

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS**  
**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MONDAY, JANUARY 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2012**  
**CHAIR LUCIEN GAUFF**  
**VICE CHAIR JACLYN HOTARD**

The Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session in the Rudolph Soroparu Chambers, Edgard, Louisiana on Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2012, at 12:00 PM.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

**PRESENT AT ROLL CALL:** Lucien Gauff, III, Councilman-at-Large, Div. A, Jaclyn Hotard, Councilwoman-at-Large, Div. B, Art Smith, Councilman District I, Ranney Wilson, Councilman District II, Lennix Madere, Councilman District III, Marvin Perrilloux, Councilman District IV, Michael Wright, Councilman District V, Larry Snyder, Councilman District VI, Cheryl Millet, Councilwoman District VII

**ABSENT:** None

Councilman Gauff led the Prayer. Councilwoman Hotard led the Pledge.

Legal Counsels Billy O'Regan & Jeff Perilloux were present.

**COUNCIL - Selection of Officers**

**MOTION:** Councilman Snyder moved and Councilman Smith seconded the motion to name Lucien Gauff, III as Chairman of the council. The motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to name Jaclyn Hotard as Vice-Chairman of the council. The motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Councilman Gauff moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to name Jaclyn Hotard as Chairman of the Finance Committee.

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to name Cheryl Millet as Vice-Chairman of the Finance Committee.

Councilman Snyder asked, *"Is it inline to nominate someone else for vice-chair of the finance committee?"*

Councilwoman Millet stated, *"Certainly if you want to kick me out."*

Councilman Snyder stated, *"I just want to nominate my person that is all. I nominate Mr. Art Smith for the vice-chair of the Finance Committee."*

Councilman Madere stated. *"I second that."*

**SUBSTITUTE MOTION:** Councilman Snyder moved and Councilman Madere seconded the substitute motion to name Art Smith as the Vice-Chairman

of the Finance Committee.

Councilwoman Millet stated, "We can't have two motions for the same one. We have to satisfy one or eliminate the other. Unless we have co-vice chairs is that allowable. Mr. Perilloux would you please give us some guide line on this?"

Jeff Perilloux, Legal Counsel, stated, "I believe that you have to select one as vice-chair and have some order for the progression for Chairman and Vice-Chairman."

Councilman Gauff stated, "I would like to thank my fellow council members for their support. What we have on the table right now is the chair and vice-chair for the Finance Committee."

Councilman Snyder stated, "We have two right now on the table for vice-chair. We need to decide one of the two for the progression."

Jeff Perilloux stated, "You had a motion and a second if I recall for the vice-chair position of the finance committee. So you can entertain a substitute motion or you can vote on that motion first, if it passes there would be no need to do the second motion. If it fails you would have to obtain a second motion or you can have a substitute motion."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "We had a motion for the chair and the vice-chair for the finance meeting and then Mr. Larry Snyder offered a substitute motion to name Art Smith as the vice-chair of the finance committee. So that is where we are right now at this point. There is a substitute motion."

Jeff Perilloux stated, "If there was a second to the substitute motion that would trump. You need to deal with the substitute motion first."

Councilman Snyder asked, "The only thing I need to understand and everyone else here needs to understand is that if the substitute motion passes that means that that person will be our vice-chair?"

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Correct, if the substitute motion passes."

**MOTION:** Councilman Snyder moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to appoint Art Smith as the Chairman of the Finance Committee. The motion failed with 4 yeas (Snyder, Perrilloux, Madere, Smith) and 4 nays (Millet, Wright, Gauff, Wilson) and 1 abstaining (Hotard).

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Wilson seconded the motion to appoint Jaclyn Hotard as Chairman of the Finance Committee. The motion passed with 6 yeas, 2 nays (Snyder, Smith) and 1 abstaining (Hotard).

**MOTION:** Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Wilson seconded the motion to appoint Cheryl Millet as Vice-chairman of the Finance Committee.

**SUBSTITUTE MOTION:** Councilman Snyder moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to appoint Art Smith as Vice-chairman of the Finance Committee. The motion passed with 6 yeas and 3 nays (Millet, Wilson, Wright).

**PARISH PRESIDENT - Confirmation of Department Directors**

Natalie Robottom, Parish President, stated, "I would like to make recommendations for my department heads but before proceeding with that I would like to introduce both my Chief Administrative Officer and Chief Financial Assistant. Theresa Rodgers is being re-appointed by the Parish President as Chief Administrative Assistant. Prior to coming to St. John, Mrs. Rodgers was in Ascension Parish but she served us here for the last several months as CAO and we are looking forward to her continued efforts here with us and we welcome her back. Mrs. Rodgers has 32 years of administrative experience primarily in the school system however she has worked very hard to learn the ways of St. John the Baptist Parish. She has been an asset since that time and we are looking for great things. At this time the newer individual that I am appointing is Randy Vincent, Chief Financial Officer. Mr. Vincent is an innovative leader with more than 20 years of business, community and public service. He is responsible for directing the delivery of services in Calcasieu Parish for more than 190 residents. He oversaw the operation of four parish locations involving 9 budgets totaling 5.6 million dollars including healthcare, parish wide transportation, food assistance, energy assistance, child home daycare, senior citizens, employment training, and emergency evacuation transportation. Mr. Vincent successfully launched a Prescription Drug Discount Card Program ranked number one in Louisiana within the first month of operation. We are glad to have him here. We are glad to have his experience here. Mr. Vincent is a resident of St. John Parish. His wife is also with him, Mrs. Bernadette Vincent, and we are looking forward to having them on our team. Next I would like to move into the directors that I am recommending and for informational purposes we talked about this would you like to take them individually or as a group?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "At first that was my option to take them individually but after reading it and discussing with some of my coworkers here I think we ought to do this thing as a group unless we get some objections from anyone."

Councilman Wilson stated, "I think we should do them individually."

Natalie Robottom stated, "At this point the first director that I am recommending is the director of Planning & Zoning, Ms. Angelic Sutherland. Angelic has been serving as my special assistant/Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for the past two years. She was responsible for assisting the Parish President and Chief Administrative Officer with the day to day operations of the parish, drafting and reviewing all contracts, and was instrumental in drafting various policies and procedures. Ms. Sutherland has been interfacing with and providing legal advice to the Code Enforcement staff and supervisors, as well as, prosecuting the parish's code violations on behalf of the District Attorney's office. She has been a licensed attorney for over 6 years and has a wealth of knowledge of the parish's code of ordinances. Ms. Sutherland holds a Juris Doctor in Law from Loyola University New Orleans School of Law and a Bachelor of Sciences degree in Communicative Disorders. She is a native of Wallace and currently

resides in LaPlace with her sons, Trey and Tyler. Can I get a motion in support?"

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to appoint Angelic Sutherland as Director of Planning & Zoning. The motion passed unanimously.

Natalie Robottom stated, "The next director who was unable to be with us today because of short notice is Mrs. Torri Buckles. Torri is being recommended for the Director of Economic Development. Torri Buckles has been an entrepreneur and strategy consultant for more than ten years. As a Business Development Officer with Louisiana Economic Development (LED), Ms. Buckles' responsibilities included planning, coordinating, and implementing programmatic and educational efforts to enhance the entrepreneurial environment across the state of Louisiana. To support these efforts, she managed the Small and Emerging Business Development Program, Louisiana Contractors Accreditation Institute, Mentor-Protégé Program, Small Business Bonding Assistance Program, and the Small Business E-Learning Initiative. Prior to joining LED, Ms. Buckles consulted with over 80 companies, including public companies such as McDonalds, Starbucks, and The Athlete's Foot among others. Her work has also included numerous startups and venture capitals, and she served as interim Vice President of Marketing for three such ventures. Ms. Buckles, a resident of LaPlace, is a member of the River Region Chamber of Commerce, American Marketing Association, and other professional and civic organizations. Ms. Buckles has an MBA in Technology Management from the University of New Orleans and a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from Dillard University. I present for approval Ms. Torri Buckles as Economic Development Director."

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Snyder seconded the motion to appoint Torri Buckles as Director of Economic Development. The motion passed unanimously.

Natalie Robottom stated, "Next is my recommendation for Director of Human Resources, Mrs. Stacey Cador. Stacey Cador has twelve years of experience in the field of Human Resources. Prior to joining St. John the Baptist Parish, Mrs. Cador worked as an HR professional in the healthcare industry. She is currently serving as Director of Human Resources where her areas of responsibility include policy development and implementation, employee development, compensation and benefits, employee relations, workers' compensation, and risk management. She earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Marketing from Louisiana State University and a Master of Arts Degree in Organizational Management from the University of Phoenix, Metairie Campus. In addition, she holds a Professional in Human Resources (PHR) designation with the Human Resources Certification Institute and is a member of the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM). Mrs. Cador is a native of Edgard and resides in Hahnville. She and her husband Timothy have one son. I present to you for approval Mrs. Stacey Cador."

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Snyder seconded the motion to appoint Stacey Cador as Director of Human Resources. The motion passed unanimously.

Natalie Robottom stated, "The next position will be the Director of Emergency Preparedness and that recommendation is Mr. Jobe' Boucvalt. Jobe Boucvalt is a retired Operations Shift Supervisor who was employed at Marathon Oil Refinery in Garyville for thirty-five years. Mr. Boucvalt has a wealth of knowledge and training in the area of safety and experience in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). During his tenure at the refinery, Mr. Boucvalt coordinated daily emergency response activities, handled health, environmental and safety (HES) issues, served as the on-site emergency incident commander, and managed evening, night and weekend personnel and activities. Mr. Boucvalt was also responsible for assessing the impact of offsite hazardous materials and represented Marathon in emergency preparedness activities with Parish Officials. In the absence of the Plant Manager, he also served in that role. In addition to his experience in safety, Mr. Boucvalt also has experience in the area of maintenance and preventive maintenance in the work place. He has significant experience in supervision and management of personnel. He is a former Councilman of St. John the Baptist Parish and served on the Planning and Zoning Board and Sewerage and Water Board. He is also involved in a number of community organizations such as the LaPlace Lions Club, Knights of Columbus, St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, and recreation leagues. Mr. Boucvalt is a lifelong resident of LaPlace and is married to Anne Fulton Boucvalt. They have six children and two grandchildren. I present to you Mr. Jobe' Boucvalt for the Director of Emergency Preparedness."

**MOTION:** Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to appoint Jobe' Boucvalt as Director of Emergency Preparedness. The motion passed unanimously.

Natalie Robottom stated, "The next person I would like to recommend is for Parks & Recreation and that is Mr. Terrence Jones. Terrence Jones is an executive level administrator in business and athletics who has worked under institutions of higher learning, school board systems, and assisted in the coordination of an athletic summer camp for eight years attended by an average of 300 participants. For the past five years, Mr. Jones has coordinated over 250 events per year for sixty-five alumni organizations across the United States. In doing so, he was responsible for negotiating with vendors and coordinating facilities, managing event finances, marketing, outreach, and collaborative efforts regarding national programming goals. He is the founder/owner of the Locker Room, LLC, a youth program for children in grades 7-11. Mr. Jones had a 5 1/2 year career as a professional football player in the Canadian Football League as a quarterback and had a training camp stint with the New Orleans Saints. Mr. Jones serves as a board member on the Son of a Saint Sports Foundation (a youth male mentoring organization), was an inductee into the Greater New Orleans Sports Foundation Football Hall of Fame as well as the Tulane University Football Hall of Fame. He was a Tulane Football All-American (Quarterback), a Lutchter High School Football Parade Magazine All American (Quarterback) and during his senior year at Tulane, was a pre-season Heisman Trophy candidate. Mr. Jones has an M.A. in Human Resources/Organizational Management from the University of Phoenix, Metairie Campus. He has a Bachelor of Science degree from Tulane University in Sports Administration /Physical Education. He is a native of Lutchter and currently resides in New Orleans, LA. He is married to Kimberly Smith-Jones and is the father of Kirby and Te'a

Jones. I present to you Mr. Terrence Jones for approval as Director of Parks & Recreation."

**MOTION:** Councilman Snyder moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to appoint Mr. Terrence Jones as Director of Parks & Recreation. The motion passed unanimously.

Natalie Robottom stated, "The next director is the Director of Utilities and that is Mr. Virgil Rayneri. He is a retired engineer and product superintendent from DuPont and DuPont Dow Elastomers where he was employed for 37 years. During his tenure with DuPont and DuPont Dow, he worked on several large capital projects as a Senior and Associate Engineer and as a product-area Superintendent of Neoprene (synthetic rubber) and Clysar (Shrink Film). Mr. Rayneri received several awards from DuPont Dow Elastomers. These awards were given as a result of his innovative ideas concerning environmental upgrades and reduction of waste streams in the Neoprene process. In addition to his experience in the technical, management and safety fields he worked for St. John the Baptist Parish as the Public Works Director from 2004 - 2006. Mr. Rayneri is presently serving as Assistant to the Parish President/ Utilities Director. Mr. Rayneri earned a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Science; Civil and mechanical LSU New Orleans. Mr. Rayneri is a lifelong resident of LaPlace and is married to Maria Rosa Rabel. They have 2 children and 2 grandchildren. I present to you Mr. Virgil Rayneri as the Director of Utilities."

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to appoint Mr. Virgil Rayneri as Director of Utilities. The motion passed unanimously.

Natalie Robottom stated, "First of all I would like to thank the council for your efforts and attention. We worked really hard on putting together the team that we submitted to you. There are still a few positions that we are interviewing for. At such time that we have a recommendation we will bring them before the council. Although the following individuals do not require confirmation I do think it is important to notify you and the public that there are several employees who have been with us that will be continuing in their stints. First is Paige Braud who serves as our Public Information Officer. Paige Braud is currently serving as the Public Information Officer for St. John the Baptist Parish developing press releases, preparing executive correspondence, and serving as a key advisor to all departments on media relations and communications for issues and initiatives. She also manages the Parish website, government access channel, social media, and other avenues of communication to the public, and participates in various community meetings and events with public officials and residents. Braud establishes communications for the Office of Emergency Preparedness during drills, emergencies, and disaster situations. She works closely with all Parish departments including Capital Projects for public notifications and coordination of Parish businesses. Braud earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Marketing from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and is a life-long resident of LaPlace. I present to you Ms. Paige Braud."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Mrs. Robottom would you mind instructing Paige not to send me anymore emails at Midnight?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Only if she stops sending them to me. I actually turned off my phone at that point. I know it was a very busy day but it was just a reminder that the ferry was out. At this point I would like to present Mrs. Dana Milioto. Dana is the Special Assistant to the Chief Administrative Officer. During this time Mrs. Milioto has also assisted in the organization of most community events for St. John the Baptist parish as a committee member including; Martin Luther King Day Parade, Easter in the Parks, Keep St. John Beautiful Clean Sweep, 4<sup>th</sup> of July Extravaganza, Andouille Pageant and Festival, and most recently the Veterans Day Parade. She is also responsible for technological communications throughout the parish governing offices including: Laserfiche and Blackbox Communications; she also assists with the daily internal technological issues as they arise. Mrs. Milioto has served the parish as Special Assistant to the CAO since April 2008. Prior to joining the administration, she has work experience in the restaurant, hospitality, and gaming industries. Mrs. Milioto holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Business Management from Southeastern Louisiana University in Hammond, LA. She and her husband Tommy are residents of La Place and they have three daughters. I present Mrs. Milioto. Also serving in the capacity of special assistant Mr. Daron Cooper, Daron is a former Production Plant Manager and Business Owner. As a Production Plant Manager for thirteen years with Fox Print Direct, Mr. Cooper's responsibilities included planning procedures, specifications, work schedules, budgets, contract negotiations, and annual summary reports. Daron is currently serving as Capital Projects Manager for St. John the Baptist Parish overseeing all construction projects in relation to the 2009 Bond issue. In this capacity, he coordinates with the Parish President, CAO, Parish Engineer, and Grant Administrator to ensure that projects are delivered in a time efficient manner, and that they are within budgetary constraints. Mr. Cooper is a lifelong resident of St. John Parish and is married to Darlene Weber Cooper, they have two children. I present Daron. Also remaining with us in the capacity of special assistant to Public Works is Mr. Russel Jack, his responsibilities will include assisting the Public Works Director in inspecting and managing the East and West Bank of St. John the Baptist Parish, in addition to assisting wherever else he may be needed. Mr. Jack is knowledgeable about the needs of the Parish and very much involved in community activities. He is lifelong resident of St. John Parish and we look forward to having him back. I am not sure if he is present but Mr. Mark Howard is also a special assistant currently assigned to special projects in the Utilities Department. His responsibility is to work directly with the Utilities Director in non-domestic and sewer issues. Mr. Howard is a business owner, a previous administrator and he has a wealth of knowledge about the parish, the public works department and public services. He is a long time resident of St. John the Baptist Parish. At this time that is my administrative staff, as I said there are three vacancies that we are going to continue to fulfill and we will return to this council for confirmation once those selections are made but I am extremely pleased to bring a staff of this caliber here to work with you and us to provide the services that are required throughout this parish. Thank you for your support of my recommendations."

Councilman Gauff stated, "We would like to say thank you for your tireless efforts. I think we all were receiving phone calls and emails in the middle of the Saints game and midnight. So thank you for your effort. We look forward to moving St. John into the direction we all

would like."

### **Succession of Office**

Councilman Gauff stated, "The line of succession to the Parish President will be the Chief Administrative Assistant followed in order by the Chief Financial Officer, the Director of Emergency Preparedness, Councilperson at Large in order of seniority, followed by individual district council members by seniority in the local governing authority."

Natalie Robottom stated, "This is the succession of office and I provide it to you for approval at this time."

**MOTION:** Councilman Snyder moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve the Succession of Office. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Consent Agenda**

**Items:** Approval of Minutes December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011, Regular Meeting; Councilman Snyder - Appointment to the Planning & Zoning Board; Appointment to the Zoning Board of Adjustments; Parade Permit - Martin Luther King Parade - 1/16/12 - on the West Bank and the East Bank

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Smith seconded the motion to approve the amended consent agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011, Regular Meeting; Councilman Snyder - Appointment to the Planning & Zoning Board - Mr. Emery Dents; Parade Permit - Martin Luther King Parade - 1/16/12 - on the West Bank and the East Bank. The motion passed unanimously.

### **PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:**

**11-58** (Tabled 12-27-11) (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance requesting a re-zoning of Lot 1 of the Guy Donaldson Tract to show the change in current zone of Zone C-1 to Zone C-3, situated in Section 47, T-11-S, R-6-E, 944 La. Hwy 44, Reserve, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (C. Julien)

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Snyder seconded the motion to remove Ordinance 11-58 from the table. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Madere stated, "I have spoken to some of the residents in the area and I closely live in that area myself and there was no objection to anything concerning it. The people in the surrounding area are in favor of it. So I don't have a problem with it. I think everyone deserves a chance to make a living and they have a couple of bars in the area. I think we will be able to work with it. I am going to work closely with everyone in that area to make sure this is successful and everything is handled properly and kept up to code."

Valencia Nicholls stated, "I just wanted to speak to everyone about it. We have been trying to open the business for a while now and hopefully this is my last meeting about it."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "What kind of business is it?"

Valencia Nicholls stated, "It is going to be a bar. It has always been a bar."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "Have we gotten any comment from the Sheriff's office regarding this?"

Valencia Nicholls stated, "The Sheriff's office can't issue the permit until I go through the re-zoning process, which is where we are now."

Councilman Snyder stated, "At the risk of sounding left behind the last couple of council meetings didn't this come up and the zoning board didn't approve it and the council itself over ruled the zoning board? I thought we were finished."

Councilman Gauff stated, "We had approved the ordinance to be introduced at the meeting of December 13<sup>th</sup>, just for it to be introduced. Now we are voting on the Ordinance for approval."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Okay, I am caught up."

Councilman Smith asked, "So we are just introducing the ordinance?"

Councilman Gauff stated, "Now we are voting on the actual change in the zoning."

Councilman Smith stated, "Because if we don't do anything it will automatically pass today."

**MOTION:** Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Hotard seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 11-58. The motion passed unanimously.

**11-59** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance to re-zone the Wilbert B. Chauff Lot per Cob 12, Folio 317 from R-1 to C-1 at 2916 Highway 44, Garyville, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (N. Robottom)

Theresa Rodgers, CAO, stated, "Administration is requesting approval of this ordinance. It was approved by the Planning & Zoning Commission. It is for the purpose of opening up a small business and we do recommend approval."

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Smith seconded the motion for discussion.

Councilman Perrilloux asked, "What type of business is it and could you bring me up to date on what I am voting on here?"

Theresa Rodgers stated, "The application and the request for re-zoning is for a restaurant and sports bar. The business owners are Raymond and Carolyn Batiste. It was approved by a 6 to 1 vote at the Planning & Zoning Commission meeting on December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Thank you. I just wanted to be updated on it."

Angelic Sutherland, Planning & Zoning, stated, "I'm sorry if I can add

*it is the old Jean Batiste Restaurant."*

*Councilman Gauff stated, "I think on this ordinance we were really in the dark on this. We had no idea what was going on. I don't think we were properly prepared for this."*

*Councilman Smith asked, "Did anyone ask the neighbors of the business? It was a restaurant before but now it is becoming a sports bar."*

*Theresa Rodgers stated, "It is a restaurant and sports bar."*

*Councilman Smith stated, "It is a combination of both but before you said it was just a restaurant. I am just trying to see what the immediate neighbors have to say about it."*

*Theresa Rodgers stated, "I have not heard any comments from the community regarding the opening of the business."*

*Councilman Smith asked, "How long has it been closed?"*

*Natalie Robottom stated, "It has been heard before the Planning and Zoning Board, which provides the opportunity for residents to provide input and it passed 6 to 1. Procedurally the P & Z board as a result of the application make the recommendations and forward them to the council. At this point that is where it is all of that process has taken place in terms of the hearing for the public and now it is being recommended for your approval."*

*Councilman Smith asked, "When you say all of that process has been done I don't have anything from Planning and Zoning. If you could forward that information to me then I can make an informed decision."*

*Natalie Robottom stated, "We actually just read it. We said it was approved by the Planning and Zoning Board 6 to 1 and it was introduced previously. It was part of the packet that you received in term of the description and Mrs. Rodgers just went through the briefing document trying to provide some additional information. Now we are right here where this council is being asked to vote on something that was introduced under the previous council however prior to us bringing it to you it has gone through the steps and processes necessary before forwarding it on to you."*

*Councilwoman Hotard asked, "I would like to ask the administration if at all possible because I know the new council hasn't had an opportunity to look at it if we table this item will we still be within the 45 days? Is that possible and I can withdraw my motion and offer a motion to table it on behalf of the council person."*

*Theresa Rodgers stated, "Yes we would be within 45 days. This was introduced at the last council meeting. So we would be fine in terms of the 45 day period."*

*Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Then I withdraw my motion and offer a motion to table this item to give the new council an opportunity to look at the item."*

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Wilson seconded the

motion to table Ordinance 11-59.

Councilman Snyder stated, "I haven't gotten a chance to speak and we haven't voted on it yet. Why do we have to table it until I get a chance to speak?"

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I can withdraw my motion to table it. I was just tabling the item to allow the council to have some time to come back two weeks from now and get the information and vote on the item."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well you can but everyday you wait you have people losing money out there. I know about this situation because I followed up on it and I was at the Zoning Board meeting."

Councilman Wilson stated, "Mr. Snyder that is in my district and I would like to have some time because I am not sure if they even meet the requirements for parking in that area."

Councilman Snyder stated, "That is my point exactly maybe we should get a better report of that Zoning Meeting because all of this was brought up at the zoning board. Now we have to go and rehash this thing. Why are we wasting time?"

Councilman Wilson stated, "We are not wasting time."

Councilman Snyder stated, "We are wasting time. We employ a Zoning Board to do just what you want to do and they did that."

Councilman Wilson stated, "Well I am elected to serve District II and that is in my district and in the town I live in and I would like to see it tabled so that I can look at it further and get the facts straight and as far as I can see they don't have the parking."

Councilman Snyder asked, "When was the last time you been down Little Hope Street Mr. Wilson?"

Councilman Gauff stated, "Let's not let this get out of hand. If we can entertain a motion to table this I think it would give us better time to get everyone on board."

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Wilson seconded the motion to table Ordinance 11-59. The motion passed with 6 yeas and 3 against (Smith, Madere, Snyder).

**11-60** An ordinance amending St. John the Baptist Code of Ordinances, Section 113-120(a) to read as follows: Zoning Board of Adjustment change in members (N. Robottom)

Theresa Rodgers stated, "The administration request to table ordinance 11-60."

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to table ordinance 11-60. The motion passed unanimously.

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:**

**12-01** An ordinance creating the Department of Communications of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, providing for the appointment of a Director who shall be responsible for developing, coordinating, and implementing communication strategies between the general public, businesses, civic associations, the media, and the Parish as well as promoting citizen involvement in parish government, including providing for opportunities for citizens to learn about Parish government programs, services, and operations.  
(N. Robottom)

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

There was no committee meeting.

**DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:**

There were no Department/Engineer reports.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

There was no old business.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Theresa Rodgers - Authorization to execute the Certificate of Substantial Completion with LA Contracting Enterprises for the St. Peter's (Reserve Area) Drainage Improvements Project**

Theresa Rodgers stated, "Administration requests authorization to execute the Certificate of Substantial Completion with LA Contracting Enterprises for the St. Peter's Drainage Improvements Project in Reserve. All punch list items have been completed. There is one issue regarding the roadway on West 6<sup>th</sup> Street and Ram Alley and the lowering of two catch basins. This work has been coordinated and is scheduled for this week. All other work has been completed and the contractor has mobilized off-site."

Councilman Wilson stated, "I would like to make a motion that we table this item at this time because there are a lot of issues there with the residents. I don't think that the project is near completion."

**MOTION:** Councilman Wilson moved and Councilwoman Millet seconded the motion to table the Certificate of Substantial Completion with LA Contracting Enterprises for the St. Peter's (Reserve Area) Drainage Improvements Project. The motion passed unanimously.

**Theresa Rodgers - Resolution - R12-01 - A Resolution of the St. John the Baptist Council approving the application for grant funds from the Governor's Office of Community Development Local Government Assistance Program for water treatment improvements at the Lions Water Plant**

Theresa Rodgers stated, "I actually want to point out that there are three resolutions on the agenda that all seek the Council's approval for the submission of applications to the Governor's Office of Community Development's Local Government Assistance Program for grant funds totaling \$142,800.00 divided among three projects which will improve the water treatment and distribution system. The first

resolution R12-01 is for the removal and replacement of the existing vertical turbine on the South Clear Well at the Lions Water Plant. The pump is no longer producing the required capacity of 2,100 gpm. The age of the pump makes it obsolete and very difficult to repair. The estimated cost of a new 50 Hp vertical turbine pump along with installation is \$50,000.00."

Councilman Smith asked, "This new pump will increase our capacity by what?"

Theresa Rodgers stated, "Yes it will but the percentage I do not know but what is happening right now is that the current equipment is not producing like it needs to and it needs to be replaced."

Councilman Smith stated, "I am not objecting buying a new pump. I just want to be sure that we are buying something that is going to last us the next 30 years or increase our capacity enough so that we will be taken care of if there is an increase for the life of the well. They need to increase the capacity. I just want to make sure that they increase the capacity so that it does last. I have no objection to buying the pump. I just want to be sure that we are buying what fits and buying for the future, not just for today."

Theresa Rodgers stated, "We were informed recently of the opportunity to apply for these grant monies for water systems and we feel like this is excellent use of the grant application in the amount of \$50,000.00."

Councilman Smith stated, "I have no problem with that at all. I just want to be sure that we buy the correct thing."

Theresa Rodgers stated, "Yes Sir."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Has this pump been producing in the past?"

C.J. Savoie, Parish Engineer, stated, "The old pump we had replaced there are two vertical turbine pumps and they are each on a separate clear well. We just did some improvements to the system. For every 700 gallons a minute you get a million gallons per day. So this pump which was producing around 2,100 gpm, which was 3 million gpd, which was the capacity of the plant. I don't know if you are aware or not but we increased the capacity of the plant by filters and clarifiers to bring us up to 5 million gpd. This is an old pump. It is now producing around 1,700 gpm, which is short of the 2,100 gallons which at one time it was. We could keep upgrading this pump but it is very old. We have a chance to get a grant and replace this pump and that is what we are doing here."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I can understand that but my point was if we could get that \$50,000.00 to use for something else and change those impellers in that pump and bring it back up to 2,100. They do that in big plants all the time."

C.J. Savoie stated, "You can Mr. Snyder. You probably could but all of the other parts on this pump, the bearings and so forth. It is a very old pump. We have done this already numerous times. So it is time to replace it."

Councilman Perrilloux asked, "Mr. Savoie do we have a system in place where the operators there have preventive maintenance to check these pumps?"

C.J. Savoie stated, "I think you would have to go over that with the director but yes they do check and maintain the pumps. The pumps have been upgraded as far as impellers and bearings and so forth before. It is just that this particular pump has been there over 35 years."

Councilman Smith asked, "This pump will get us to 2,100 per minute right?"

C.J. Savoie stated, "Correct and we are fortunate because we thought we might have to increase the electrical to fix it and we found out that we have a pump that we do not have to change the electrical which would cost us way over the \$50,000.00 required. So we found a pump that meets the perimeters that we need and we think it is time to change the pump."

Councilman Smith asked, "So we are going to pump 5 million gallons a day. What about the infrastructure that goes with that?"

C.J. Savoie stated, "You have presently sufficient capacity at the river. You have 5.5 million gpd in clarifier and you have about 8 million gpd in actual high service pumps. This pump what it does is fill up all the tanks that are around there to provide the storage and it comes out of a clear well, pumps it into these storage tanks and that is our supply and that is what this does. This will bring you back because the other pump also does 2,100 so together they will produce 6 million gpd."

Councilman Gauff stated, "I think what we are trying to do is get a grant for this money and I know Mr. Snyder's understanding was let's use the money in a different way but it is sounding like the age of the pump and all the particulars of engineering it sounds like this has been addressed and it seems like we should move forward."

Councilman Smith stated, "I am not against it. I just want to make sure that we have the capacity."

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Smith seconded the motion to approve Resolution R12-01. A Resolution of the St. John the Baptist Council approving the application for grant funds from the Governor's Office of Community Development Local Government Assistance Program for water treatment improvements at the Lions Water Plant. **WHEREAS**, the Governor's Office of Community Development Grant Program provides funds to local governments for needed infrastructure and long-term capital improvements in rural areas; and, **WHEREAS**, said procedures established by the Governor's Office of Community Development Grant Program request that the applicant's governing body certify by resolution the approval of the application as part of the submittal of said application; and, **WHEREAS**, the Office of Community Development provides funds to local governments solely for the purpose of rehabilitation, improvement, and construction projects for community water systems to provide safe and clean drinking water; and, **WHEREAS**, St. John the Baptist Parish is seeking funds in the amount of \$50,000 to remove and replace the existing vertical turbine on the South Clear

Well at the Lions Water Plant; and, **WHEREAS**, the Office of Community Development requires an authorizing resolution as part of its application process, **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that we, the members of the St. John the Baptist Parish Council do hereby authorize the Parish President to execute any and all documents in connection with an application to the Louisiana Office of Community Development for water treatment improvements at the Lions Water Plant. The motion passed unanimously.

**Theresa Rodgers - Resolution - R12-02 - A Resolution of the St. John the Baptist Parish Council approving the application for grant funds from the Governor's Office of Community Development Local Government Assistance Program for improvements at the Edgard Water Treatment Plant to increase the water flow from the plant to local residents and commercial customers**

Theresa Rodgers stated, "This resolution is relative to the application of grant funds in the amount of \$50,000 for a 12-inch water line to be installed from the Edgard Water Plant to the main line along LA Highway 18 which will increase the flow and water pressure to the existing system. Presently, a 6-inch line is the main supply line to local residents and commercial customers on the West Bank and is no longer considered to be an appropriate size to meet demand."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Will this affect the pump capacity?"

Theresa Rodgers stated, "This grant is going to seek the swapping out so to speak of a 6 inch water line to a 12 inch which should increase pressure and flow fourfold. So, this one isn't about the pumps."

Councilman Snyder stated, "My only concern was if you are going with a larger line for the discharge it will actually drop the pressure."

C.J. Savoie stated, "No in fact it is going to provide you with additional pressure and flow. They have been having a problem because further down the line as you know as we have added customers over the years the 6 inch is just not enough pipe. It isn't a large enough diameter to produce the sufficient right there from the plant. So they can only push through the 6 inch line around 600 gpm. Now the West Bank only utilizes about 500,000 gallons per day but the problem is that we are having pressure problems further down the line. This is going to provide additional pressure and flow to the system if we increase from a 6 inch to a 12 inch going from the plant to the distribution site."

Councilman Smith asked, "I live down on the lower end and my psi is about 39. So is that going to give me at least 45 psi. There are some people who live on the upper end their water pressure is at 27. So for a minimum shower on that end you need at least 45 psi. Is that going to accomplish that for us?"

C.J. Savoie stated, "I don't know exactly where you live but I know what you are asking."

Councilman Smith stated, "I'm talking about one end of the parish to the other end. On the western end they are in the upper 20's on the lower end we are in the mid 30's. So what I am saying is for a decent shower you need at least 45 psi on either end. Is that going to

*accomplish that?"*

*C.J. Savoie stated, "Let me put it to you like this."*

*Councilman Smith asked, "Yes or no?"*

*C.J. Savoie stated, "Well it isn't a yes or no answer."*

*Councilman Smith asked, "Is it going to accomplish that or isn't it going to accomplish that?"*

*C.J. Savoie stated, "I'm hoping it is going to accomplish that."*

*Councilman Smith stated, "Let's not hope."*

*C.J. Savoie stated, "The problem is that you couldn't even get up to the sufficient pressure to give you pressure down there if we don't have the 12 inch line."*

*Councilman Smith asked, "So you are doing the engineer work and you are putting the 12 inch line and you tell me it is going to increase my pressure but you can't tell me how much it is going to increase my pressure."*

*C.J. Savoie stated, "Well until I do a hydraulic analysis and tell you exactly cause if I tell you it is going to do 45 and you get 40 you are going to come back and tell me oh you didn't get me 45."*

*Councilman Smith stated, "I most certainly will but it doesn't make any sense. If we are going to do it let's do it right so that the people at either end will have the sufficient water pressure to do the things that they need to do."*

*C.J. Savoie stated, "Mr. Smith we know if we don't do this you are certainly not going to get it but if everybody turns their water on then you certainly may not get to 45 however under normal times you should get up to the pressure that you require. This is going to help it."*

*Councilman Smith stated, "But it doesn't help me if I get 44. I need 45."*

*Councilman Gauff stated, "It sounds like we are belaboring this issue."*

*Councilman Smith stated, "We are not belaboring it chairman. I am sitting at that end and I want to take a shower and my thing is dripping so that is why I have to take a bath. So I am saying if we are going to spend money let's spend money and do it right."*

*C.J. Savoie stated, "Mr. Smith if I do this and you still don't get it then we may have to do something else for example like put in a booster pump down the road that is all I am telling you but you can't even get what you want without me doing this even if we did put a booster pump. That is what I am trying to tell you. So this is the first step. I am hoping it provides you with what you need at normal times but there is a chance if everybody has their faucet on you may not. That is just a matter of supply and demand on the pressure system."*

Councilman Smith stated, "Well work at it and if it doesn't we will have to do something."

Councilman Madere stated, "The last part of your statement was that if he didn't get it there was another step that you could take?"

C.J. Savoie stated, "That is correct."

Councilman Madere stated, "So I think the bottom line that he was trying to get at was if we are going to go into this bigger pipe that we are going to make sure that the pressure is the same on both ends."

C.J. Savoie stated, "Correct and if we don't get it then we may have to take another step but we have to take this step to at least get to that step."

Councilman Madere asked, "So there is another step that you can do to make sure that he gets that?"

C.J. Savoie stated, "Yes there is."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay that is what I wanted to know."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "This is a resolution that we are applying for the grant to get the money to go ahead and change this piping. Without having this resolution approved we can't even make the application for the grant money. So once we get that done then we can go to the next step and decide how it is being spent but without the resolution we can't even go after the money."

Councilman Snyder asked, "We are applying for a grant to do this particular work so that means we can't do anything else with the money right?"

Theresa Rodgers stated, "That is right."

Councilman Snyder stated, "So we can't even discuss it later. This is what we have to do with it so he is on point. We have to spend it to improve the line."

**MOTION:** Councilman Smith moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Resolution R12-02. A Resolution of the St. John the Baptist Parish Council approving the application for grant funds from the Governor's Office of Community Development Local Government Assistance Program for improvements at the Edgard Water Treatment Plant to increase the water flow from the plant to local residents and commercial customers. **WHEREAS**, the Governor's Office of Community Development Grant Program provides funds to local governments for needed infrastructure and long-term capital improvements in rural areas; and, **WHEREAS**, said procedures established by the Governor's Office of Community Development Grant Program request the applicant's governing body certify by resolution the approval of the application as part of the submittal of said application; and, **WHEREAS**, the Office of Community Development provides funds to local governments solely for the purpose of rehabilitation, improvement, and construction projects for community water systems to provide safe and clean drinking water;

and, **WHEREAS**, St. John the Baptist Parish is seeking funds in the amount of \$50,000 to install a 12 inch line from the water plant to the main line along LA Highway 18 to increase the flow and pressure from the existing system at the Edgard Water Plant; and, **WHEREAS**, the current 6 inch water line is no longer of adequate size to supply demand during emergency situations such as fires; and, **WHEREAS**, the Office of Community Development requires an authorizing resolution as part of its application process, **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that we, the members of the St. John the Baptist Parish Council do hereby authorize the Parish President to execute any and all documents in connection with an application to the Louisiana Office of Community Development for water system improvements to serve the Edgard community. The motion passed unanimously.

**Theresa Rodgers - Resolution - R12-03 - A Resolution of the St. John the Baptist Parish Council approving the application for grant funds from the Governor's Office of Community Development Community Water Enrichment Fund Program for improvements to the Reserve and LaPlace Water Distribution Systems**

Theresa Rodgers stated, "Administration is seeking approval for the application of grant funds in the amount of \$42,800 for improvement of the Reserve and LaPlace Water Distribution Systems. These improvements will include the removal of a booster pump which is leaking as well as replacement of associated system valves to control water flow."

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Resolution R12-03. A Resolution of the St. John the Baptist Parish Council approving the application for grant funds from the Governor's Office of Community Development Community Water Enrichment Fund Program for improvements to the Reserve and LaPlace Water Distribution Systems. **WHEREAS**, the Governor's Office of Community Development Grant Program provides funds to local governments for needed infrastructure and long-term capital improvements in rural areas; and, **WHEREAS**, said procedures established by the Governor's Office of Community Development Grant Program request that the applicant's governing body certify by resolution the approval of the application as part of the submittal of said application; and, **WHEREAS**, the Office of Community Development provides funds to local governments solely for the purpose of rehabilitation, improvement, and construction projects for community water systems to provide safe and clean drinking water; and, **WHEREAS**, St. John the Baptist Parish is seeking funds in the amount of \$42,800 to remove the existing booster station and replace associated system valves to ensure operation of both the Reserve Lions Water Plant and the LaPlace water system; and, **WHEREAS**, the Office of Community Development requires an authorizing resolution as part of its application process, **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that we, the members of the St. John the Baptist Parish Council do hereby authorize the Parish President to execute any and all documents in connection with an application to the Louisiana Office of Community Development for improvements to the Reserve and LaPlace Water Distribution Systems. The motion passed unanimously.

**CORRESPONDANCE/COUNCIL BRIEFS**

Councilwoman Millet stated, "First off I would like to thank the residents of District VII for allowing me to represent them for another

four years. It has been a pleasure serving them in the past and I ask for their assistance and help in the next four years along with working with Mrs. Robottom and her staff to enhance all of St. John the Baptist Parish. I especially want to thank my husband Paul who is in the audience today. We have had a very rough year this year and I thank him for his support and I am going to need it this year without his love and support I would not be here and for all the times I am going to be late and going to miss your meals I apologize in advance. Now is the time for us the council, along with the administration to let the rest of the state of Louisiana know that St. John is a very enviable place to live. Together we can make that happen apart we can make nothing happen."

Councilman Smith stated, "First I would like to thank the people of District I for giving me the opportunity to represent them. I look forward to making some improvements, doing the things that I promised with my campaign and just working with my fellow council members and the parish president. I know we have a long way to go and a lot of things need to be done but like Mrs. Millet said we have to do this together and as one. This parish can and will be a nice place to live. We have to put our residents to work. We have to bring business in. We have a lot of things to do. Again thank you to the voters of District I and I promise I won't let you down. Thank you."

Councilman Wilson stated, "I would like to thank the residents of District II for allowing me to serve them. They gave me a vote but more importantly they gave me their trust and I pray to the Lord that I don't let them down and betray that trust. Thank you."

Councilman Madere stated, "I also would like to thank the voters of District III for putting their support and trust in me. This is a very important office and I gladly accept this and I am going to work extremely hard to make sure that the voters in District III are represented to the best of my ability. I would also like to thank the people who were strong supporters and helped me through the election process, some of them I see in the audience today and some are not here but District III I promise you one thing I will hit the ground running tomorrow. All the campaign promises that I made tomorrow morning I will be over at the parish president's office and I will be there each and every day to make sure that District III moves up even though we may be ranked number III. I hope in four years we will be ranked number I."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "I would like to thank the voters of District IV for giving me this opportunity. I am looking forward to working with my fellow council members, madam president and her administration to move this parish forward. I would like to thank my wife and kids who put up with me on this campaign trail getting them up early in the morning, cooking breakfast and walking the streets. Thank you."

Councilman Wright stated, "First and foremost I want to thank God. This is merely a stepping stone not only for me but for the rest of St. John Parish and the rest of my fellow councilmen. I look forward to serving along side of you guys to move St. John forward. Before I entered this race I was told by many people that I couldn't do it, little did we know that District V spoke loud and clear. I will be their voice. That is my promise to them. It was my promise all along. Again I want to

thank District V for giving me this opportunity and this chance to serve them. I want to thank my family, friends, my girlfriend and all the volunteers that helped with my campaign tirelessly. It was a long fight but we won. So thank you again."

Councilman Snyder stated, "That is tough to follow, really tough to follow. I was told right before the election that it was for me someone told me that, spiritual people and I really didn't understand what they were trying to say at the time but I would like to thank God because it seems like it was for me. He didn't put anyone to run against me and that was all his doing. It had to be. The lady has already told me you see I said it was for you, claim it. So I am claiming it. I want to thank my wife for hanging in there with me and walking the streets. I would like to thank her for that. I took an oath this morning and I would like to thank the people of District VI and let you know that the oath meant something to me and I will put you first and this parish first before anything else. I know the concerns back there. I know the concerns of North LaPlace; north of Airline Hwy put it that way. We have some concerns that many other people in this parish don't have especially with flooding and flood insurance those things are skyrocketing back there and we have some young people back there that can't afford it. I would like to wish my little cousin, he is a linebacker for LSU and he will be starting tonight and I would like to wish him well and get about 20 tackles and roll tigers."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I want to thank President Robottom first and foremost for offering her staff to us. I am very pleased with the people that you have selected. We have a good group of qualified professionals. I look forward to working with your administration. I would also like to thank each and every one of the new council members for offering yourself up for public service. It is truly a labor of love. I can tell just from the amount of discussion that we have had today on the first meeting that we have a good group of people that genuinely care about the public so I am excited to be serving amongst you all in that spirit. I would also like to send a thanks, I have thanked the voters of Division B in the previous meeting but I will thank them again as well and also to my father, he is not here of course he is hunting, but he was with me throughout the campaign and he stayed until about a few days before the election but he is always there with me and I know I am always there with him. Also to my daughter, she begged me to allow her to miss school today but I didn't she will be there Friday night but I would like to thank her as well. Again I look forward to working with all of the new council members. Again just the energy and the discussion is good and I welcome it and go LSU tigers."

Councilman Gauff stated, "I would like to say I am looking forward to this council working with you all. Administration I think it is going to be a great four years as Ms. Hotard said you can see the energy of the council people. We are not going to take anything for granted. You better come here prepared. You all better do your homework as far as engineers. It looks like we have a wealth of experienced people that are looking forward to checking you. The checks and balances that Mrs. Robottom talked about in her campaign, we all talked about in our campaigns. Well it seems like it is all coming together for the betterment of St. John Parish. So I would like to thank my family, my friends over in Division A but also my wife and kids. I thank them for

coming and taking time out. I would also like to say go tigers. I think LSU is going to roll tonight and make us all proud. So thank you and welcome to our new administration and council."

#### **PRESIDENT'S REMARKS**

Natalie Robottom stated, "Once again we are very pleased to be here and to working with you. We are looking forward to it. It is going to be a transition, a learning experience. Obviously there are some things that we will need to do to make sure that you are prepared for the votes that you will have to take and we look forward to providing you with that information. We are going to ask that you please as much as possible request the things that you need prior to here so that we can give you what you need to make good decisions and we are going to continue to shift you information, hopefully it won't be after midnight but we will try to get you as much information as possible. We are so caught up in our inauguration and these events we have obviously started a new year. A new year and a new term and I would like to wish everyone the council as well as our residents, a happy new year. We want to wish LSU the best of luck. Obviously Stephan is from here, he attended ESJ High School and has been doing a great job at LSU and we wish him the best of luck and of course our Saints and we are looking forward to knocking out San Francisco in the coming week. We do have re-scheduled our Edgard water plant walk way ribbon cutting for Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM on the levee. So please join us if you are here. Also Friday night the gala will be from 6:00 until 9:00 at the Community Center on the East Bank. Please come out and join us. It is cocktail attire and should be a wonderful evening. We want everyone to come out in a less formal setting to socialize with our newly elected officials. I would also like to wish the best of luck to our former Ms. Andouille. The river region chamber of commerce is hosting a reverse trade show on January 26<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 until 7:00 at the National Guard readiness center at 4120 W. Airline Hwy in Reserve. It will offer businesses a unique opportunity to maximize connections with procurement professionals from large business, industry and government. So again we are encouraging you to apply and register online. It will be a great opportunity to market new products, services and technology. It is an excellent way to get your name out and let customers learn about your company and it is an opportunity to meet top executives and business decision makers in a positive environment. You can register at [riverregionchamber.org](http://riverregionchamber.org) or contact the chamber at 985-359-9777. The Mississippi River is still over 11 feet at the Carrollton gage so there are still restrictions on the levee so we would encourage you to stay off of the levee as not to be ticketed. The health & human services department will begin their free tax preparation on January 17<sup>th</sup>. Certified preparers will be available to assist with tax preparation for low to moderate income tax payers. Assistance is available by appointment only Thursdays and Fridays from 9:00 until 4:00 through April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Please visit the health & human services page at [www.sjbparish.com](http://www.sjbparish.com) for more information and the required documents.

*Public meetings will be scheduled to present the parishes land use project. Please refer to the St. John Parish website calendar for those appointment times. The overall discussion was held at the Planning & Zoning Board and I think many of the council members were in attendance but we are going to have some individual meetings to discuss what the grant and project will include but more importantly we want input from our residents before any plan is adopted. Again I am looking forward to working with you. Go tigers and take care of business tonight."*

There was no executive session.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Property/Casualty Insurance Agent - 1) Claims, any/all property, casualty, and Workman comp claims 2) Claims, procedures and disposition 3) Coverage's, any/all material changes

Cable Franchise Agreement

Any and all pending legal matters

**ADJOURNMENT:**

At 1:17 PM, Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

\_\_\_\_\_  
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

\_\_\_\_\_  
Council Secretary