeting? It's I've got a lot of calls in the last few days, and I'd like to just give them that opportunity to hear what they have to say about that."

MOTION: Councilwoman Remondet moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to TABLE Ordinance 18-49. The motion passed unanimously

18-50 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the re-zoning of Lot 52, Cornland Plantation Subdivision, located in the area generally bounded by Northwest 2nd Street, Jackie Street, Keating Drive, and Northwest 3rd Street from the Industrial District One (I-1) to the Residential District Three (R-3) zoning district, as shown in Exhibit 1 attached. (N. Robottom) (PZR-18-1121)

Rene Pastorek stated, "This rezoning request was recommended for approval unanimously by the Planning Commission at its December 17th meeting. Based on compatibility with the surrounding land uses and the intent of the Comprehensive Plan, Administration recommends approval."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I'll over a motion for discussion. This is 18-50?"

Councilman Madere stated, "Yeah. I'll second that to..."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "We can just make a second and discuss it. I'll do that, I'll second it."

Councilman Malik asked, "You have questions go ahead."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Yes, I'm sorry. Pastorek? How do I say your last name? [LAUGHTER] Okay, I wanted to say Mister instead of Rene it's just more appropriate. Where is this located?"

Rene Pastorek stated, "This is in Reserve."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Okay."

Rene Pastorek stated, "Towards Airline, and Northwest 3rd. It's actually in an area that has several existing multi-family structures that all actually zone in Industrial District One (I-1), just to make them compatible you know map."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Okay. And so why are they having to request a rezoning of it's..."

Rene Pastorek stated, "The applicant came in with an [INAUDIBLE], no tenants had lived in the building for over 6 months and they lost their grandfathering status."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "And so, is the building more than one unit?"

Rene Pastorek stated, "Yes."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "And so no one had lived in the entire building or just one of the units?"

Rene Pastorek stated, "All this I have the dates of the Entergy release or the last dates of Entergy for each unit and each consecutive unit have been more than 6 months."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "So is it a duplex, triplex or 4-plex?"

Rene Pastorek stated, "It's a 4-plex."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Okay, it's a 4-plex. So you're saying all four units, there have not been one active within the last 6 months?"

Rene Pastorek stated, "Yes."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Okay, okay, but the Planning & Zoning Board approved it, I'm guessing because the entire area is already the same type of use in I-1 all nonconforming?"

Rene Pastorek stated, "Yes, yes."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Okay, okay, okay."

Councilman Madere stated, "I think I know this location, it's on the other side of the track huh?"

Rene Pastorek stated, "Mm-hm."

Councilman Madere asked, "Where those apartments are?"

Rene Pastorek stated, "Yes."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay so they're changing one spot in order for them to, cuz it was an I-1 before?"

Rene Pastorek stated, "Yes, so the whole area, that whole strip..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "Well this probably a question you can't answer because you wasn't here we wasn't there. How did they ever get to build an apartments in an I-1 in the first place?"

Rene Pastorek stated, "They may have been built before the zoning code was inactive."

Councilman Madere stated, "No, no, it wasn't. I can tell you because if it was built, they was built in the 80's. You know and not..."

Councilwoman Hotard interrupting stated, "The zoning code came in the 80's."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yeah..."

Rene Pastorek interrupting stated, "The zoning code wasn't active till '88, so that could have been around the same time."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yeah. Well I know it's another we sort a saw in that

same area they had a subdivision they were building an I-1. Okay I'm not going any further."

Rene Pastorek stated, "Back there as well."

Councilman Madere stated, "Must have been an I-1 now that's for sure, was built after zoning got in place. The apartments you're probably right, okay cuz I lived in those apartments when I first got married and they're related. So that was before there was zoning, but that subdivision I'm talking about was built in I-1 and that was definitely after. Okay I just want to know how some of that stuff happened, but it did."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Mr. Madere, I think those have changed as they built those houses. Cuz I remember us last year or year before last we re-zoned a lot that sold to build a house, re-zoned for Industrial 1 to R-1, and that's why some of those houses that's while being built over there. They still got land over there now that's Industrial 1, if you want to build a house you got to re-zone that."

Councilman Madere stated, "That whole subdivision. A whole bunch of houses."

MOTION: Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilwoman Hotard seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 18-50. The motion passed unanimously.

18-51 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the re-subdivision of Lot 4A, Lot 5, the Bill Klopf Reclaimed Lot, and the Joey Keller Reclaimed Lot of the P.G. Keating Tract into Lots 5A and 5B situated in Section 8, T-11-S, R-8-E, Frenier, located in the area generally bounded by municipal addresses 125 Dottie Lane, Frenier, LA, as shown in a survey prepared by Stephen P. Flynn, P.L.S. on May 31, 2018, last revised on November 27, 2018. (N. Robottom) (PZS-18-1205)

Rene Pastorek stated, "This re-subdivision request was recommended for approval by the Planning Commission at its November 19th meeting with a vote of 7 for and 2 against. Based on consistency with the Comprehensive Plan and intent of the Land Development Code, Administration recommends approval. And I'm sorry, that was on December 17th meeting not November."

Councilman Wright asked, "I'm just looking at the map and I just want to make sure the way the lines are drawn, is there still, will there still be street access for both lots cuz it does look a little..."

Rene Pastorek stated, "Yes, so this is considered a flag lot. It's going to be one lot I guess the larger frontage on the road and then a small flag access portion of the property, not a servitude to the back portion of the lot."

Councilman Wright stated, "Okay, I understand. Thank you."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "Can you tell me the two that were against it, what were some of the concerns?"

Rene Pastorek stated, "The applicant did not show up to the meeting, so they were concerned that the applicant would have a chance to answer any questions."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Oh, but did they have any questions?"

Rene Pastorek stated, "Uh no questions were asked, the report answered a lot of questions."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Ok thank you."

MOTION: Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 18-51. The motion passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "I'd like to make a motion that the council accept the minutes from the finance committee meeting."

MOTION: Councilman Sorapuru moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to accept the minutes from the finance committee meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Natalie Robottom - Resolution - R19-01 - A Resolution extending the interim regulations established by Council Resolution R18-02, adopted on January 23, 2018 and requesting and authorizing the Department of Planning and Zoning and the Planning Commission to conduct a study of the text of Chapter 111. - Subdivisions and Chapter 113. - Zoning, as well as the official zoning map of the Parish, specifically those provisions related to subdivision procedures, development and infrastructure standards, supplemental standards, zoning district standards and the locations of zoning districts, with the intent of encouraging rural development and clarifying subdivision procedures, as well to provide for related matters, for a six (6) month period or until the effective date of final Council action, whichever comes first (Parish wide)

Rene Pastorek stated, "This Resolution extends a study previously called by the Parish Council to review the Code of Ordinances and propose amendments related to subdivision standards and zoning districts to encourage rural development. The study is ongoing and will be completed within the next 6 months. Administration recommends approval."

MOTION: Councilman Sorapuru moved and Councilman Becnel seconded the motion to approve Resolution R19-01. The motion passed unanimously.

Natalie Robottom - Resolution - R19-02 - A Resolution authorizing the Parish President to complete and submit all documents and agreements required in connection with the FY17 EPA Grant through the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Restoration Program for the St. John the Baptist Parish Low Impact Development Program

Natalie Robottom stated, "This resolution is needed to accept and administer grant funds from the University of New Orleans Research and Technology Foundation to develop a Low Impact Development Program for the Parish. Grant deliverables will include a suite of proposed changes to the Code of Ordinances along with training materials to better manage storm water and improve resilience Parish wide. Administration recommends approval."

MOTION: Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Becnel seconded the motion to approve Resolution R19-02. The motion passed unanimously.

Natalie Robottom - Resolution - R19-03 - A Resolution authorizing the Parish President to complete and submit all documents and agreements required in connection with the FY17 EPA Grant through the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Restoration Program for the Woodland Wastewater Treatment Plant Tertiary Filters Rehabilitation

Natalie Robottom stated, "This resolution is needed to accept and administer grant funds from the University of New Orleans Research and Technology Foundation to prepare design plans and specifications for the replacement of tertiary filters at the Woodland Wastewater Treatment Plant. New filters are needed for proper tertiary treatment and to keep the plant within allowable discharge limits. Administration recommends approval."

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to approve Resolution R19-03. The motion passed unanimously.

Hugh Martin/Jason Akers - Resolution - R19-04 - A Resolution providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the result of the special election held in the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, on Saturday, December 8, 2018, to authorize the rededication of a special tax therein

Robert Figuero stated, "Approval of this Resolution is required for acceptance of results of the recent rededication election. Administration recommends approval."

MOTION: Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to approve Resolution R19-04. The motion passed unanimously.

DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:

Lennix Madere - Update on drainage and road repair in District III

Verdell Kindrick stated, "The Contractor has addressed the sinkholes in the project area but upon inspections by Public Works, the work was deemed unsatisfactory. A follow up meeting will be scheduled with the Contractor to resolve the matter."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes I'd like to thank Mr. Verdell okay, and everyone. This thing been going on for quite a while, okay these contractors, that's why anything we can put in these contractors to make sure that we don't go through this type of problem every time we have a contract is done. Those sinkholes, that's been over 6 months probably, that those sinkholes they should have by now found out what the problem was. Dug them up and found out what's causing the sinkholes. Okay there's just no excuse and I think they get out of here January 12th, I think huh? And what's going to happen it's going to fall back on the Parish, okay so when you get in contact with them and by tomorrow and tell them they need to come out there okay and Mr. Verdell was there when he told us he was going to send some equipment out there and he didn't do it. The guy was out there with a regular shovel, about four (4) of them, didn't send equipment out there and he also said he wasn't going to send that same guy the resident had the problem with okay, once again he did that. Okay and the guy made a smart comment when me and Mr. Lionel Bailey was in the vehicle and we stopped, it was raining that evening and we stopped and I mentioned to him 'it don't look like you're going to get too much work done in this common weather', well he's not coming back to this parish. Well find with me, okay so those type of individuals we don't need working in the parish, okay if a contractor, we need to look into that when we hire a contractor, you got to be responsible for the attitude of his

workers. Okay but I'm not going to put up with that kind of stuff. A contractor coming in our area and handling the residents or speaking to them any kind of way. Okay so now look where we are right now, they're only have a few days from getting out of here and having to solved a problem that we've been talking about for months, okay and some people say 'well you always got it on the agenda'. Well, as soon as you take care of the problem it'll be off the agenda. Okay and that's why it stayed on there for so long. I'm sick and hearing my name called about this item, okay, but we have to make sure that what we paid for we get what we pay for. Okay and get it done right."

Natalie Robottom stated, "We agree Mr. Madere."

Councilman Madere asked, "What you say?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "We agree."

Councilman Madere asked, "You agree, 100%."

Lennix Madere - Discussion relative to the 2019 Council Retreat

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes, I put this on the agenda because we need to, we can't we have to communicate in a public meeting as far as some dates or can't take polling on the phone or make a request on something like those meetings, so that's why I put it on the agenda. We need to come up with, I think we already have a Resolution concerning the Retreat (Okay we have a copy of it?), 16-32 huh? Okay it say; within the first 30 days of the year and a new term. Okay so within the first 30 days we should have a retreat, you know just standing over the Resolution."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Correct. It says that that; annual retreat of the Parish Council and Administration be held the weekend before the annual observance of Dr. Martin Luther King."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay the weekend before, alright. So either we have to change this Resolution or we have to live up to it. Okay so that's a question in front of the Council tonight."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Thank you Councilman Madere, and I think this you know, it's something good to talk about. I believe, I don't remember how many years ago the first retreat was, and I did find it to be very beneficial, I think um maybe going forward, I'm not sure if we should have it required, you know this Resolution kind of makes it to where it's required because if you addressed many of the items the year before the retreat may not have as many because we don't take action. You know it's not escape to take action and you know and spend money, it's more of about discussing administrative type of procedures, so you may not need to have a retreat of this kind every year in a term, it seemed like it was very beneficial on the year the new term, cuz we had some new people we had a lot of rules changing and things like that. So it might be better for the Council, the future Councils instead of you know tying them down to automatically having it, let them decide if they you know want to have the retreat every year. You know obviously we had this on the books and it should have been scheduled, but going forward it may be something just to redo the language and you don't really need to redo the language. You can just let the Council decide if they want to have a retreat or not. Um instead of a requirement and then you may have to go and spend money and have a retreat for something that you really don't have any agenda items you have to discuss. It's just my thoughts."

Councilman Madere stated, "Well I think you know an annual retreat is not the problem, I think the problem is the fact that when they say retreat, everyone think they have to leave the parish and spend money. Okay you can have the retreat right here, just like we're in here right here, and sit down and have a retreat and we going to go home and don't cost us any money to come here okay, so you can have a retreat every year just to discuss some parish concerns or some business or some concerns you may have as a Council, you know, so it wouldn't be bad to have an annual retreat. What we have to get out of the fact is that you have to leave, you don't have to leave, the retreat can always be held right here in the Council Chambers, you understand it would be open to the public if they want to come like a regular council meeting, but it wouldn't be bad to have an annual retreat. Refresh and get some ideas or see what going on or some questions they may/some citizens may have that they want to address to us you know at the retreat. So it's not about the money, okay we can take the money issue out of it completely, it's an annual retreat be held at one of the parish facilities, either here or across on the East Bank okay, but you still should basically have it I think without spending money or for so we could leave."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "It all just like a meeting, and you can call a special meeting annually..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "Well we could but we'll have a special retreat meeting every year, that's it just have it. Cuz the retreat is open to the public anyway if you go away, I think you wouldn't be able to attend it, wouldn't be able to attend it. Well wait cuz we haven't decided anything yet."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "I don't think retreat meant we had to leave the parish at all. Just a retreat can be inside the parish, not necessarily leave the parish. I'm with Ms. Hotard, you can change the language in this Resolution in saying we can have a retreat but you don't have to specify the week of before Martin Luther King, we could have it anytime of the year. So you might want to change the language in this Resolution."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "And it might be a good idea because there could be an issue that comes up in the middle of the year and if anything it would be beneficial to have, I mean we're calling it a retreat but we do it in the Chambers, really it's just a special meeting to discuss whatever, you know whatever it is so, but um you know."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "I'd just suggest at the next meeting we give it some thought, talk about it and I don't think we're going to have a, Chairman - you're the Chairman."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I had set a date up it was the 17th to be consistent with the Resolution, and we could have it at our Civic Center (we got plenty room over there), and it could be over there and it could be away from everything."

Natalie Robottom stated, "The 17th is a Thursday."

Councilman Malik stated, "17th is a Thursday!"

Councilman Snyder stated, "One day."

Councilman Malik stated, "One day retreat? The Parish building in LaPlace?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Right!"

Councilman Malik stated, "Yeah."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Well according to the Resolution it says it should be the weekend before the annual observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Day. So maybe we just need to resend the resolution on every Councilman who wants to set a retreat and just set the date and schedule it. So you can put that on the agenda [INAUDIBLE] so it doesn't tie up back to that weekend."

Councilman Malik stated, "So we'd have to motion to resend this Resolution then."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I don't think we could do it tonight. I think it would have to be on the agenda to resend it. Now we can amend the agenda right now unanimously, and vote on it resend it and then pick any date we want to..."

Councilman Malik interrupting stated, "We can always amend the agenda right now. Right and that's what I thought you were leaning to."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "If that's the Council so wishes, I would offer a motion to amend the agenda to add resending Resolution R16-32 to the agenda."

Councilman Snyder asked, "You're amending it to say what?"

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "We're amending the agenda to add resending Resolution R16-32."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Ok."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "So we can set a retreat date whenever we want to."

MOTION: Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion for approval to amend the agenda to add resending Resolution R16-32 to the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Now we need to call for a motion to resend Resolution R16-32."

MOTION: Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to approve resending Resolution R16-32. The motion passed unanimously.

There was no executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A.B. Houston vs E. J. Turley - Docket# C-72495 - to discuss litigation strategy

Roger Tassin v Matika White, et al, 40th JDC docket 72554, Div. B - to discuss litigation strategy

Kane County, Utah v. United States, Case No. 17-739C and 17-1991C

Parish Buildings - Security

Any and all pending legal matters

Councilman Perrilloux and Sorapuru excused themselves from the meeting at 7:30 PM.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

- 19-01** An ordinance to amend Ordinance 92-33 to discontinue the automatic CPI-W increase to the residential water/utility bills as follows: To amend Ordinance 92-33 by deleting: "and in each additional year thereafter, the rate shall be adjusted downward or upward in accordance with the change in the national consumer price index published by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics which shows a rise or decrease in the cost of living index for New Orleans, LA over the level of such cost of living in the previous year" (J. Hotard)
- 19-02** An ordinance amending Chapter 2, Section 21 of the St. John the Baptist Parish Code of Ordinances to establish and define the St. John the Baptist Parish Precinct Boundaries, Merge and Consolidate Precincts, and establish Precinct Polling Places (N. Robottom)

PRESIDENT REPORT:

Natalie Robottom stated, "Good Evening. I hope everyone had a safe and happy New Year's holiday. As we move into 2019 with enthusiasm and optimism, we do so without several staff members who made significant contributions to the parish. We wish our colleagues who moved on to state government the best; however, those of us remaining are committed to finishing the tremendous amount of work that was started. Thank you to all who participated in our Shop Local Trivia Game. To claim your prize, please visit the first floor receptionist desk at the new government complex at 1811 West Airline Highway during business hours. Residents are encouraged to continue supporting local merchants throughout the year, which ultimately supports the parish. The Public Works Department will be collecting real Christmas trees throughout the parish through the first week of February. Residents should place their trees curbside and call public works at 652-4815 for a pick-up. All trees should be completely stripped of decorations. Flocked or artificial trees will not be picked up. The Assessor Lucien Gauff and his office have officially moved and are now located in the new Government Complex and open during normal business hours. The phone number remains the same at 652-5311 and residents are encouraged to visit the new office if they need, to see the Assessor. The office is located at the entrance of the new building. In celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, a march will take place in LaPlace on Monday, January 21, at 9:00 a.m. proceeding up Belle Pointe Blvd, down Airline Hwy to the Parish Government Building. A program will immediately follow the march. On the West Bank, the West St. John Civic Association will hold its annual march and memorial program beginning at 12 noon. The march will begin at the Roland Borne, Sr. Memorial Library located at 2979 Highway 18 and will travel along River Road to West. St. John Elementary where a memorial program will take place. All Parish offices will be closed on Monday, January 21st in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. Parish offices will reopen on Tuesday, January 22. Percy Hebert Road will be closed through the night to allow for the road repairs to set overnight. No through traffic is allowed on Percy Hebert Road until it reopens in the morning and the intersection of Percy Hebert Road and Parish Road is also closed through the morning. Also, road repairs will take place Thursday and Friday on Old 51 however one lane will remain open during the repairs. As reported by the weather stations, our area experienced days of extensive, wet and rainy weather. We received more than 6 inches of rain last week, with the potential of 12 inches like our neighbors to the east. This severe weather caused significant street flooding and some flooding issues overnight.

Parish crews worked throughout these events, pumping down canals, removing debris and tree limbs from ditches and unclogging catch basins and drains. However, with large amounts of rain in short periods of time, the grounds become saturated and the runoff leads to street flooding. The parish has thousands of drains and catch basins throughout the parish that collect leaves, debris, tires, etc. during these types of events and we need everyone's help cleaning the ones in front of their homes and in their neighborhoods. We also need residents' assistance with properly discarding debris, tree limbs and yard waste in garbage cans and not in ditches or on roadways which can cause drainage issues. You can also help by unclogging drains and catch basins by using a rake or a broom to remove leaves, mud and debris that collect on the tops of storm drains and catch basins and disposing of them rather than moving them to the side. Keeping drains and outlets near your home clear will assist us greatly during storm events. I want to again acknowledge my staff, who consistently work through every hard rainfall, weather event, etc. in an attempt to keep the Parish safe and informed. This includes my CAO, Public Works, EOC, Utilities, Fire and Communications who respond and engage all night long after hours and on weekends. I'd also like to thank our partners in the Sheriff's Office who work with us calling in flooded roadways and other problems during these events. Please remember that the proper channel to report weather emergencies is 911. Although some people do not like to call 911 because they feel as if they are tying up an emergency line. I want to remind everyone that this is the proper channel and the only way we can properly report and respond to drainage issues. Social media is another outlet used to get information out but it is NOT the emergency line to report or request assistance. This can only be done by calling 911. Please remember to also sign up for emergency alerts so you do not have to seek out information when the next emergency occurs. Parish alerts can be sent straight to your phone as text, email and call when you sign up for the notification system. You can do this by visiting the homepage of the website or calling Communications at 652-9569. Please stay connected and remember if it isn't coming from an official St. John source, we can't assure its accurate information. Thank you."

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:41 PM, Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilman Perrilloux and Sorapura absent.

/s/Thomas Malik
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
COUNCIL SECRETARY