

**DUE TO WEATHER CONDITIONS THE FINANCE & COUNCIL AGENDA'S WERE COMBINED
AND DEALT WITH AT ONE MEETING**

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31ST, 2014

CHAIR MARVIN PERRILLOUX

VICE CHAIR MICHAEL WRIGHT

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 Friday, January 31st, 2014, at 10:00 AM.

CALL TO ORDER:

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

ABSENT: Jaclyn Hotard and Michael Wright

Councilman Gauff led the Prayer. Councilman Madere led the Pledge.

Legal Counsel Billy O'Regan and Carl Butler were present.

Kia Price - Bid Award - Authorization to award a contract for Three Sewer Force Main Extensions to Mixson Utility Service, LLC of Baton Rouge, LA

Kia Price, Purchasing Director, stated, "Administration requests authorization to award this contract to the low bidder, Mixson Utility Service, LLC, in the amount of \$246,520.00. Two of the force mains are located in River Forest and one is near Robin Street."

MOTION: Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Gauff seconded the motion to grant administration authorization to award the contract for Three Sewer Force Main Extensions to Mixson Utility Service, LLC in the amount of \$246,520.00. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Wright absent.

Randy Vincent - Authorization to amend the contract with Burk-Kleinpeter, Inc. for the Peavine Boat Launch repairs and improvements project

Randy Vincent, CAO, stated, "This amendment is for permit acquisition through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Natural Resources. It is for a not to exceed amount \$15,108.01 and will be based on an hourly rate. The cost is covered by the grant."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "This is to complete the Peavine Boat Launch get the permit and continue on is this for dredging or is this for the rebuilding of it or which one is it?"

Randy Vincent stated, "It is actually for the extension of the dock, lighting and some landscaping."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "This is on land is it not in the water?"

Randy Vincent stated, "Yes some of it is on land but your extension will obviously affect the water."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "The jetty? Are you talking about the jetty that goes out into the Lake? This is to fix that so we won't have any more issues?"

Randy Vincent stated, "That is correct."

MOTION: Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Gauff seconded the motion to grant administration authorization to amend the contract with Burk-Kleinpeter, Inc. for the Peavine Boat Launch repairs and improvements project with a not to exceed amount of \$15,108.01 and will be based on an hourly rate. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Wright absent.

Stacey Cador - Authorization to award the Civil Defense Commercial Property Insurance

Stacey Cador, Director of Human Resources, stated, "This renewal is for Commercial Property Insurance with Great Lakes Reinsurance through Riverlands Insurance Services, Inc. The annual premium of \$2,283.75 will be paid by Public Safety."

MOTION: Councilman Wilson moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to grant administration authorization to award the Civil Defense Commercial Property Insurance with Great Lakes Reinsurance through Riverlands Insurance Services, Inc. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Wright absent.

Consent Agenda

Items: Approval of Minutes - January 14th, 2014, Regular Meeting; Permit Approval - Parade Permit - Krewe DuMonde - 3/2/14 beginning at 11:00 AM in LaPlace

MOTION: Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda consisting of Approval of Minutes - January 14th, 2014, Regular Meeting; Permit Approval - Parade Permit - Krewe DuMonde - 3/2/14 beginning at 11:00 AM in LaPlace. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Wright absent.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:

There were no ordinances at this time.

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "At this time I would like to get a motion to table all of the items up to New Business until the next council meeting."

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Millet seconded the motion to table all of the items up to New Business until the next council meeting. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Wright absent.

DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:

Jaclyn Hotard - (Carry Over 12-23-13) Code Enforcement - Personnel Matters

Lennix Madere - (Carry Over 12-23-13) Water Bill issues

Lucien Gauff - Update on Ferry/RFP Process

Lucien Gauff - Update on CDBG funding - Home mitigation

OLD BUSINESS:

Ranney Wilson - Drainage and Drainage equipment

NEW BUSINESS:

Hugh Martin - Resolution - R14-01 - A resolution giving preliminary approval to the issuance of not exceeding Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,00) of Sales Tax Bonds of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana; providing certain terms of said bonds; making application to the State Bond Commission for approval of said Bonds; and providing for other matters in connection therewith

Hugh Martin, Bond Attorney, stated, "This resolution is to begin financing for the fire station improvements in the LaPlace area. This resolution applies to the state bond commission for authority to fund a quarter of the quarter cents sales tax voted on in 1984 for fire protection services in connection with the expansion or construction of other fire stations and this is a continuation of that same process and also provides for the employment of bond counsel and for financial advisors."

MOTION: Councilman Smith moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Resolution R14-01. A resolution giving preliminary approval to the issuance of not exceeding Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,00) of Sales Tax Bonds of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana; providing certain terms of said bonds; making application to the State Bond Commission for approval of said Bonds; and providing for other matters in connection therewith. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Wright absent.

Hugh Martin - Resolution - R14-02 - A resolution providing for the employment of investment banker/underwriter and Financial Advisor in connection with the issuance by the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, of not exceeding Thirty Million Dollars(\$30,000,000) of General Obligation Bonds

Hugh Martin stated, "This resolution deals with the 30 million dollars of bonds recently approved by the voters of the parish for various improvements to be constructed. These bonds are payable from existing advalorum taxes there will be no tax increase. The resolution provides for the employment of the financial advisor under writers to go forward with the sale of these bonds assuming you approve this resolution we will conduct a meeting and take a look at the market which so far looks very good and we are hoping to see very quickly what the sale response

is and we hope to be back to you at the next meeting to give you an actual time schedule of what we think could be met to provide these funds."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Do you work with this company?"

Hugh Martin stated, "We work with various under writers and we have worked with them in the past and the parish has worked with them in the past. They are a regional firm not only in Louisiana but in the surrounding states and so forth and they have worked in the past for the parish."

Councilman Snyder asked, "So we didn't give anyone else an opportunity to come in and be a part of this? This was recommended by you Mr. Hugh?"

Hugh Martin stated, "Yes we have worked with them in the past and recommend them and they are very competent and there was a presentation made by the administration."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Mr. Snyder actually they have been working with us over all of the bond refinancing and actually participated in our meeting on the 30 million dollar bond issue. Stevens, the under writer, has done work previously for the parish and one of our residents is actually employed by them and has done this work for us. They have been satisfactory, easy to work with and we have gotten really good performance from them so when this opportunity came up and a recommendation was made we elected to move forward with what was previously done."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well if you and Mr. Hugh recommend them I have no problem with that part of it but I do have a problem with the fact that he was brought on and we just have to approve it and I think it should have been done differently. I really do."

MOTION: Councilman Smith moved and Councilman Wilson seconded the motion to approve Resolution R14-02. A resolution providing for the employment of investment banker/underwriter and Financial Advisor in connection with the issuance by the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, of not exceeding Thirty Million Dollars(\$30,000,000) of General Obligation Bonds. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Wright absent.

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

Parish Buildings - Security

Abandoned Vehicles

Code Enforcement - Personnel matters

Water bill issues

Lennix Madere - St. John the Baptist Parish vs. Myrtle F. Victor, Roba Inc., and Adair Asset Management, LLC, 40th JDC, #63827

St. John the Baptist Parish vs. Roussel Welding and Metal Works, Inc., et al. Case No. 64187 Div. B

Any and all pending legal matters

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

There were no ordinances to be introduced at this time.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Natalie Robottom stated, "Good morning - I'm happy to see that everyone made it through the Winter Storm unharmed. I want to thank our residents for heeding the advice to stay indoors and off the road for their safety. This was a great relief to those of us managing the emergency and helped to avoid serious traffic accidents and other dangerous conditions. As weather conditions worsened, our Public Works and Utilities crews braved the weather to keep our roadways clear of ice and maintain water and waste water services. Residents' cooperation with water conservation measures and the hard work of our utilities department prevented a loss of water pressure and water as temperatures dropped. A thank you to my staff in the Emergency Operations Center, specifically Communications, Public Safety, Utilities, Public Works, and the Fire Department who worked tirelessly over the past 3 days. Your hard work and long hours have not gone unnoticed. I'd also like to thank our partners in the Sheriff's Office, State Police, DOTD and Entergy who worked through the storm to ensure the safety of residents and those traveling through our Parish. I am happy to announce the Senate passed the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act in a 67-32 vote Thursday afternoon. This delays implementation of Biggert-Waters for 4 years. This was a team effort advanced by the Coalition for Sustainable Flood Insurance and other local and state officials. This is a great victory for our Parish, the state and the country, but more hard work is needed to gain support in the House of Representatives. Please contact Congressmen Bill Cassidy and Cedric Richmond to request their support of the 4 year delay. Contact information is available on the parish website. The River Region Chamber of Commerce honored several St. John Parish businesses at their annual award ceremony. Congratulations to Advanced Marketing & Promotions - Small Business of the Year; Reserve Telecommunications - Mid-Size Business of the year; and Progressive Waste Solutions - Large Business of the Year. Congratulations to Brandy Melancon of Capital One Bank LaPlace for winning the Shining Star award. It is a tremendous honor for St. John Parish to receive all three major awards as well the Shining Star. We salute all of them for their hard work. A jersey retirement ceremony was held for Darvell Johnson and Darquell Scott, two local youth active in St. John Recreation, who were killed in an automobile accident last year. The program was well-received and the jerseys will hang in REGALA Gym in their memory. Reminder to residents: Intersection improvements are underway at Belle Terre Blvd. /Airline Hwy. Alternating lane closures will persist until work is complete. Please use caution when driving through the area and expect reduced

speed limits as well as possible delays. The Department of Health and Human Services will offer the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program from February 5 through April 6, 2014 on Wednesdays and Thursdays only. The program is designed for low-to-moderate income taxpayers, persons with disabilities, elderly taxpayers, non-English speaking persons, and Native Americans to receive free basic tax services from trained volunteers. Please call the Health and Human Services Department at 985-536-4955 to schedule your appointment. Now is a good time to ensure you are informed during emergencies. Sign up to receive Parish alerts by visiting the Parish website at www.sjbparish.com and clicking on "Stay Connected."

CORRESPONDENCE/COUNCIL BRIEFS

Councilman Gauff stated, "I would like to say thank you to administration and your staff I passed by the EOC office and many of your staff were there on their day off working and getting out information to all of our residents especially the communications department so thank you so much. Also thanks to the Sheriff's department for keeping everyone safe and acting responsibility. So I think all in all when I look across the country and see what is going on in Atlanta especially we did really well and congratulations to St. John employees for a job well done."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "I would like to echo Mr. Gauff's comments because I am telling you our parish came out smelling like a rose. I know that we shut businesses down but we will build it back up and we took care of our residents and their needs and I thank everyone involved. The communication department kept us all informed on the roadway openings for the traveling people of the parish and I just think a great job was done by all."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I would also like to echo their sentiments and also the sanitation department did an excellent job and the public works because I saw a lot of workers set out at different areas so we were ahead of the game if anything happened. Thank you very much."

Councilman Madere stated, "I would also like to echo everything that was said and to public works employees that had to be out there on the streets because they were directly in the bad conditions of the weather storm. Also to the people of the parish for following instructions and I think it was a team effort on everyone's part."

Councilman Wilson stated, "I would like to echo the same. I would also like to ask that we stay on top of this flood protection levee especially with the insurance companies because a lot of people will lose everything they own. So we need to stay on top of the levee situation and hopefully in these four years we can get something done."

Councilman Smith stated, "I would like to echo the same thing and send a thank you to Verdell Kindricks for the job he did on the West Bank and helping with the road situations. A lot of times we take the public employees for granted and these people are out here doing a very good job. I would also like to commend the administration and say thank you."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "I would just like to echo what everyone

has said. I sat in on an EOC meeting and I can tell you it was very orderly the staff did a great job, the sheriff's department, the state police, DOTD, Jobe' everyone did a fantastic job and thank you. I would also like to thank the administration and council members for the affordable home seminar at the Civic Center it was well attended and a terrific event. It helps the residents and was really good. Also Chelsea the coach at RA is looking for girls ages 10-18 for a traveling volley ball league that travels all of the southern states. They are asking for anyone who is interested please contact her at RA."

ADJOURNMENT:

At 10:28 AM, Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Wright absent.

/s/Marvin Perrilloux
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
Council Secretary