

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS**  
**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL**  
**TUESDAY, JANUARY 26<sup>TH</sup>, 2010**  
**CHAIR RONNIE SMITH**  
**VICE CHAIR CHERYL MILLET**

The Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session in the Joel McTopy Chambers, LaPlace, Louisiana on Tuesday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2010, at 6:30 PM.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

**PRESENT AT ROLL CALL:** Haston Lewis, Councilman District I, Darnel Usry, Councilwoman District V, Danny Millet, Councilman District II, Steve Lee, Councilman-at-Large, Div. B, Cheryl Millet, Councilwoman District VII, Dale Wolfe, Councilman-at-Large, Div. A, Charles Julien, Councilman District III, Ronnie Smith, Councilman District VI, Jaclyn Hotard, Councilwoman District IV

**ABSENT:** None

Councilwoman Usry led the Prayer. Councilwoman Millet led the Pledge.

Legal Counsel Barry Landry and Jeff Perilloux were present.

**Dale Wolfe/Ronnie Smith - Recognition - 30 years of service or more to the parish - Dora Nevers - 32 years service; Arthur Louis - 33 years of service; Bobby Suggs - 33 years of service; Roy Baloney - 30 years of service**

Councilman Smith and Councilman Wolfe presented Dora Nevers, Arthur Louis, Bobby Suggs and Roy Baloney with a plaque in recognition of 30 or more years of service to the parish.

**Port of South Louisiana - Presentation - \$15,000 grant to the parish for economic development**

Mr. Louis Joseph, with the Port of South Louisiana, presented a grant in the amount of \$15,000 to Pat McTopy for economic development in St. John the Baptist Parish.

**Consent Agenda**

**Items:** Approval of Minutes January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010, Regular Meeting; Permit Approval - Frisco Fest - Bike Ride/5K 1 mile run - March 6-7, 2010

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Millet seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010, Regular Meeting; Permit Approval - Frisco Fest - Bike Ride/5K 1 mile run - March 6-7, 2010. The motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:**

**10-01** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance authorizing the issuance of \$15,000,000 of Public Improvement Bonds, Series ST-2010, of the St.

John the Baptist Parish Sales Tax District; and providing for other matters in connection therewith. (P. McTopy)

**MOTION:** Councilman Julien moved and Councilman Millet seconded the motion to accept Ordinance 10-01. The motion passed with Councilman Lee absent.

Hugh Martin stated, *"This ordinance actually provides for the issuance of bonds to bear the interest rates which we just read out and also to name the purchaser as Morgan Keegan & Co. So we would need now to make a motion to amend the ordinance as introduced which is a blank for that and to name the purchaser as Morgan Keegan & Co. at the average rate bid by them at 3.968%."*

**MOTION:** Councilman Lewis moved and Councilman Wolfe seconded the motion to adopt Ordinance 10-01 with the amendment to include the name of name Morgan Keegan & Company Inc. as purchaser of the bonds at 3.968%. The motion passed with Councilman Lee absent.

**10-02** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance ratifying and confirming the levy of the one percent (1%) sales and use tax currently being levied and collected in the St. John the Baptist Sales Tax District.  
(P. McTopy)

Hugh Martin stated, *"This is simply a housekeeping ordinance. As you may recall in the 90's we amended the sales tax to permit that the funds could be used for road construction as well as for sewer construction and maintenance. This ordinance just ratifies that the proceeds from the tax can be used for that purpose."*

**MOTION:** Councilman Millet moved and Councilman Julien seconded the motion to accept Ordinance 10-02. The motion passed with Councilman Lee absent.

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:**

**10-03** An ordinance for Preliminary/Conditional approval of a proposed RV Park located on Lot C-2, Peavine Rd., LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (PZ-09-13) (P. McTopy)

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Councilman Lee stated, *"At 6:00 PM this evening the finance committee met. I would ask that we get a motion by my fellow council members to endorse such actions taken."*

**MOTION:** Councilman Lewis moved and Councilwoman Millet seconded the motion to accept the recommendation of the finance committee. The committee approved to take the bids for the Concrete, Sidewalks & Driveways Parishwide removal and replacement under advisement, approved to award the bid for the Reserve Sewerage Booster Pump station to Guy Hopkins at a cost of \$913,900.00, approved to grant administration authorization to seek proposals for Parish property, general liability and casualty insurance, approved to grant administration authorization to advertise for RFP's for Phase IV of the Land Use Plan as part of the Louisiana Recovery Authority Funding, approved to authorize administration to enter into a one month rental agreement for a marsh buggy for drainage excavation work at the Godchaux, Vicknair and

Lasseigne Canals, approved to grant administration authorization to sign an agreement with Meyers Engineers for engineering & design services for Phase II of multi-purpose trail, approved to authorize administration to sign task order with Beck Disaster Recovery Services for environmental review services for projects funded with Gustav/Ike recovery dollars, approved to grant administration authorization to sign an agreement with the State of Louisiana in connection to the Local Government Assistance Program grant, approved to grant administration authorization to sign an agreement with the State of Louisiana in connection to the Community Water Enrichment grant, and approved to grant administration authorization to bid equipment for Duck Ice, Inc. The motion passed unanimously.

**DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:**

**Dale Wolfe - Personnel Matters**

There were no personnel matters at this time.

**Rick Shread - Discussion relative to the Homewood Drainage area in relation to the Drainage Master Plan**

Rick Shread, Shread-Kurkendall, stated, "Thank you for inviting us here tonight to discuss the Homewood Drainage situation. It gives us an opportunity to present the history of this project to the council. I know a number of council members are relatively new so as a result this provides us with a good opportunity to bring you up to speed and explain to you why the parish is in the situation that we are in Homewood and hopefully we will be able to answer most of the questions that you all have had. I wanted to let you all know the history behind the Reserve Relief Canal pump station. The parish had some funding available back in probably 2000, bond issue money and there were a number of projects that were constructed at that time. Reserve Relief Canal pump station being one of them. At the time the master plan wasn't 100% complete. We were still in the process of being finalized. In fact we didn't turn the drainage plan over to the parish until I think January of 2002. The Reserve Relief Canal pump station was bid and awarded in 2001 so the design of that had actually been done prior to completion of the master plan. However when the design was done for the Reserve Relief Canal pump station we identified at that time that based on the drainage area that the pumping requirements were somewhere right at 200 cfs per minute. Now the pump station that was actually constructed at Reserve Relief Canal pump station is 100 cfs. It is half of the capacity that was recommended. The reason for that of course is the same reason that we have all the time. There wasn't enough money to do everything that the parish wanted to do. By utilizing the one pump station, we were able to use the existing 6x6 box culvert that is underneath the Airline Hwy. In order to add the second pump, obviously we would have doubled the costs of the pump station but in addition to that we have to pay to put a jack and bore, a 72 inch culvert under the Airline otherwise you won't be able to service the pump. You will starve the pump because there is not enough capacity to get the water under the Airline. So on the basis of the recommendations that we made in 2000 the decision was made by the parish to do the best they could with the available funds. By that I mean we built a pump station with 100 cfs capacity which was half of what was really required but the consensus was it was better than nothing. Now we complete the master plan let's say a year later, Ronnie Smith I talked to last week had

questions about well Rick why don't we just implement what was in the master plan, we don't need anymore studies. I agree we don't need anymore studies. We are not asking that a study be done. We came prepared tonight with recommendations that I will get into in a few minutes. However we went back, I did specifically, went back and looked at the master plan and the recommendations that were made for the Homewood area and basically what was recommended at that time was to clean the ditch, the so called Homewood ditch and to replace or actually add an additional culvert under the KCS Railroad tracks so that the area south of the KCS Railroad could get quicker to the pump station. In addition we would clean the ditch between the railroad tracks, the KCS and ICG tracks. Now in the master plan it was recommended that we also put an additional culvert under Inez Street and Alvin Street which were done in order to promote the drainage. Well we ran out of money by the time we got to the ICG track. The general thinking was let's do the down stream first and work our way back, which is the logical way to do it so you don't have any bottle necks. So in answer to the question why didn't we implement the master plan to a large degree we did, there were only a few things that were not completed. This leads you to the next logical question. Well if we did what was in the master plan how come we're still flooding? There are two parts to that. The first one is the capacity of the Reserve Relief Canal pump station. As I mentioned earlier it is only half of what was required based on a twenty-five year storm for the drainage area. So that is our first recommendation and I will get into more detail on that in a minute. Basically we are recommending that we put the second pump at the Reserve Relief Canal and put an additional culvert under the Airline in addition to some other minor drainage improvements where it all connects right that at the box culvert. That will provide the drainage or the pumping capacity I should say for the drainage area. Now in answer to the question, well why do we still have a problem with the flow coming into Homewood? I have a little bit of a presentation here. I've got an aerial that I am going to use and we are passing out 11x17's to the council members because to be honest with you unless you have x-ray vision you are not going to be able to read this. I will turn it towards the audience so hopefully they can see it better. As you can see at the top you have US 61, you have orange and blue lines that reflects culverts and you see the Reserve Relief Canal pump station is the little white structure. Homewood of course runs down here. You have Inez and Alvin and then you have the KCS tracks. Then you have the second portion back here. Now these orange dotted lines represent the drainage area that we are proposing be included in the improvements to the Reserve Relief Canal. Based on a twenty-five year storm the drainage area that we show and to be honest with you we didn't get it all the way to the KCS tracks and beyond but the intention is to pick up the drainage flow all the way, not only to the end of Homewood but under the ICG track and under E. 13<sup>th</sup> all the way to the River Road. Now the question is asked well why did we flood when we had the heavy rain falls in December. The answer is if you look at the flow along Airline Hwy south of Airline you have some blue arrows and what is supposed to happen based on the inverts of the drainage ditches is let's say for example along this area around Steven Drive everything west of that is supposed to run to Trosclair Canal and this area coming from Central Avenue is running to Trosclair Canal. Well everything from Steven Drive going east runs to Reserve Relief Canal pump station and everything from Ski Lane running west runs to Reserve Relief Canal pump station. Now just a point of interest, there isn't a culvert under Ski Lane anymore. I don't know if there ever was one. The flow east of Ski

Lane runs to E. 22<sup>nd</sup> so that is outside of the drainage area. Essentially Ski Lane acts as a barrier if you will to identify that drainage area. Now the arrows reflect the drainage situation under what you would call a normal rain fall. If you went out there right now and looked at Central Avenue you could see the water running from Central Avenue down the ditch to Trosclair Canal and it will run from Steven Drive that way as well. The problem is when you have a rain fall like you had in December your ditches are full. They are up to the top. At that point it doesn't matter what the bottom of the ditch is sloped. What matters is the water surface elevation. If you have ditches that are full of water and you turn the pump on at Reserve Relief Canal and you start lowering the water in Homewood and lowering the water along the Airline in this area guess what's going to happen? This water that is in the ditch at Trosclair Canal it is going to seek the easiest way out, the lowest level and if it is easier for that water to come to this pump station than it is to go here by gravity than it is going to go to the pump station. So the problem you have is two fold. Number one the pump station isn't sized properly and that needs to be addressed and number two this flow from Trosclair that under heavy rainfalls is now flowing to Reserve Relief Canal pump station. It needs to be handled in the Trosclair Canal. This was a recommendation that came from administration but we concur with it. We are proposing that somewhere along the Trosclair Canal north of the Airline an additional pump station, a smaller pump station because the ditch isn't nearly as big be put in the canal so that the flow that is coming from Trosclair Canal. But in addition the flow coming from Central Avenue, Steven Drive that flow goes into Trosclair Canal and it eliminates additional flow from outside the drainage area from getting into the Reserve relief canal pump station. So that in a nutshell is the reasoning if you will or the justification for why you still have a flooding problem. The pump station capacity is not adequate and you have flow from outside the drainage area that is getting into the system. Now Pat asked us to prepare some preliminary project budgets which are being distributed to you. Basically these are preliminary estimates but you are looking at a project budget for the Reserve Relief Canal pump station of somewhere right at a million dollars, just a little less nine hundred and seventy one thousand. What that will do is first of all we have got to move the pump station back. Buddy told me a little earlier that we are getting ready to do some boat launch projects and so this location is not written in stone but we are going to work with administration to find out exactly where the boat launch is but we want to try to move that pump station as far north as we can without getting into the boat launch obviously so that we can provide as much sump as we possibly have available or retention pond because when you put two pumps in there you are going to be pulling that water pretty quickly and the larger the sump you have the more efficient your system is. Number two is that we have to add a second culvert under the Airline, a six foot diameter culvert. It would not make good sense to build a pump station without providing a way for the water to get there. So that is an important part of this project. There are some minor drainage improvements, as I mentioned earlier where the culvert will tie into there is an existing catch basin of great inlet here and it has to be reconstructed because you have two pipes rather than one and that is included as well. That pretty much covers the improvements for the Reserve Relief Canal pump station. Now the second estimate, as I mentioned a little earlier, is for the Trosclair Canal. It is right at four hundred and eleven thousand and basically what we are doing there is cleaning the canal. As everybody knows there is a little roadway

that runs along the west side of the canal I guess it is there for maintenance purposes. Administration had requested that we try to put the pump station as far in the back or as far north as we could but that is certainly not written in stone. We will put it wherever you want us to. It will be in the canal. We are basically picking up the water in Trosclair Canal from south of the Airline and discharging it into the swamp on the north side of the pump station. As I mentioned a little earlier this will ensure that the flow that presently is going to the Reserve Relief Canal pump station will in fact go down the Trosclair Canal which should help alleviate the drainage problems in Homewood as well. So I know I went real quick but if anyone has any questions I will certainly be glad to answer them."

Councilman Millet asked, "From the Steven's Canal and that Ski's Canal you are showing after adding that six foot culvert going underneath to the Reserve Relief Canal are you going to have enough water to pump? Are you sure? Because I know it drains it now."

Rick Shread stated, "Yes. It drains it unless you have a heavy rain fall and that is what we are trying to avoid here. I think in fact we had a meeting with administration and one of the comments that came up continually was that it took twenty-four hours for the pump to pump down the system when we had the heavy rain fall but then when the pump would go off you had water backing up into Homewood. This is going to ensure that that doesn't happen. It takes every bit of that for a twenty-five year storm."

Councilman Millet stated, "I also know that most of the water coming from Central Avenue is going to Reserve Canal right now. So you are adding another pump station in back of Trosclair Canal that would help move that water from Central to the Trosclair Canal instead of the Reserve Relief Canal?"

Rick Shread stated, "That is correct."

Councilman Lewis asked, "Rick knowing what I see on the West Bank sometimes at Lake Des Allmends when that wind reverses in those canals and it blows in. What happens then?"

Rick Shread stated, "Well what we would have to do is we will put the pump station in all likelihood in the canal and there will be a levee very similar in fact to what was done at Reserve Relief Canal. What we will do is so when the water backs up in that canal you build your pump station up enough and you in fact have a levee system, it isn't really a levee system, but it is a road but it is probably a couple of feet higher than the surrounding ground. What that will do is that will prevent a recirculation problem which is what you are talking about."

Councilman Julien asked, "The question that I have is concerning not only Homewood but how would the solution that you have come with and I want to thank you for coming to night but how would that solution help alleviate let's say Za Montz where they have drainage back up from around the Za Montz pond, 29<sup>th</sup> Street I am not sure if you are familiar with that area. When we are looking at that do we have a situation where the culverts do they something blocking the culverts off so that the water just doesn't, when you start pumping it, doesn't just come around and then become a whirlpool so to speak and just come back in. Do you have anything in place that would stop that water from coming

back?"

Rick Shread stated, "So then it is east of 22<sup>nd</sup>? In answer to your question no it will have no bearing on this whatsoever and the reason is as I mentioned a little earlier. If the Ski Lane, there is no culvert there and this roadway acts as a natural berm to some degree. So any flow east of Ski Lane is going to run towards E. 22<sup>nd</sup> and we don't show it here but there is a couple of culverts under the Airline at E. 22<sup>nd</sup> that picks up that flow. So the improvements that are recommended for Homewood, the pump station, etc. I don't see that as having any affect, positive or negative, on the area you are talking about. To be honest with you I haven't really looked at that in any great detail. I was under the impression that we were just going to talk about Homewood. I would be glad to look at it for you and give you a call."

Councilman Julien stated, "I think because I called the Homewood name I think that everybody assumes that I am just talking about that one area. I am talking about within a mile or two miles from that area east and west, is what I am talking about in terms of drainage."

Rick Shread stated, "I will be glad to look into that for you and give you a call and tell you what I find. I am just not prepared to discuss it tonight."

Councilman Julien asked, "The other thing. The culverts coming from Homewood do they get larger as they are coming from the back of Homewood or do they get smaller?"

Rick Shread stated, "Yes. The culverts that are in the canal or the ditch whether it be at KCS, Inez or Alvin they all increase in size. I couldn't tell you off the top of my head what they are but we did add one at Inez, Alvin and at the KCS tracks to get the flow from south of the KCS tracks to the pump station quicker."

Councilman Julien asked, "So what makes the pump cut off? If we are flooding why would that pump stop?"

Rick Shread stated, "The logical reason is that the pump off elevation may not be low enough. We have to be careful there because and we will be glad to work with the department of public works but those pump off elevations are set at such that you don't cause the pump to capitate. All these pumps have a minimum submergence. In other words it has to be under the water by two or three feet and then of course they have a minimal clearance under it as well. So when we set the elevation for the pump off it is based on getting it as low as we can without getting into a capitation problem. We haven't checked it in years; I will be honest with you. Sometimes and I am not saying that this happened but sometimes people go in and during maintenance or whatever maybe have changed it either higher or lower. We will be glad to send a survey crew down and get a couple of shots. We have the plans in the office so we know what the original plan was to see if it is working the way it is supposed to."

Councilman Julien asked, "So as you are saying the culverts we would have to put under the Airline, wouldn't we have to get a permit from the state for that?"

Rick Shread stated, "Yes."

Councilman Julien asked, "So when we are talking about running another culvert, how long approximately would we be looking at?"

Rick Shread stated, "Well during the design process you are probably looking at sixty days. I would say the permit application is generally submitted during the design phase once we get elevations, sketches and what not and we know what we are doing we send it to them. The highway department is actually pretty good about stuff like that as long as you do what they want you to do from the get go sixty days isn't unreasonable with the highway department. I don't look at that being a major problem. Now we do have to go to the Corp and DNR and we are hopeful that because in my opinion certainly Reserve Relief Canal we are looking at minimal wetlands if any at all but you still have to go through the process. You have to submit the permit application. They have to come back and tell you that you don't need a permit."

Councilman Julien asked, "So I ask administration approximately how long would it be before we intend to start working on the solution for that particular area?"

Pat McTopy, Acting Parish President, stated, "We have been working on the solution since December. Tonight is another step. We are taking steps everyday, every week. Tonight is a big step. I have only been provided those cost estimates just as you have tonight. We are going to do everything we can to fit them where we can finance them. Understand our first priority on this drainage is what the voters approved. When they voted yes on that ballot proposition for drainage they voted for three specific areas. They voted for the Riverlands area which you all have already approved the engineering contract to do that work. They approved the St. Peter's area. You have like wise authorized signing a design contract for that work and finally they approved the St. Joan of Arc area which I take to be synonymous with the Persimmon and Fruit Street and we are going to be presenting a task order to do that design work at probably the next meeting. There were two other items that the voters approved cleaning all the major drainage canals and some work on the hurricane protection levee. Those are the top priorities that we have. Now that doesn't mean to imply that Homewood isn't a priority, it is. When the voters pulled that lever they in effect approved those projects that I listed. We have a great team. The council has been working with us in a great fashion. The administration has a great team and I think together we can solve the problem. For me to tell you here tonight that we have a million and a half dollars to sign a contract tomorrow to do the design work and construction I can't tell you that. I can commit to the council that we are going to work to pull funds together and we will have an answer perhaps by the next meeting."

Councilman Julien stated, "I'm almost at a lost for words. What I will say is as long as we are working in good faith I ask you to come back to the next meeting and let us know what other steps have been taken towards resolving the problem. I want to thank you Mr. Shread for coming this evening but this is a problem that we are trying to resolve."

Councilman Wolfe stated, "Charles I like all the things you said and maybe we can, along with Danny, have a meeting with administration and go over the finances then we will better understand what is going on."

Councilman Smith asked, "I notice that you have a required new pump, item number five, is that a pump that is required to be cut on by say someone from public works or is that a pump that cuts on automatically?"

Rick Shread stated, "When we did the original construction I think it was set up for automatic operation. You can do it either way manual or automatic. I don't know how public works is running it to be honest with you."

Clifford Bailey, Director of Public Works, stated, "Automatic."

Councilman Smith stated, "I was just wondering if there was a cost difference between an automatic, I am sure there is, and a manual pump that we would have to cut on."

Rick Shread stated, "It isn't as much as you would think though around five or ten thousand dollars. I think you are quite honestly better off with an automatic."

Councilman Smith stated, "That was my concern."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "The new pump that is scheduled for that area, is it going to be the other half of the capacity needed or is it going to be the full two hundred? The reason I am asking is that if we are getting one that is a full two hundred maybe that pump can be used somewhere else if it is going to cover that."

Rick Shread stated, "No. We are just going to add one pump of the same size that is out there and with the existing one it will bring it to the two hundred that is needed."

Councilman Smith asked, "Would it make a difference if we moved that pump to the back and added a two hundred pump there? I just don't know would that be a cost difference or possibly reduce the cost of the entire project."

Rick Shread stated, "Well we looked at that Ronnie and the problem is that the pump that we need at Trosclair Canal is significantly smaller than what you would need at Reserve Relief."

Councilman Smith stated, "I understand."

#### **Charles Julien/Rick Shread - Master Drainage Contract**

This item was removed from the agenda.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

#### **Dale Wolfe - (Carry Over) Override Planning & Zoning and grant a trailer placement to Dwanda Perrilloux, 130 W. 19<sup>th</sup> Street, Reserve, LA 70084**

Councilman Wolfe stated, "I would like to make a motion to override planning and zoning and grant a trailer placement to Mrs. Perrilloux."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "Just my normal comment, I follow planning

*and zonings rulings. It is nothing against Mrs. Dwanda or Mr. Wolfe. I just feel like we have an advisory committee and I tend to follow them because they are following our ordinances."*

Councilman Wolfe stated, "I love you anyways."

**MOTION:** Councilman Wolfe moved and Councilman Millet seconded the motion to Override Planning & Zoning and grant a trailer placement to Dwanda Perrilloux, 130 W. 19<sup>th</sup> Street, Reserve, LA 70084. The motion passed with 6 yeas, 1 nea (Cheryl Millet) and 2 absent (Lee & Usry).

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Paul Oncale - LNO - A letter of no objection for a proposed ship dock in Mt. Airy, LA**

Paul Oncale stated, "The parish received a letter from Richard Wright and Associates representing Safeland Storage for a proposed ship dock in Mt. Airy, Louisiana. This ship dock is for a potentially large economic development project in Mt. Airy. After reviewing it the administration recommends that this council approve this letter of no objection."

**MOTION:** Councilman Millet moved and Councilman Wolfe seconded the motion to approve a Letter of No Objection, LNO for a proposed ship dock in Mt. Airy, LA. The motion passed with Councilwoman Usry and Councilman Lee absent.

**Buddy Boe - Resolution - R10-02 - A resolution authorizing the execution of a grant management contract with South Central Planning and Development Commission (SCPDC)**

Buddy Boe stated, "At the last meeting you approved for the parish to apply for a \$700,000.00 housing rehabilitation grant. This resolution will name South Central Planning and Development Commission as the grant management firm to administer the grant and the program if awarded. All cost associated with this contract will be paid for by the grant and no cost will be incurred unless the grant is awarded."

**MOTION:** Councilman Julien moved and Councilman Lewis seconded the motion to approve Resolution R10-02. A resolution authorizing the execution of the appropriate contract with South Central Planning and Development Commission (SCPDC) **WHEREAS**, completion of the one 2010-2011 LCDBG Housing Rehabilitation/Reconstruction application and implementation of the project, if funded, require professional administrative services and rehabilitation (construction) administration for compliance with applicable federal and state regulations; and, **WHEREAS**, South Central Planning and Development Commission has the technical capabilities to perform the needed services in the preparation and administration of the Program; and, **WHEREAS**, the Commission has an ongoing relationship with the Parish staff on these and other grant programs and is involved in efforts to improve opportunities for funding of public infrastructure in the region it serves, **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, convened in regular session on January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2010, that authorization is hereby granted to execute the appropriate contract with South Central Planning and Development Commission (SCPDC) to perform administrative services in the preparation of the 2010-2011

LCDBG application, and to serve as grant administrator and rehabilitation (construction) administration in the event funding is awarded for the following services: an amount not to exceed \$2,500 for preparation of the surveying, \$35,000 for performance of administrative services and to serve as grant administrator, \$4,000 per household unit for the performance of rehabilitation/reconstruction administration, and \$1,000 per unit for the performance of spot rehabilitation administration, in the event funding is awarded. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a certified copy of this resolution be sent to South Central Planning and Development Commission, Attn: Ms. Martha Cazaubon at P.O. Box 1870, Gray, LA 70359. The motion passed with Councilwoman Usry and Councilman Lee absent.

**Pat McTopy/Hugh Martin - Resolution - R10-03 - A resolution providing for the opening and tabulation of the sealed and electronic bids received for the purchase of \$15,000,000 of Public Improvement Bonds, Series ST-2010 of the St. John the Baptist Parish Sales Tax District**

Hugh Martin, Bond Attorney, stated, "As you know you have advertised for receipt of bids tonight. We have distributed an official statement through out the country on the internet and also solicited bids on behalf of the council and the parish administration we applied for a rating from Standard & Poor's and had a conference call with them, administration and myself and we are happy to report that the bond rating of the parish on this bond issue has been increased. The last rating that we had for a general obligation bond, which is actually a higher credit risk than this bond, was an A+. This particular bond issue which is a lower credit but because of the good financial strength of the parish you got a double A- rating, which is an excellent rating there are not many of those in the state now. So you should be complimented. As a result of that we received five bids for the purchase of your bonds. The five bids were as follows: Duncan Williams Inc. bid 4.233%; Cruise and Associates bid 4.21%; Robert W. Brad and Company bid 4.10%; JPMorgan Security Inc. bid 3.998%; and Morgan Keegan and Company Inc. bid 3.968%. They are all good rates. In making our projections and calculations to show that we could afford this bond issue we used a conservative interest rate of 5% to be sure that if something bad happened we could still sell the bond but luckily because of your rating and the economy and the parish we got this excellent bid."

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Julien seconded the motion to approve Resolution R10-03. A resolution providing for the tabulation and opening of the sealed or electronic bids received for the purchase of Fifteen Million Dollars (\$15,000,000) of Public Improvement Bonds, Series ST-2010 of the St. John the Baptist Parish Sales Tax District, approving the Official Notice of Bond Sale and Official Statement in connection therewith, and authorizing the President and the Secretary of the Parish Council to sign copies thereof as evidence of the approval thereof. BE IT RESOLVED by the Parish Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, acting as the governing authority of the St. John the Baptist Parish Sales Tax District that: SECTION 1. This Parish Council now proceed in open and public session to tabulate the sealed or electronic bids received for the purchase of Fifteen Million Dollars (\$15,000,000) of Public Improvement Bonds, Series ST-2010 (the ABonds@) of the St. John the Baptist Parish Sales

Tax District (the AIssuer@), authorized and duly advertised for sale by virtue of a resolution adopted on December 8, 2009. The motion passed with Councilman Lee absent.

**Pat McTopy/Hugh Martin - Resolution - R10-04 - A resolution accepting the best bid received for the purchase of \$15,000,000 of Public Improvement Bonds, Series ST-2010 of the St. John the Baptist Parish Sales Tax District**

Hugh Martin stated, "The best bid would be that of Morgan Keegan & Company Inc. with an interest rate bid of 3.968%."

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Millet seconded the motion to accept Resolution - R10-04 - A resolution accepting the best bid received for the purchase of \$15,000,000 of Public Improvement Bonds, Series ST-2010 of the St. John the Baptist Parish Sales District. The motion passed with Councilman Lee absent.

**CORRESPONDENCE/COUNCIL BRIEFS**

Councilman Wolfe stated, "I really want to thank the people that stood by me during the death of my sister plus I had a house fire and people were very very kind and I want to thank them. Thank you."

Councilman Julien stated, "I would like to thank Reverend Behring and congratulate him for the celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King's Birthday. We had a good march. I just want to encourage the community to keep up the good work."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "I would like administration to and this has come it was something brought up to me today. The lift station at Fairway and the Lakes Subdivision is smelling again. I know we have used numerous attempts to try and get this thing resolved but obviously whatever we are doing isn't working. So we need to make sure that we either get someone else to look at this and figure out how to make it go because it is just getting ridiculous now. Thank you."

**PRESIDENT'S REMARKS**

Pat McTopy stated, "We spent a little time tonight on the Homewood situation. It is a very important situation. It affects not only the people in Homewood but a much larger area in Reserve beyond Homewood. I want to recap tonight briefly what we accomplish working together as a team. Tonight we approved the sewer plant expansion something that the parish has been working on for a number of years. We finally made some progress on that in terms of getting the bonds done. We worked on drainage proposals. We worked on the final Phase IV of the land use plan. We got approval to design the multi-use path on the Mississippi River levee Phase II. We approved the construction contract for the sewer pump station from Reserve to the treatment plant in LaPlace. We approved a grant contract for the water towers and a grant contract for the expansion of the Human Services office and finally we got a report from Mr. Hugh Martin on our improved bond rating which is very important. I would like to thank our finance department for working so hard in achieving that goal. Thank you."

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Millet seconded the motion to go into executive session. The motion passed with Councilman

Lee absent.

Councilwoman Hotard excused herself from the meeting at this time.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Dale Wolfe - Personnel Matters

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

Saterlee vs. St. John the Baptist Parish #55439

Any and all pending legal matters

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilwoman Usry seconded the motion to go back into regular session. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Lee absent.

There was no action taken as a result of the executive session.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

At 7:28 PM, Councilman Millet moved and Councilman Julien seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Lee absent.

/s/Ronnie Smith  
COUNCIL CHAIR

/s/Jackie Landeche  
Council Secretary