

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
MONDAY, JANUARY 13TH, 2020
CHAIRMAN LENNIX MADERE, JR.
VICE CHAIR KURT BECNEL

The Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist Parish, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session in the Edgard Courthouse, Edgard, Louisiana on Monday, January 13, 2020, at Noon.

CALL TO ORDER:

PRESENT AT ROLL CALL: Lennix Madere, Jr., Councilman-at-Large, Div. A, Kurt Becnel, Councilman District I, Warren Torres, Jr., Councilman District II, Tammy Houston, Councilwoman District III, Tyra Duhe-Griffin, Councilwoman District IV, Robert Arcuri, Councilman District V, Tonia Schnyder, Councilwoman District VI, Thomas Malik, Councilman District VII, Michael Wright, Councilman-at-Large, Div. B

ABSENT: None

Councilman Madere led the Prayer. Kennedy Miller 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 were no public comments at this time.

Jaclyn Hotard - Proclamation - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Monday, January 20, 2020

Jaclyn Hotard, Parish President, read the Proclamation - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Monday, January 20, 2020.

Councilman Malik stated, *"Okay, glad we're finally at this point yawl, were next door a moment ago. Yeah, I think I had seven (7) times I took the Oath to protect and defend the constitution against all enemies foreign, domestic, and never have I had that many problems working through it but, here we are."*

COUNCIL - Selection of Officers: Council Chairman; Council Vice-Chairman; Finance Chairman; Finance Vice-Chairman

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to nominate Councilman Lennix Madere as the Chairman of the Parish Council. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Councilwoman Schnyder moved and Councilman Malik seconded the motion to nominate Councilman Kurt Becnel as the Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin moved and Councilman Malik seconded the motion to nominate Councilman Michael Wright as the Chairman of the Finance Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Councilman Becnel moved and Councilman Arcuri seconded the motion to nominate Councilman Thomas Malik as the Vice-Chairman of the Finance Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Madere stated, "I'd like to thank my fellow Council members for electing me Council Chair, and to all the other members that was elected to positions as Vice-Chair, Chairman of the Finance, and Vice-Chair of Finance, thank y'all."

PARISH PRESIDENT - Confirmation of Department Directors:

Director of Communication - Baileigh Helm; Director of Human Resources - Stacey Cador; Director of Planning & Zoning - Rene Pastorek; Director of Health & Human Services - Kali Price; Director of Purchasing - Peter Montz; Director of Public Works - Clayton Faucheaux; Director of Economic Development - Stanley Bienemy; Director of Parks & Recreation - Greg Johnson

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "And I sent this memo over to the Council previously, however, I'll read just for the benefit of the public. In preparation for the council meeting on Monday, please find a listing of all the individuals that I am recommending as appointments to each department. In an effort, to have complete fairness and transparency, I implemented a process that involved the selection of a transition team whose members included a representation of all facets of the community. I also added the additional layer of transparency and fairness by choosing not to attend any meetings with the transition team and relied only on their recommendations. The transition team worked tirelessly to interview candidates who applied, and then forwarded to me the top candidates in each department from which I made my selection. Two positions will remain vacant, as we continue to interview candidates. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration, and I humbly ask for your support and approval of my top administrative team. The first item: 1) is the Director of Communications-Baileigh Helm, and that would be my recommendation."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay, Ms. Houston."

Councilwoman Houston asked, "Is this the incumbent, Ms. Helm?"

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "She is currently the Director."

Councilwoman Houston asked, "And her duties will remain the same?"

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "For now, yes. And I say that, because I would like - I hadn't had the opportunity to work with a...at this capacity, each department head, to just evaluate what any changes that I would like to make to any department."

Councilwoman Houston stated, "I know when you sent the list of names and a bio of their qualifications, I didn't/we did not see the job description, so I am kind of lacking exactly what they do, the daily task, but I did see the qualifications and I did see the summary of her experience."

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "Thank you, and we could have sent that over, the job descriptions are actually, still currently posted on the transition team website that we did advertise through parish social media, L'Observateur, all those outlets, we have that available in the Human Resource Department. It could've been sent separately to the Council members but, it was available is available, actually still online for view."

Councilwoman Houston stated, "I thought I had asked you to send them, but maybe I'm sorry I didn't."

Councilman Madere stated, "Are we doing this...are we going to vote individually or we're going to do it as a package?"

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "I can read them all together if you'd like to do that."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay..."

Councilwoman Houston interrupting stated, "Well I'd like to make a motion that we..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "Hold on a second. Okay, you finish your statement?"

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "Yes!"

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay, Ms. Houston."

Councilwoman Houston stated, "I'd like to make a motion that we do them separately, just for clarity into the intermits of the minutes as each one has been approved separately."

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "And I could do that and we'll require a motion. And I can go ahead and I'll make...so that would be the first item. We can go through the first item."

Councilman Torres stated, "I'd like to comment on that Communications Director job. The few times that I needed help and I see her at the meetings, but never really had a personal thing or look at, I didn't know who the transition team was that's decided this, kind a that's what we're going on. I don't have no problem with Ms. Baileigh. Like I said, she helped me out every time I went above and beyond and went to the meetings, she conducted herself with anybody who had a question she sat down and talked to them and on this one particular one."

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "Thank you, and really quickly. We did announce the members of the transition team, it wasn't a requirement, I just felt like it was important for the public to have trust you know in an open and transparent process. So, it might be something a little bit different than what was done in the past, it's like I said, it's not a requirement to do that. I just thought that would be helpful to pull together people just of all facets in our community, to assist with you know making recommendations to me, ultimately the final decisions are mine. But it was just to add another layer of openness and fairness and transparency to the process, for the benefit of the public so they understand."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay, thank you."

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to confirm the appointment of Baileigh Helm as the Director of Communications. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay, congratulations to Ms. Helm."

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "Thank you. The next item on the agenda is #2 - Director of Human Resources - Stacey Cador, and Ms. Cador is the current Human Resource Director. I've actually had the pleasure of working with Stacey when I first came down 16 years ago, and that would be my recommendation."

MOTION: Councilman Becnel moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to

confirm the appointment of Stacey Cadore as the Director of Human Resources. The motion passed unanimously."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay, congratulations to Ms. Helm."

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "Thank you, item #3: Director of Planning & Zoning - Rene Pastorek, he's the current Planning & Zoning Director now."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay, I've been knowing Mr. Rene since he been with the Parish, and I you know we had some discussions at the meetings on some things you know, but overall I think he done a great job. I think he done a good job, and I was very pleased he was coming back. Okay, that's the comment I like to make, cuz in every good relationship there's a lil up and down. Okay, and I'm glad he was nominated to come back."

MOTION: Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to confirm the appointment of Rene Pastorek as the Director of Planning & Zoning. The motion passed unanimously."

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "Thank you, item #4, is Director of Health & Human Services - Kali Price, that would be my recommendation."

MOTION: Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to confirm the appointment of Kali Price as the Director of Health & Human Services. The motion passed unanimously."

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "Thank you. Next item is item #5: Director of Purchasing - Peter Montz."

Councilwoman Schnyder asked, "If our appointees are here today, can we have them stand up for them to be recognized?"

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes, I think that's a good move I think a lot of people need to see who actually voted for them."

MOTION: Councilman Arcuri in moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to confirm the appointment of Peter Montz as the Director of Purchasing. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "Thank you. Next item on the agenda is item #6. Item #6: Director of Public Works - Clayton Fauchaux, that would be my recommendation." Councilman Torres stated, "I kind of read on Mr. Fauchaux, and he's coming from I think St. Charles Parish, with years of experience and we know they got a pretty good drainage system, so I think he's going to be a big asset for us."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yeah, we need to get the water out."

MOTION: Councilman Wright in moved and Councilman Torres seconded the motion to confirm the appointment of Clayton Fauchaux as the Director of Public Works. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "Thank you. The next item on the agenda is item #7. Director of Economic Development - Stanley Bienemy, and he's here. That would be my recommendation."

Councilman Madere stated, "I'd just like to make a comment. I never met the young man but I feel as though I know him, cuz I heard a lot about him. Okay, a lot of good things about him, so I'm looking forward to working with you okay, any other

comments?"

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston in moved and Councilwoman Duhé-Griffin seconded the motion to confirm the appointment of Stanley Bienemy as the Director of Economic Development. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "Thank you, and next item is item #8. Director of Parks & Recreation - Greg Johnson."

Councilwoman Houston stated, "I have a comment. Ms. Gaudet, you did send the qualifications for each one of your department heads. And, I did have some concerns with the particular experience that Mr. Johnson had, and I'll tell you why. Most of us here, ran on the platform of improving Recreation, so I thought when I would look at the credentials for that person that I would see that they have vast amount of experience in programming, budgeting, some things that we have concerns with. Especially, the REGALA Park, so I read the Charter I reread the Charter, and I read the Charter again. And where it pertains to you bringing your department heads to the Council, it said you're to bring here and we're to confirm. So, in that respect I am going to go head and consent, give you the team that you want, that you are building, but please know that, I'm looking for accountability, and please know, I want Mr. Johnson to succeed more than anybody. Because if he succeeds, we all succeed, and that's not just Mr. Johnson, that's all your directors. So, you've asked for the team, I'm willing to give you the team but please know, that I'm going to hold them responsible."

Councilman Torres stated, "Yeah, I think this is one of the most important ones in the role of directors. Listening to Sheriff Tregre, listening to our Assessor, it's all about the children of the parish, the children of the parish and a you want to pay us, we try to make ex-NFL football players Recreation Directors, and you see where that's got us. The park in Garyville, you got the fence falling down, you got grass on both sides, you got trees growing in one thing, they got a hole that's been there for 15-years that I've been trying to get filled in and couldn't get filled in. So, I think this is a real important, most to me most important one out here for the children of the parish, so I can't support this."

Councilwoman Schnyder stated, "First of all Mr. Johnson, I have not had an opportunity to meet with you yet, but I did read your credentials and all, and I do appreciate the fact that you have a lot of experience in different various activities and sports, and I as Mr. Torres, I have a vested interest as well in Recreation Department, that's near and dear to my heart. I have a 9-year old son that's very active in sports, he likes to play his basketball, baseball, all the sports. And I would like to give you an opportunity to make a difference, and I will be on you! So, I do support you and I would like to give you a chance at it."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay, I'd like to make a comment myself about this. Well myself, I've been a coach in this parish for 36 years, so I do know about recreation and program, and I highly recommend Mr. Johnson, not only do I know him personally, I knew him as student. I knew him as an athlete, he played football for me, and I always admired the fact he was a good student, a good person, he grew up to be a good man. And when you have someone in your athletic department leading a recreation department, that's what you look for. Someone that the kids can look up to as a role model. And he has a lot of credentials, he worked at the high school, he's been coaching, I think he came back in 2017...about 2017. Okay, and just like everyone on this list, that's been approved unanimously and everyone else, no one knows who's going to be

successful, and who will not be successful. Everyone on this transition team, is going to be held accountable, not only by the Council, but by the people and by the Parish President. Okay, and it's her team that she put together, okay so, I think as a Council, we should support each and every one that she has put in place, because this is the beginning. Don't rely on what happened in the past, the holes that they had in the park, or the thing they had here the thing they had there. Mr. Johnson, Ms. Hotard, you know you all have a little share in that okay, because we are Council people, okay and we cannot just place the blame on the Recreation Director, the blame is shared by all. So, I highly recommend Mr. Johnson, okay!"

Councilwoman Houston stated, "I just wanted to bring clarity to it. I'm sure Mr. Johnson is a fine man, and I don't have a problem of giving Ms. Hotard the team that she wanted. My problem was and I think I stated this, is from the credentials that I saw that Ms. Hotard sent, I have a problem with it. I shouldn't even say a problem, I just thought I would see more experience there. Now, I think I said it and I will reiterate, that I am going to support this-Ms. Hotard selection. And I did say that the accountability would be for all, not just him. I don't want to think, Mr. Johnson to think I am singling him out. As I said earlier, I want you to succeed, cuz if you succeed, we all succeed, so!"

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay, just one more comment before, I'm a recognize you. Okay, one more thing. Okay, and I appreciate what Ms. Houston said about experience and sometime that's good. Okay, but I also remember a lot of guys go for jobs they always tell them, you don't have the experience, but if somebody hire me, I might get some! And so that's the bottom line, you at least start somewhere everyone first job everyone's experience."

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "Thank you. And I do agree as far as you know as wanting the best for all of our departments as you said, Ms. Houston. I will just quickly read a little bit of about what I said over is Mr. Johnson's Bio, and the first time we actually had a personal conversation was in our interview...excuse me."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "I'm a let you go ahead and do it."

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "Ok! Just for the benefit of the public."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right because..."

Jaclyn Hotard interrupting stated, "So they know. Mr. Johnson has a Masters' of Science in Leadership and Educational Administration from Capella University and a Bachelor of Science in Human Performance from Texas Southern University. He has been a Physical Education Teacher and Assistant Coach at West St. John High School since 2017 and was an assistant coach of the 2017 State Championship team. He has also served as a basketball, football and track coach. Mr. Johnson brings extensive recreation and organizational and will be an asset to the recreation department. Mr. Johnson is also certified through the State of Louisiana in Health and Physical Education and has a CPR certification. He is a member of the Louisiana High School Coaches Association and the Louisiana Association of Educators. And Mr. Madere I think you touched on something very important, that he has the respect of his students, he has the respect of his team players, and the respect of his staff, and I know that recreation is something that we all talked about during our campaigns. It's something that we're looking forward to a change, and to build a program from the ground up, it's going to take someone who does have the trust and the respect of those people around them, and Mr. Johnson has just that. And I would agree with you as well, you can have you know

credentials you know as the day is long, somethings doesn't work but I would dare to say and put Mr. Johnson's credentials up against anyone, I believe he's a fine individual, I feel confident in my choice with you, I'm not second guessing it for anything and I know that I'm here to support you to support all of the departments, because the betterment of each department is the betterment of St. John the Baptist Parish. And that is the only thing that I'm doing here, and I believe the Council members also, they want to see the best for all of the departments. And so, if you succeed, we do all succeed. Thank you."

Councilman Torres stated, "Mr. Johnson, maybe if I have met you, you know it would've been better circumstances, but I respect Mr. Madere. My three (3) daughters went to Riverside, and that was one of the joys of my life to go across to West St. John and play football and when they came on this side. I think that was a great rivalry, so I think you can from Mr. Madere, we're going to get together and we're going to straighten Garyville park out."

MOTION: Councilman Becnel moved and Councilman Malik seconded the motion to confirm the appointment of Greg Johnson as the Director of Parks & Recreation. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "And I have two (2) actual appointments also, the Chief Administrative Assistant and the Chief Financial Assistant, that don't require confirmation. However, for the purpose of introducing to the Council and to the public, I'll read very quickly. Our Chief Administrative Assistant, Dr. Deshanda Firmin, she's a passionate and energetic individual with a Doctorate Degree from Xavier University of Louisiana New Orleans with extensive, comprehensive business management and operations experience. She has worked with three (3) Fortune 500 pharmaceutical companies in her career as a director of operations and district supervisor with territory distance spanning from CutOff, Metro New Orleans, to Lake Charles. She has overseen annual multi-million-dollar revenue budgets, facilities maintenance, market relations, credentialing, employee relations, as well as patient care and outcomes. Dr. Firmin has also successfully owned and operational businesses in Arlington, TX, and New Orleans, LA, including a Pure Barre fitness facility. She is recognized by her peers as an innovator, leader, and team player with strengths in all aspects of management, as well as developing others. Dr. Firmin has a strong passion for fiscal responsiveness, regulation adherence, and employee relations and engagement. She is also an Institute of Politics (IOP) Fellow of Loyola University of New Orleans. The Chief Financial Assistant, Mr. Robert Figuero will continue his capacity. Mr. Robert Figuero, Jr., the current Chief Financial Officer, is a former United States Marine with an extensive background as a Chief Financial Officer. He is an expert in Budget, Project, and Vendor Relationship Management, Revenue Optimization, and Policy Development and Implementation. He holds an MBA from the University of New Orleans, and a BA in Organizational Information from Tulane University, Mr. Robert Figuero, Jr."

Councilman Madere stated, "Congratulations."

Succession of Office:

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "Thank you. The line of Succession to the Parish President will be the Chief Administrative Assistant followed by the Chief Financial Assistant, the Director of Emergency Preparedness, the Councilmember-at-Large in order of seniority, followed by individual Council Members by seniority in the local governing authority."

Councilwoman Houston stated, "You said by seniority for the successions. If both at-large have the same amount of years."

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "Well hopefully."

Councilwoman Houston stated, "One has...well I don't know how many years they have. I'm just asking for clarity, is that it?"

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "That would be, in fact that would be a question for council secretary. But that would be it's..."

Jackie Landeche, Council Secretary interrupting stated, "Cuz they both do, so it would probably be A before B, cuz they would be exact time."

Councilwoman Houston stated, "Okay."

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "And we can you know specify that in the succession if you'd like that it's, you know A, B, in the order of alphabetical somewhat."

Councilwoman Houston stated, "That's fine, it just avoids confusion."

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "Yeah, hopefully that's never going to happen."

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin seconded the motion to accept the Succession of Office as follows: The line of succession to the Parish President will be the Chief Administrative Officer followed by the Chief Financial Officer, the Director of Emergency Preparedness, Councilmember-at-Large in order of seniority, followed by individual district Council Members by seniority in the local governing authority. The motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA:

ITEMS: Approval of Minutes - December 23rd, 2019, Regular Meeting; Councilman Arcuri - Appointment of Suzanne Cupit to the Economic Development Committee; Councilman Arcuri - Appointment of Nolan Weber to the Parish Wide Water, Sewer and Drainage Board; Councilman Arcuri - Re-appointment of Mark Chapman to the Planning and Zoning Board; Councilman Arcuri - Re-appointment of Greg Loisel to the Zoning Board of Adjustments; Councilman Arcuri - Re-appointment of Kenneth Simoneaux to the Animal Advisory Board; Parade Permit - Krewe of Dage' - Sunday, February 23rd, 2020; Parade Permit - Annual March and Memorial Program in honor of Dr.; Martin Luther King, Jr. and his legacy - Monday, January 20, 2020 - beginning Noon at the Roland Borne, Sr. Memorial Library

MOTION: Councilman Malik moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to approve consent agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes - December 23rd, 2019, Regular Meeting; Councilman Arcuri - Appointment of Suzanne Cupit to the Economic Development Committee; Councilman Arcuri - Appointment of Nolan Weber to the Parish Wide Water, Sewer and Drainage Board; Councilman Arcuri - Re-appointment of Mark Chapman to the Planning and Zoning Board; Councilman Arcuri - Re-appointment of Greg Loisel to the Zoning Board of Adjustments; Councilman Arcuri - Re-appointment of Kenneth Simoneaux to the Animal Advisory Board; Parade Permit - Krewe of Dage' - Sunday, February 23rd, 2020; Parade Permit - Annual March and Memorial Program in honor of Dr.; Martin Luther King, Jr. and his legacy - Monday, January 20, 2020 - beginning Noon at the Roland Borne, Sr. Memorial Library. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:

19-55 (Tabled 12-23-19) An ordinance creating the Department of Drainage of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, providing for the appointment of a Director who shall be responsible for developing, coordinating, and implementing drainage strategies, overseeing all internal and external drainage systems, promote the safety and protection of the Parish critical infrastructure and its residents during all drainage threats including but not limited to tropical systems, tidal increases, wind events and excessive rain (J. Hotard Gaudet)

Ordinance 19-55 will remain on the Table.

19-57 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving a conditional use permit for a museum tour operation on a portion of Farm Lot 31, Woodland Plantation located in the area generally bounded by Cardinal Drive, Hwy. 628, ICRR, and Ideal Ct., containing municipal address 1128 LA Hwy. 628, LaPlace, La, as shown in Exhibit 1 attached (PZR-19-1172) (N. Robottom)

Rene Pastorek stated, *"This request to operate a museum at the Woodland Plantation site was recommended unanimous approval at its December 16th meeting. Due to consistency with the surrounding land uses, character of the areas, and intent and goals of the comprehensive plan, Planning and Zoning recommends approval."*

Councilman Becnel asked, *"Mr. Rene, no one in that area is against it?"*

Rene Pastorek stated, *"No, we have received no objections to this request."*

Councilman Becnel stated, *"I just wanted to make sure."*

Councilwoman Houston stated, *"I'm sorry Mr. Rene. I don't feel very informed, cuz it says here shown in Exhibit 1 attached, and apparently, I don't have an attachment and an exhibit..."*

Jackie Landeche interrupting stated, *"It's in their book. It's in your council booklet."*

Councilwoman Houston stated, *"It's in my council book? Okay, but I didn't I just got this, just."*

Jackie Landeche stated, *"It was emailed to you'll on Friday."*

Councilwoman Houston stated, *"I didn't see it, I'm sorry."*

Councilman Arcuri stated, *"Yes I'm familiar with the property there. In fact, my grandparents a piece of land right next to it, and I know the owner. I believe he wants to turn it into an 1811 Slave Museum and kid-oriented museum, and as far as my family is concerned, we don't have any problems with it. I think It'll be a good addition to the parish it's a historical site, this guy spent a lot of money fixing it up, so it's a plus for the parish."*

Councilman Torres stated, *"From the example of this, I would love to go and look at the property myself. I'm voting on something that just going by Cardinal Street and 624...they got a building there now that the guy has or?"*

Rene Pastorek stated, *"Yes. It's the Woodland Plantation Structure it's a National Landmark. The timing of this request really you know it balls down to*

the Planning Commission in December, introduction at the last council meeting. I apologize to y'all, it's just the nature of the transition."

Councilman Torres stated, "Well I'm a go ahead and vote for it, but I found in the years of the previous administration, I seen people voting on stuff, they and in the Utility Board that I was on, voting on stuff don't harass that and this, but I think we need to get away from that, and I also seen I read somewhere where whatever the DA's office got to approve something. So, it's got to go I think they got 45 days to approve whatever comes up, so don't bring nothing in front of us that, in front of me anyway, that, that's not they didn't go through the DA office at first, you kind a get where I'm going with that?"

Councilwoman Schnyder stated, "Yes, I agree with Mr. Torres. I don't believe on voting on something that I'm not familiar with. But I would like to thank Rene, I did call him had a conversation with him and I did see the agenda coming up, he explained to me what it was all about and I asked that Kurt did, were the residents aware of it, did they have any issues or concerns with it, he told me that they were aware there were no issues with it. I did goggle it, looked for it, I took a ride, passed by it to see where it was at and I am okay with it."

Councilwoman Houston stated, "I commend you Ms. Schnyder for doing your homework and I feel sort of like I did not do mine, and I'm with Mr. Torres. I cannot vote on something that I am not informed about, and I'm not trying to say there's a problem or somebody objected. I just like to be informed. I like to know what I'm voting on. I just think I owe that to the people who put me here, so I would like to make a motion to table this..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "Hold, hold, hold on..."

Councilwoman Houston asked, "What's wrong I'm moving too fast?"

Councilman Madere stated, "Yeah, you're moving forward a little too fast."

Councilwoman Houston stated, "I'm sorry I'm sorry."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay, before we make a motion, I need to make a comment to explain to each, and every Councilperson, especially the new ones that's coming in. Okay, for Mr. Rene coming up here and present this to the Council, that already went before the Planning & Zoning Board. Okay and each, and every one of us have a member on that board, okay? And I think you said it was unanimously approved?"

Rene Pastorek stated, "Yes."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay, so that mean the person that you placed on that board voted for this motion. Okay so, you have the choice of attending these meetings and you also have the choice of communicating with the people who you put on those boards, to get the information you know. So those are the ways you can get that information you know, and you have the right to go to those meetings. Anyone of those meetings are scheduled, you can have your representatives up there, you can also go there and you can be informed. And, also when they present it to us, okay, people in the community have an opportunity to come and object or support these motions. So, and these types of things do not go before the DA, okay, so I wanted to explain that to you."

Councilwoman Houston stated, "Okay Mr. Madere, I appreciate that but this one now, I don't have a person on the Planning & Zoning Board. The person has been

appointed, but it was not my appointee. So, I did not speak with the person in regards, to this. And I appreciate that and I have been attending some of the meetings, to try to catch up to speed on what's going on, it's just this one I didn't know about. I'm sorry, I apologize."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes. Well, but like I said you know it's, you know the best way to handle those types of situations is the person who you appoint, or the one that you leave in place, you should try and reach out to them or they should to reach out to you when something like this is coming up. Okay, and like I said, we do have the opportunity go and sit in on these meetings. You know so, that's how you get your information. And then also, the booklet come out I think a week prior to the meetings, you know so that's another opportunity when you see something on the agenda that you may not be aware of, you could reach out to the person that you put on there and [could not hear statement due to background noise]."

Councilman Wright stated, "Thank you. And really, I think...Mr. Becnel is this in your district?"

Councilman Becnel stated, "Yes, it is."

Councilman Wright stated, "So this is in Division A. I'm going to base my decision off the District Councilman-at-Large representing that area. I'm a little familiar with it, but I know some of the Councilmembers haven't had and some of the privileges yet, but I will yield to the representatives in this area, on what decision moving forward relinquish my vote."

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "Thank you, and I believe Rene touched on a little bit. I believe sit was in the transition, you know things got introduced before new council members had even taken their offices, and so they're always just an information, and I guess gap there. But, it's not time sensitive, so we are open, you know if there's a motion to TABLE, or if you know Mr. Wright said to lean on those council members who represent the area. I'm just letting you know, it's not time sensitive on our part, and I just believe it was one of those that got introduced with the old, the previous council, and now we have a new Council member so that's what happened."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right and Ms. Hotard, Madam President, is absolutely right. That's where the problem ended up, it was just lost in the shuffle, with you know the new people coming in and the other people leaving out. That's the ones who are not here now probably was aware of it, that new more about it. Okay now let's appreciate everything you say, so if you want to make your motion you know to TABLE, you can. Just like Ms. Hotard said, it's not time sensitive, it could be approved at the next Council meeting, it'll give you an opportunity to look into it."

Councilwoman Houston stated, "Well yes, I would like to make a motion to TABLE it, and I would like to speak with Councilman Becnel a little bit more on it. I'm not saying I'm not in favor of it, I'm just not informed."

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Torres seconded the motion to TABLE Ordinance 19-57. The motion passed with Councilmen Arcuri and Malik against.

Councilman Torres stated, "Mr. Madere, would it be okay if I have a question?"

Councilman Madere stated, "Hold on, hold on, hold. You just have to raise your hand, we got to keep it in order."

Councilman Torres stated, "Being you touched on appointments, I think Ms. Hotard talked about the Library Board..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "We can't talk about that that's not on the agenda."

Councilman Torres stated, "You had brought it up about our, our a who is our appointments."

Councilman Madere stated, "No, no, no. That's something related to that particular topic, that do not give us lead way to go and start talking about the Library Board. Okay, so we can't do it, we'll talk about the board [Inaudible]."

Councilman Torres stated, "How bout I say, 'Boards' in general?"

Councilman Madere stated, "No! No! It's not on the agenda. Okay, moving on."

NEW BUSINESS:

Jaclyn Hotard - Resolution - R20-01 - A Resolution naming the check signers for the Parish

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "Administration request authorization to approve Jaclyn Hotard, CFO, and CAO as check signers on the Parish's bank accounts effective January 14, 2020."

Councilwoman Houston stated, "I have a question Ms. Hotard. For clarity I know the Charter says CAO, I'm sorry, CA, CAA and CFA. Just now you said CAO, CFO. For clarity, what is the correct title, what's in the Charter?"

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "I would say that that's the correct one. In the past, we've always used CFO and CAO, I believe it's still on the door, still on all of the documents, so we can use CAO and CFO. But it's in different it's the same thing."

Councilwoman Houston stated, "I just wanted clarity. I see it says CAA, CFA, CFO, just clarity, you know! It's not the way we refer to it in the meetings."

Councilman Madere stated, "Well just refer to it as in the Charter. Cuz the Charter is the official document of the Parish. So, how is it listed in the Charter?"

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "CFA, Chief Financial Assistant."

Councilman Madere stated, "CFA, Chief Financial Assistant."

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "And Chief Administrative Assistant."

Councilman Madere stated, "And the Chief Administrative Assistant. Okay, so now we straight. So, we'll have the sign changed too."

Councilwoman Houston stated, "Thank you."

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "Everything."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right, get it right."

MOTION: Councilman Malik moved and Councilwoman Schnyder seconded the motion to approve Resolution R20-01. A resolution naming a check signer for the Parish of St. John the Baptist; Parish President-Jaclyn Hotard; Chief Administrative Office-Dr. Deshanda Firmin; Chief Financial Officer-Robert Figuero, Jr. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard - Resolution - R20-02 - A Resolution authorizing and approving an agreement between St. John the Baptist Parish and the Louisiana Housing Corporation (LHC) for administration of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) for October 1, 2019 - June 30, 2021, and further authorizing the Parish President to execute all documents related thereto

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "This is an annual requirement to obtain funding through LIHEAP. The allocation for St. John Parish is \$333,713 and Administration recommends approval."

MOTION: Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin moved and Councilman Malik seconded the motion to approve Resolution R20-02. A Resolution authorizing and approving an agreement between St. John the Baptist Parish and the Louisiana Housing Corporation (LHC) for administration of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) for October 1, 2019 - June 30, 2021, and further authorizing the Parish President to execute all documents related thereto. The motion passed unanimously.

DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:

There were no department and engineer reports.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

There was no executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Parish Buildings - Security

Any and all pending legal matters

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

There were no ordinances to be introduced.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "Thank you. I think we've covered a lot of ground, and my address. Again, I just want to thank the public for even coming out today and thank you all for the opportunity. I'd like to thank the Councilmembers for actually placing their name up, you know on the ballot and on offering themselves up to public service. It's a very rewarding experience, also can be challenging at sometimes, so to know that you all put your name on the ballot, and have accepted this challenge, I look forward to working with all of you. And, continuing to just receive your prayers, and support from the community and it means a lot to

me. Thank you."

ADJOURNMENT:

At 1:11 PM, Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

/s/Lennix Madere, Jr.
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
Council Secretary