

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2009
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, February 10, 2009, at 6:30 PM.

CALL TO ORDER:

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

ABSENT: None

Councilman Julien led the Prayer. Councilwoman Usry led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Bill Hubbard, Parish President, was present.

Legal Counsels Jeff Perilloux, Barry Landry and Kerry Brown were present.

Bill Hubbard - Presentation - Certificate of Achievement for excellence in financial reporting to the Finance Department

Bill Hubbard, Parish President, stated, "*I just want to present this certificate of achievement for excellence in financial reporting to our finance department. In the years past I think maybe the Parish President or whoever was in office always took the credit for this. Truly I do not deserve this credit and honor. This is an honor that goes to all the folks that work in the finance department. So Vince please accept this award on behalf of the finance department. We really appreciate your great work. This is the sixth year in a row. It is a great achievement.*"

River Parishes Transit Authority - Presentation - Transit System

Martha Cazaubon, South Central Planning, commented on the recent opening of the River Parishes Transit Authority. She made a brief presentation explaining the RPTA. People have to call 24 hours in advance. It is pre-scheduled trips throughout St. Charles and St. John. They have three 10-12 passenger vehicles operating all day long. They leave the gate at 5:30 AM and return at 7:30 PM Monday through Friday. Right now the cost is \$2.00 for each one way trip, cash fair only and the drivers do not carry any change. We are developing a pass program through which riders can purchase discounted passes. You have to call 24 hours in advance for next day's service. Call during regular office hours 8:30 AM till 4:30 PM, speak to a person to ensure your trip is scheduled. There is a toll free number 1-877-651-1171 and a local number. RPTA is working with St. James parish to coordinate transfers.

In order to do that you are required to call 48 hours in advance to schedule that. RPTA is housed at 149 Woodland Drive here in LaPlace. Their information can be found on the parish website, but their website should be up within a week www.rptarolls.org. They commented on the number of riders that they have had since opening last week. There were overall 85 riders in all.

Consent Agenda

Items: Approval of Minutes January 27, 2009, Regular Meeting; Civil Service Board Appointment of Louise Liliedahl - River Region Chamber of Commerce Appointee; Added Councilman Lee appointment of Ronnie Chauppetta to the Utility Board.

MOTION: Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Julien seconded the motion to approve the amended consent agenda consisting of Approval of Minutes January 27, 2009, Regular Meeting; Civil Service Board Appointment of Louise Liliedahl - River Region Chamber of Commerce Appointee; added Councilman Lee appointment of Ronnie Chauppetta to the Utility Board. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:

09-01 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance to request to Rezone Lot H-1, Square 5, Woodland Plantation subdivision to show the change in the current zone of Zone R-1 to Zone C-2 (Area 1) & (Area 2) to remain zoned C-2, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (LaPlace Realty PZ 08-010) (B. Hubbard)

MOTION: Councilwoman Usry moved and Councilman Julien seconded the motion to accept Ordinance 09-01. The motion passed unanimously.

09-02 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance to change the current zone of Lots J-4 and J-5 of the Triche Tract & Aline Plantation from Zone R-1 to Zone MHD situated in Section 28, T-11-S, R-7-E, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (PZR-08-007-Jesal Desai) (B. Hubbard)

MOTION: Councilwoman Usry moved and Councilman Julien seconded the motion to accept Ordinance 09-02. The motion passed unanimously.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

09-03 An ordinance to request a re-subdivision of Lot 3, Square 4, LaPlace Terrace Subdivision into Lots 3A and 3B (Linda Stein PZ08-029) B. Hubbard

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Lee stated, "At 6:00 this evening the finance committee had a meeting. I would ask at this time for a motion from one of my fellow council members to accept the recommendations of the finance committee."

MOTION: Councilman Julien moved and Councilman Lewis seconded the motion to accept the recommendation of the finance committee. The committee approved take the two bids for a 20' Knuckle boom Loader under advisement, (item remains tabled-Authorization to execute an

engineering services contract with Buchart Horn Inc. for design work at US 61 and Belle Terre Blvd and US 61 & 51 to relieve traffic congestion), granted administration authorization to execute an agreement with Wal-Mart relevant to the Carrollwood Drive Project, granted administration authorization to sign change order #2 Carrollwood Drive Project, granted administration authorization to extend the existing contract for up to 120 days for the fiscal agent agreement with Capital One Bank and Omni Bank, (removed item-Pat McTopy - Authorization to execute an agreement for design services in connection with the Clerk of Court storage building from the agenda). The motion passed unanimously.

DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:

Dale Wolfe - Personnel Matters

There were no personnel matters.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ronnie Smith - Council meeting date change 2-24-09 due to Mardi Gras Holiday

Councilman Smith stated, "*We need to change the date of the next council meeting because of the holiday.*"

MOTION: Councilwoman Usry moved and Councilman Lewis seconded the motion to move the council meeting from Tuesday, February 24, 2009 to Thursday, February 26, 2009, due to the Mardi Gras holidays. The motion passed unanimously.

Pat McTopy - R09-01 - A resolution approving the application for grant funds from the Delta Regional Authority for the structure of the Edgard Water Plant

Pat McTopy, Chief Administrative Officer, stated, "*Under the grant requirements we need to obtain a resolution from the council authorizing us to apply for this grant. It would be used to make up some of the shortfall in funding for the Edgard Water intake line project.*"

MOTION: Councilman Lewis moved and Councilman Wolfe seconded the motion to accept Resolution R09-01. A resolution approving the application for grant funds from the Delta Regional Authority for the structure of the Edgard Water Plant. **WHEREAS**, the Delta Regional Authority Grant Program provides funds to local governments in our region for basic public infrastructure in distressed rural areas; and **WHEREAS**, said procedures established by the Delta Regional Authority requests the applicant's governing body to certify by resolution the approval of the application as part of the submittal of said application. **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council: 1. Approves the filing of an application for a request of \$250,000.00 for funding of the construction of a raw water Intake structure at Edgard Water Plant

2. Certifies that it has or will have available prior to commencement of any work on the project included in this application, sufficient funds to operate and maintain the project 3. Appoints the Parish President as agent of St. John the Baptist Parish to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents, including, but not limited to applications, agreements, amendments, payment request and so on, which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned project. The motion passed unanimously.

Pat McTopy - Request LA DOTD to stripe and repair/replace reflectors on U.S. 61

Pat McTopy stated, *"I had received some calls from parish residents concerning in particular the reflectors on the Airline Hwy. in the proximity of Garyville heading into Reserve. I took a ride down there. It looked like as much as 10 to 20% of them are missing. So I would like to forward a letter to the DOTD with your motion attached requesting that they replace them and stripe as necessary."*

MOTION: Councilman Millet moved and Councilman Wolfe seconded the motion to authorize administration to request LA DOTD to stripe and repair/replace reflectors on U.S. 61. The motion passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE/COUNCIL BRIEFS

Councilman Lewis stated, *"I received a letter from the Utility Board. They are requesting that they need to have more information from this council. I think they do need to have more information than what they have been getting. When I was on the Utility Board a while back, they don't get the same information that they used to get in the past. I would like to see the chairman of the council and administration get together and make sure this utility board, if they are going to be active, get the information that we have so that they can make some good decisions."*

Councilman Wolfe asked, *"Have they been having meetings?"*

Councilman Lewis stated, *"Yes they have been having meetings but they haven't been getting all the information on what is going on. According to the letter, you can read it, it was a strong letter."*

Councilman Smith stated, *"I received that same letter. I am sure all of us did. If anything what I would like to do is request that administration make sure that they forward all of the information necessary to the utility board. I am the chairman, but I am not going to sit there every week and decide what information should be sent to the utility board. That is something that administration should do I think."*

Bill Hubbard stated, *"Just one brief comment. I wish I had more information from the utility board so I could comment on their letter. Maybe it should have been directed to me."*

Councilman Smith stated, *"I will give you my copy, but the letter itself didn't state what information they were looking for. So what I*

would request is that administration and the chairman of the utility board get together and work out whatever they need to work out so they can work together and make it work."

Councilman Julien asked, "I am wondering if we have an update on lights that were supposed to be going up? The lights on the new highway."

Bill Hubbard stated, "That is the one that we were getting two at a time. I don't see Clifford here tonight. I tell you what I will do I will get him to call you tomorrow and give you an update."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I would like to wish everyone a safe and Happy Mardi Gras. I hope everyone will come out to the local parades that we have here."

Councilman Smith stated, "Saturday is Valentine's Day. I want to wish my baby and my wife a Happy Valentine's Day."

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

There were no presidential remarks.

MOTION: Councilman Wolfe moved and Councilman Millet seconded the motion to go into executive session. The motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Employee Back Pay

Dale Wolfe - Personnel Matters

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

Cable Franchise Negotiations

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 unanimously.

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

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:00 PM, Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Lee seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

/s/Ronnie Smith
COUNCIL CHAIR

/s/Jackie Landeche
Council Secretary