

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10th, 2016
CHAIRMAN MARVIN PERRILLOUX
VICE-CHAIR MICHAEL WRIGHT

The Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist Parish, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session in the Joel McToby Chambers, LaPlace, Louisiana on Wednesday, February 10, 2016, at 6:30 PM.

CALL TO ORDER:

PRESENT AT ROLL CALL: Larry Sorapuru, Jr., Councilman-at-Large, Div. A, Kurt Becnel, Councilman District I, Julia Remonet, Councilwoman District II, Lennix Madere, Councilman District III, Michael Wright, Councilman District V, Marvin Perrilloux, Councilman District IV, Larry Snyder, Councilman District VI, Buddy Boe, Councilman District VII, Jaclyn Hotard, Councilwoman-at-Large, Div. B

ABSENT: None

Councilman Wright led the Prayer. Councilman Madere led the Pledge.

Legal Counsel Jeff Perilloux was present.

Natalie Robottom/Lennix Madere - Recognition - (Carry Over 1-26-16) Krewe of D'Arc 2016 King Junardo Hoyt and Queen Darlene Fresh

The above item will be carried over.

Natalie Robottom/Lennix Madere - Recognition - Southeast Louisiana War Veterans Home - Krewe of Heroes 2016

Natalie Robottom read the proclamation for the Southeast Louisiana War Veterans Home - Krewe of Heroes 2016.

Natalie Robottom/Marvin Perrilloux - Recognition - (Carry Over 1-26-16) Councilwoman Millet & Councilman Gauff for years of service to the Council of St. John the Baptist Parish

Natalie Robottom recognized Councilman Gauff with an award for his years of service to the Council of St. John the Baptist Parish. Councilman Gauff thanked everyone how much he enjoyed working with then while serving time on the Council.

CONSENT AGENDA:

ITEMS: Approval of Minutes - January 26th, 2016, Regular Meeting; Councilwoman Remonet - Appointment of Miguel Ortiz to the Water, Sewer and Drainage Board;
Natalie Robottom - Re-appointment of Joey Scontrino to the South Louisiana Port Commission; Natalie Robottom - Confirmation of Dr. Henry Hardy, Leroy Mitchell and Carl Monica to the South Central Planning and Development Board;

Councilman Boe - Appointment of Chris Cancienne to the Recreation Advisory Board; Councilman Sorapuru - Re-appointment of Clinton Bourgeois to the Water, Sewer and Drainage Board; Councilman Becnel - Re-appointment of Warner Sylvain to the Water, Sewer and Drainage Board; Councilman Wright - Re-appointment of Glen Brady to the Water, Sewer and Drainage Board; Councilman Madere - Re-appointment of Bernell Charles to the Water, Sewer and Drainage Board; Councilman Perrilloux - Re-appointment of Alvin Scioneux to the Water, Sewer and Drainage Board; Councilman Snyder - Re-appointment of P.J. Champagne to the Water, Sewer and Drainage Board; Councilman Snyder - Re-appointment of Diane Picou to the Animal Control Advisory Board; Councilman Snyder - Re-appointment of Peggy Joseph to the Economic Development Committee; Councilman Snyder - Re-appointment of Emery Dents to the Planning and Zoning Committee;

Councilman Snyder - Re-appointment of Janet Landor to the Zoning Board of Adjustments; Councilman Snyder - Re-appointment of Warren Snyder, Jr. to the Recreation Advisory Board; Councilman Wright - Re-appointment of Greg Loisel to the Zoning Board of Adjustments; Councilwoman Hotard - Re-appointment of Jimmy Hymel to the Water, Sewer and Drainage Board; Councilwoman Hotard - Re-appointment of Ronnie Chaupetta to the Water, Sewer and Drainage Board.

Councilman Perrilloux stated, *"I've got 2 things I'd like to suspend the rules, first I'd like to add Councilman Boe - Re-appointment of Lonnie Haydel, Jr. to the Water, Sewer and Drainage Board, I'd like to get a motion to add that to suspend the rules to add that."*

MOTION: Councilwoman Remondet and Councilman Sorapuru seconded the motion to suspend the rules to add 2 Councilman Boe - Re-appointment of Lonnie Haydel, Jr. to the Water, Sewer and Drainage Board. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Perrilloux stated, *"I'd like to get a motion to remove Natalie Robottom - Re-appointment of Joey Scontrino to the South Louisiana Port Commission and vote on that separately, so can I get a motion on that?"*

Councilwoman Hotard stated, *"No, no, no. I'm just asking for that removal of that item, is there any dissension to the item from the Council? Is there a reason why we want to vote on it separately?"*

Councilman Perrilloux stated, *"Yeah, they have some Council Members wanted to have some comments and remarks on that particular item, so I'm going to move it out and if we have time for it and just do the consent agenda items, yes."*

Councilwoman Hotard stated, *"Ok."*

MOTION: Councilman Sorapuru and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to suspend the rules to remove Natalie Robottom - Re-appointment of Joey Scontrino to the South Louisiana Port Commission and vote on that separately. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda items: Approval of Minutes - January 26th, 2016, Regular Meeting; Councilwoman Remondet - Appointment of Miguel Ortiz to the Water, Sewer and Drainage Board; Natalie Robottom - Confirmation of Dr. Henry Hardy, Leroy Mitchell and Carl Monica to the South Central Planning and

Development Board; Councilman Boe - Appointment of Chris Cancienne to the Recreation Advisory Board; Councilman Sorapuru - Re-appointment of Clinton Bourgeois to the Water, Sewer and Drainage Board; Councilman Becnel - Re-appointment of Warner Sylvain to the Water, Sewer and Drainage Board; Councilman Wright - Re-appointment of Glen Brady to the Water, Sewer and Drainage Board; Councilman Madere - Re-appointment of Bernell Charles to the Water, Sewer and Drainage Board; Councilman Perrilloux - Re-appointment of Alvin Scioneux to the Water, Sewer and Drainage Board; Councilman Snyder - Re-appointment of P.J. Champagne to the Water, Sewer and Drainage Board; Councilman Snyder - Re-appointment of Diane Picou to the Animal Control Advisory Board; Councilman Snyder - Re-appointment of Peggy Joseph to the Economic Development Committee; Councilman Snyder - Re-appointment of Emery Dents to the Planning and Zoning Committee; Councilman Snyder - Re-appointment of Janet Landor to the Zoning Board of Adjustments; Councilman Snyder - Re-appointment of Warren Snyder, Jr. to the Recreation Advisory Board; Councilman Wright - Re-appointment of Greg Loisel to the Zoning Board of Adjustments; Councilwoman Hotard - Re-appointment of Jimmy Hymel to the Water, Sewer and Drainage Board; Councilwoman Hotard - Re-appointment of Ronnie Chaupetta to the Water, Sewer and Drainage Board; Councilman Boe - Appointment of Lonnie Haydel, Jr. to the Water, Sewer and Drainage Board. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Perrilloux stated, *"Well I was going to open it up to the public for consent agenda items on Mr. Scontrino. If you want to say something, go ahead."*

Natalie Robottom stated, *"Good afternoon. I think a memo was sent out last week with the statutes that regulate the appointments. As many of you know and maybe some of you may not know, Mr. Scontrino was appointed in 2012 and has served in that role with fellow commissioners and is actually on a trip with the commissioners at this point which is why he's not here. He's elevated himself to different positions within the organization, is a local business owner and again as the president's appointment I was pleased with her service, which is why I recommended that we continue as did you all. Part of the requirement and I think I passed out today, was that you received a letter of recommendation from very specific organizations, at the time the memo was sent, you received the letter from the Barge Fleeting Association, today another letter came from the Steamship Pilots, which I think my assistant copied and passed out for you today. There've been no other letters of recommendation and no other request."*

Councilman Sorapuru stated, *"Yes I'd like for us to table this appointment, we have a number of environmental conditions on the river. I've got several complaints from people on the Westbank and the Eastbank of the river pertaining to some of the industry in that district. This has no bearing on the individual or appointee, but I'd like to have a sit down conversation with some of the port people and that appointee."*

MOTION: Councilman Sorapuru and Councilman Snyder seconded the motion to table Natalie Robottom - Re-appointment of Joey Scontrino to the South Louisiana Port Commission. The motion passed with 5 yeas and 4 against (Boe, Wright, Hotard and Remondet)

Natalie Robottom stated, *"Mr. Sorapuru, I'll be happy to set up, one of the*

commissioners is a Westbanker, Mr. Louis Joseph, I'm not sure if you're aware of that but if you'd like to discuss Westbank issues, obviously he'd be one to attend that meeting as well, are you interested in a meeting at the whole Port Commission or just this appointment?"

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "I think what Mr. Sorapuru wanted a meeting and with Mr. Joseph and you can have Mr. Scontrino present to discuss those items that's of concern of the residents on the East and Westbank and there's no baring of his appointment, he just want to sit down and talk with the person."

Natalie Robottom stated, "How about the Executive Director to?"

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Yes ok, so you and Ms. Robottom can work out a meeting, schedule and before the next council meeting."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Ok."

Councilman Boe stated, "Do we not have an appointment now, since he wasn't approved today or does he serve until we appoint? Do we know?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Uh I think the statute is attached, there's a deadline that this appointment has be made and it's 60 days from the beginning of the term."

Councilman Snyder stated, "After your Inauguration."

Councilman Boe stated, "It has to be done within 60 days?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "I'm sorry."

Councilman Boe stated, "Within 60 days of taking office?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Yeah we should be good, okay thank you."

MOTION: Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Boe seconded the motion on consent agenda items: Natalie Robottom - Re-appointment of Joey Scontrino to the South Louisiana Port Commission and vote on that separately. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "I'd like to suspend the rules again to move up Natalie Robottom - Resolution - R16-09 - A Resolution giving preliminary approval to the issuance of not exceeding Twenty-One Million Dollars (\$21,000,000) of General Obligation Refunding Bonds, of St. John the Baptist Parish, State of Louisiana; making application to the State Bond Commission for approval of said Bonds; and providing for other matters in connection therewith."

MOTION: Councilman Boe and Councilman Sorapuru seconded the motion to suspend the rules Natalie Robottom - Resolution - R16-09 - A Resolution giving preliminary approval to the issuance of not exceeding Twenty-One Million Dollars (\$21,000,000) of General Obligation Refunding Bonds, of St. John the Baptist Parish, State of Louisiana; making application to the State Bond

Commission for approval of said Bonds; and providing for other matters in connection therewith. The motion passed unanimously.

Natalie Robottom - Resolution - R16-09 - A Resolution giving preliminary approval to the issuance of not exceeding Twenty-One Million Dollars (\$21,000,000) of General Obligation Refunding Bonds, of St. John the Baptist Parish, State of Louisiana; making application to the State Bond Commission for approval of said Bonds; and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes this is something that we've done probably this is our fifth time, because of the market right now we've been presented with the option to refinance the 2009 Bond Issue. At the time the rates were I think 3.58% to 4.75, the rates that we are anticipating will be about 2.51;5,3 again it's an estimate but clearly a savings, the estimated net savings by refinancing these bonds will be excess of \$700,000 in debt service, which I think benefits all of us and taxpayers. Mr. Jason Akers from Foley & Judell and Mr. Hugh are here, he can address it further but that's just a quick synopsis of what this involves."
Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Thank you."

Jason Akers, Foley & Judell, "I'll be brief but this is the first chance we've had to present a refunding opportunity to the new council. I do want to just take a minute to explain what's happening here. This is very much again to in personal finance, refinancing your home mortgage. When interest rates drop you have the opportunity to refinance and save yourself some money and that's exactly what's happening here. Ms. Robottom was very precise on the interest rates and those are certainly at today's markets and that's subject to change but based on what we see now, the opportunity has presented itself to save approximately fifty to sixty thousand dollars a year, hopefully more that it would be a bottom line savings to the taxpayers. The resolution before you, actually sets the parameters, this is the first step in the required process, we'll take this resolution and other financial information and we'll go to the State Bond Commission and get their approval. After the State Bond Commission approves, we'll come back to you to introduce an ordinance and prior to us selling any bonds or locking in anything, you'll have the opportunity to adopt a final ordinance. The resolution also appoints us Foley & Judell as your Bond Counsel, deports Toby Cortez's Firm, Stifel, Nicolaus & Company as your Investor Banker/Underwriter, many of you know Toby and he's been around worked with you before at the parish level and appoints government consultants as a financial advisor for the parish. I want to be very clear, that this is not any sort of extension of the final maturity, these bonds will still mature. Final maturity March 1 of 2029, matter of fact the average life will actually decrease just a little bit, there will be savings in every year so we're not putting off we're not increasing the debt service in any one year in order to increase the savings in future years. This will be just a bottom line year over year debt service savings, like I said, it's like if you refinance your mortgage and you go from 7%-4%, you're going to get more money in your pocket every year or every month in this case, the taxpayers will have the benefit every year. I'll be glad to answer any questions if you have any."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Okay thank you before I ask any questions, I don't think I got a motion on accept the Resolution R16-09. Did I get one?"

Councilman Snyder asked, "On this loan, we're not adding on to our debt any kind of way or are we just refinancing what we owe on the debt?"

Jason Akers stated, "Refinancing what you owe, there will be no new money for projects."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Ok alright and there is no time added like you say, as far as 20 years."

Jason Akers stated, "These bonds were issued for a 20 year term in 2009 and which takes them to March 1 of 2029, they stick with that final material."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Ok, ok."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Thank you. I just want to say, thanks! I know that you guys have been very diligent about kind of monitoring the market for rates, just for the public's knowledge, I know when you get up there it's very technical, but it's basically if you refinanced your house. If you financed it at 7% now the rates are 3 you're refinancing you're saving money, that's basically what we're doing but on a much larger scale, so I do want to say, thank you, because when we are able to take advantage of market conditions that are favorable to our bonds, we can refinance and save money and use the money for other projects, so it just makes good sense and I know that you guys stay on top of it. So I just want to say thank you!"

Jason Akers stated, "Thank you. I'll also add just another contributing factor here, is the increase the recent increase in the parish's credit rating would be to carry forward the home mortgage analogy, if you had applied for a home mortgage when your credit rating was a 620 and then it went up to a 700, chances are you're going to get a better interest rate as a result and that's happened here as well. The financial shape of the parish has improved significantly, the credit rating agency course have recognized that and the market recognizes that as well."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Good even better thank you."

Councilman Snyder asked, "And you said that's about \$50,000.00 a year?"

Jason Akers stated, "That's the estimate currently, \$50,000.00 each year for the next thirteen and a half years."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Ms. Robottom have you thought about what you're going to do with \$50,000.00 a year?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Actually I'm sure it will be put back into the budget that's paying for it, which it has to be and we've been getting list from you all that we hadn't finished but some new things to them so we're appreciative to those guys, so just keep sending in the rest."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Thank you so much."

MOTION: Councilman Boe moved and Councilman Hotard seconded the motion to approve Resolution R16-09. A resolution giving preliminary approval to the

issuance of not exceeding Twenty-One Million Dollars (\$21,000,000) of General Obligation Refunding Bonds, of St. John the Baptist Parish, State of Louisiana; making application to the State Bond Commission for approval of said Bonds; and providing for other matters in connection therewith. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:

16-01 An ordinance approving a re-subdivision of Lot 1 of the Madere Tract, the Andre Perilloux Tract, and the Ernest Alexander Tract into lots herein designated as lot 1-A, lot 1-B, and lot 1- C of the Madere Tract, the Andre Perilloux Tract, and the Ernest Alexander Tract, situated in Sections 22, 94 and 95, T-11-S, R-7-E, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana(PZS-15-1132) (N. Robottom)

Alexandra Carter stated, *"Good evening Council. This re-subdivision request aims to divide existing lot A into three (3) legal lots to facilitate commercial development and enable continued ownership of an existing monument sign. The Planning Commission unanimously approved this request on January 25, 2016 and Administration recommends approval contingent upon approval by the Parishwide Water Sewerage, and Drainage Board."*

MOTION: Councilwoman Remondet moved and Councilwoman Hotard seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 16-01. The motion passed unanimously.

16-02 An ordinance approving a re-subdivision of lot A of the Guissepina and Antonia Miano Tract, the Paul Miano lot, a portion of the Salvatore Miano, Sr. Tract, a 0.82 portion of Salvatore Miano, Sr. Tract, the Robert Miano lot of the Salvatore Miano Sr. Tract, a triangular portion of Lot 1, Square A, Subdivision of Lot 19 of Hope Plantation Subdivision Into lots herein designated as lot 1-SM and lot 2-RM of Hope Plantation of Farm lot 18 and Farm lot 19 of Hope Plantation, situated in Section 14, T-11-S, R-4-E, Garyville, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana(PZS-15-1135) (N. Robottom)

Alexandra Carter stated, *"This re-subdivision request aims to consolidate approximately six (6) pieces of land into two (2) legal lots of record. The Planning Commission unanimously approved this request on January 25, 2016. Administration recommends approval contingent upon approval by the Parishwide Water, Sewerage and Drainage Board."*

MOTION: Councilwoman Remondet moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 16-02. The motion passed unanimously.

16-03 An ordinance approving a re-subdivision of lots 18, 19, and 20 of the St. Andrews Village Subdivision into lot 18A of the St. Andrews Village Subdivision, situated in Sections 6, 7, and 71, T-11-S, R-6-E, Mt. Airy, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana(PZS-16-1136) (N. Robottom)

Alexandra Carter stated, *"This re-subdivision request aims to consolidate three (3) existing lots of record; i.e. 18, 19, and 20, into proposed lot 18A, where the applicant intends to locate a mobile home. The Planning Commission unanimously approved this request on January 25, 2016 and Administration recommends approval."*

MOTION: Councilwoman Remondet moved and Councilman Becnel seconded the motion

to approve Ordinance 16-03. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "The next three ordinances 16-04, 16-05 and 16-06, I'd like to remove from the agenda and I'll allow comment from Mr. Boe."

Councilman Boe stated, "Thank you Mr. Chairman and I just want to thank all the council members. I'm going to pass out some information that's part of my comment and my comment is merely to inform the public a lot of space was put into the newspaper and advertising these ordinances, there's a resolution, the agenda and I just wanted to make a statement of the process that we've been going through for the past couple of weeks and look forward to going through into the future. So, what is contained in this Amendment 16-04, 05 and 06 are 3 proposed Charter Amendments. That through discussions with the DA, the administration, our bond counsel, permission from the bond commission at the state level to submit the application late, we came to a rough draft of 3 Charter Amendments that contain 3 different topics and they were going to go to the public on April 9th ballot as 3 different initiatives that the public could choose to vote for 1, 2, 3 or none, if they so choose to support and that election was going to be on April 9th, the same day that we had our 2 mileages up for renewal, the Library and Health Unit. In meeting with the District Attorney's Office it was noted that 16-06 required some additional amendments and so that's why that one is being removed from the table today. That one needs some more work and needs some major amendments that if we did them tonight would cause the ordinance to be reintroduced and therefore we would miss deadline to be on the April 9th agenda. A 16-04, I would appreciate if the council did act on it tonight, but did understand if the council doesn't want to and would like to have a workshop moving into the future, to where this can be considered at a different election, perhaps this fall or next spring. 16-04 was basically implementing and changing our budgeting process and the document that I passed around, you'll notice that in the current situation laid out in the Charter for our budget process, the Parish President is required by November 1st to submit us a balanced budget. We then have until the end of the year to approve that budget and if we don't approve it the Parish President's budget is so adopted as submitted. There's only opportunity laid out in the Charter for the public to provide feedback and that is the meeting where the ordinance is up for public hearing and a vote at that meeting. Any other meetings, workshops or public hearings have to be called by either the Council or the Administration, but that has been done randomly over the years. And so the proposed amendment that if we consider it tonight or in the future, because I would like to introduce this at some point and send it to the voters and give them ability to weigh in on it with their vote, would shift the date that the Parish President has to submit the budget to October 1st. It gives us more time to look over the budget, you know the budgets have grown tremendously over the past decade and a half and we're now nearing seventy million dollars of regular revenue in addition to the millions and millions we have in recovery and bond dollars. October 1 would be the date that the administration submits that budget, the proposed amendment would require that we as the council and the administration give the public 3 opportunities at 3 official public hearings to listen to us debate the budget. Where we would have the opportunity to go from Page 1 to the last page of that budget fully vetted work with the department directors and administration and make sure everyone was aware of what was in that budget, it then pushed up the date that we have to approve the budget. In the past, the budget has been approved at times the week of

New Year's Eve, for a budget that would start 96 hours later. This is the public's dollars and we felt in this amendment moving it to December 1st would take some of the pressure off of us as the council, the administration and allow us to know what the budget look like going into the next fiscal year 30 days ahead. So this amendment, there has been much discussion over it because it's simply implementing a process, remove some of the politics from the budgeting and increases public transparency, so if any council members tonight want to make a motion in a second, to send this one to the voters on April 9th, our Bond Counsels already spoke to the Bond Commission, they're expecting these amendments, the resolution is later on in the agenda and can be amended, if we don't move on them tonight then we can consider them at a later date. And then 16-05, would have been added and if you all flip, 16-05 would have simply done 2 things and remove this one from the table also, it would have cleaned up the language regarding residency and the time someone has to live in the parish before they could qualify for Council. The current language which is what I've included on Page 2 of the packet I provided to the Council, is very vague and in theory someone can live in another District, qualify to run for that office and then move into the District by the time they take office, because of the confusing language with multiple clauses within one sentence. The proposed amendment, which simply state you must live in the District and be a qualified voter 6 months prior to taking office, very clean, very clear. There's a definite date we take office, you count back 6 months you have to live in the District or Division if you are at-large, 6 months prior taking office. And then our Charter right now is much more restricted regarding our employment allowances as Council Members and so the proposed amendment removes the final sentence of the paragraph, which then makes state law the default law that would govern how we could be employed as Council Members by other Public Agencies. The state has a dual employment law and it also has a dual office holding law, so by removing the excessive restriction in our Charter, we then allow state law to reign supreme as the more powerful law. So that being said I again want to thank the DA, I want to thank her staff, I would like to thank the administration, we met, they provided feedback we made some amendments based on that feedback, my fellow council members I know we rushed into this and that was simply to meet the April 9th agenda, the reason I would wish there would be a motion and a second on the budget amendment, we're going to lose an entire fiscal year. And if we don't get on this April 9th ballot, then we're into 2017 which means we won't be able to change our process until 2017. I'd like to thank the Bond Counsel who worked with me over the past month, I'd like to thank the Chairman, we've gone back and forth over this and the process over the last couple of weeks making sure that everyone was comfortable with just the idea of amending the Charter at this point. But I did want the public to know, there was many hours put into this, we're working to improve our operating document, our Charter, we're working to increase public transparency and these amendments if none of them move tonight, my intension is to move them in the future, we've got to put some structure into some of the things we do, we got to clean some of the language in the Charter, it was written in the early 80's and we're a different parish from then and so the Chairman through the pass couple of conversations has agreed that if none of these move tonight, we'll host a workshop at some point in the future, to discuss them as a council with the administration and the DA present, but you know again I would think the budget amendment would move forward I understand 16-06 which was giving the Council the authority to approve Special Assistants for the Parish President, there might need to be some more

conversation on that amendment and also the one regarding the residency and the employment. So I appreciate the council, I appreciate the administration and just wanted the public to know we're working on this we'll continue to work on this, April 9th deadlines were just a little too tight and we might need some more time on these amendments. Thank you guys."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Thank you Mr. Boe, I concur we need some more time to study these and maybe we have it for the next election, fall or the spring."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Thank you, thank you Mr. Boe for putting all of that together. I do agree I guess with 16-04, the budget process and some of the Council Members who have been here before can relate to this. Most of the time, right we are approving a budget the week of either Christmas, the week of New Year's and often times it gets introduced in November, it gets tabled, there really isn't structure for it, so I do like making changes so that we know, okay we're going to get the budget 30 days sooner and the requirement is we would adopt it 30 days sooner and have the requirement in place that we would have so many public hearings, as we know now we just call them as we see fit, this would make the process very clear and transparent I think for the council side, the administration side and the public. So I do think that you know that's definitely a good change that we need to make, I'm okay with sending that one forward, the other two I would agree they need just a little bit more tweaking, I applaud you, you, may be looking at this a little bit more aggressive with it, but I do think that those 2 items do need a little bit of change, but I definitely see this budget amendment as just a procedural type change that really only benefits all of us, especially new council members, this would mean that you would get presented with a budget and a budget memo 30 days prior, 30 days sooner than what we would receive it now and give us more time to actually divulge into the budget at public hearings and those types of things and get it approved before we get into that holiday season. Once we get into you know Christmas and everything, if I go back to all of the years I've been here budgets sometimes get approved the day before you know New Year's Eve. And in some cases it doesn't get approved as Councilman Boe said, if the council does not approve a budget, then the budget that has been introduced by the administration automatically becomes approved. So I believe this is definitely well thought out, it's something that will benefit the council by giving us more time and requiring administration to present you know 30 days sooner. I'm okay with moving forward with it, but it's at the pleasure of the council. If they'd like to wait, I get what you're saying if we wait it wouldn't be an affect for this budget cycle, it would have to be something we'd put forward and we wouldn't see benefit of it till the 2017 budget cycle. But I'm okay, I'm okay either way but I do believe this is something we need to consider. It's a good thing."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "I'm allow Mr. Madere to make another comment because we already pulled the Ordinance already but I'll let him make a comment on it and then we'll move forward."

Councilman Madere stated, "My concern, I have 2 concerns. First of all with the concern of the budget, I'm definitely in favor of any change that would allow the citizens of St. John the Baptist Parish to be more actively involved with approving the budget because we do work for them and basically

is their budget. So I definitely agree that they should know everything about it, be able to make some comments and be well invested in knowing what the budget is all about and what they have in it. So, I'm definitely agree that that would be a good move that we do this. But as a whole, I would like all the changes to be handled at one time, no one particular time, instead of going to before the voters for one item in the Charter and then come back another year and do maybe 2 or 3 more. I think by having a workshop, where we can sit down and discuss all and any possible changes to the Charter at one time and present as a package deal to the citizens and have them actually involved. And one other concern I have about making changes to the Charter is any existing Charter Members who were originally involved in writing this Charter, I think should be given opportunity to sit in at these workshops and also have some comments as to why they put a particular thing in place or why they didn't particular thing in place, you know getting feedback from them and I know the original Charter Members are dead but think there's still a few of them around, so I would like to have them involved to. But definitely anything that would actively get the citizens involved, I think it's a good thing with that budget I really like that, but I'd like to see any changes to the Charter done at one time and we all sit down and discuss any and every possible change that would benefit us as a Charter and as a parish at one time and not, you know a piece here, a piece here and a piece there at one particular time."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Thank you Mr. Madere. Let me get a ruling from Mr. Perilloux, because from my understanding I was to pull all three of these Ordinances. Now Mr. Boe saying he didn't want to pull these three."

Jeff Perilloux stated, "It's the point of information the Council Member whose ordinance, who introduced the ordinance has indicated to me that he does not desire to pull the 1st Ordinance, okay and as a result of that, only he has the ability to pull his ordinance. It's my understanding that the other two ordinances, Mr. Boe you would like to pull off the table?"

Councilman Boe stated, "And just clarify. I stated that I was thinking of pulling all three Mr. Chairman and as the sponsoring Council Member, I think it's just good practice that the sponsor of an ordinance be the one to pull and not pull and amend an ordinance."

Jeff Perilloux stated, "And that's within Mr. Boe's rights as they introducing the ordinances..."

Councilman Perrilloux interrupting stated, "That's good I'll read the Ordinance 16-04 and you want to pull? Okay, let's read the Ordinance 16-04. An ordinance to propose amending the St. John the Baptist Home Rule Charter by submitting the proposal to the qualified electors of the Parish of St. John the Baptist and to place said proposal on the ballot of the next available election in the spring of 2016. By amending ART. V by replacing Sections B,D, and E with: Section B - Submission of Budgets, Section D - Action on Budgets and Section E - Adoption of Budgets."

16-04 An ordinance to propose amending the St. John the Baptist Home Rule Charter by submitting the proposal to the qualified electors of the Parish of St. John the Baptist and to place said proposal on the ballot of the next available election in the spring of 2016. By amending ART. V by replacing Sections B,D, and E with: Section B - Submission of Budgets, Section D -

Action on Budgets and Section E - Adoption of Budgets. (B. Boe)

Councilman Snyder stated, "You know this was eloquently put and appreciate that Mr. Boe and what you did to it, but I'd just like to let my feelings known and that we're about to change the Constitution here that was organized back in the 80's to run this parish and what I hate doing, what I hate doing, is changing is having individuals come in and play with our Constitution, because I guarantee you if we turn individuals lose on our American Constitution we'll be in trouble. Many of us will be in trouble because I can imagine some of the things that might be changing. I do think that we, our process right now is kind of erratic but I've heard many of you and I've heard you talk about meeting lasting all night, lasting too long, but we put a budget in there with three or four hundred pages in it and with lines items, going through thousands of line items, we might be here for days to try to get a budget worked out. I'm not saying we can't do something but we're talking about going through the Charter and changing the Charter, right now I've watched some of the people that are around this table here, I don't know if you did anything with the budget but we had budget meetings and I didn't see anything big come up, I really didn't, I didn't see anything big come up! But I know I've had a few meetings with people in the offices, maybe that's what you did. And about the budget things I had concerns on the budget, but now I don't understand why we making this a big issue right now and I just hate going into changing the Constitution of St. John the Baptist Parish without getting a group of people together who can look at all angles and all sides of it and see how we want to change things, what's the best way to do it and if this is the best way to do it. Right now we're pulling two of them because of some language, we got to change some other things you know who knows somebody may come in and challenge this one here. Why can't we get a group of people, we talked about it, getting a group of people coming together, some of the people who were on like Mr. Madere said, who were on the original Charter Committee and look at this thing and get some new people, with some legal people and let's look at it and that's, we got some input we want to put into it that's fine, that's fine. But we're talking about here, what we talking about, changing the, how we discuss the budget at our regular meetings and have people from the public come in and input? Hey, those people elected us to do that. You understand that, they elected us to do just that and make sure we do the right thing for them, I know that's what I do I'm not going to do anything personal for my personal gain. I will do something for the parish St. John Parish, the people I represent. And I think that's what it's all about you know and if we have meetings, official meetings like we're having tonight with the budget, look how much time we're taking right now. I can talk for another 30 minutes on this you know, we're taking, we're not going to have enough time, we going to want to get out of here but I've heard some of the some of the same people around this table say; we just supposed to come here and vote on stuff at the meeting, that's all we're supposed to do, come vote on things, you've heard to if you want to be honest with yourself and be honest with other people. We're not supposed to have all this discussion, hey I'm not in favor of just arbitrarily changing the Charter, I've just got to be honest with you, I think that's our Constitution and we should look at it with a group of people."

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "I understand where Mr. Snyder is coming from but I do understand what Ms. Hotard said, it is a good ordinance. The spirit of it is for progress and for things to move forward quickly and an open

meeting process, I don't think so much we're objecting to the ordinance at whole. I think the basic feeling is it shouldn't be one thing at a time but basically the ordinance is worth considering for the future. Thank you."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes I just want to not say I'm against supporting my previous statement and I do believe that like Mr. Snyder said and that we need to sit down and look at this as a group and get some input, you know like I said from the original individuals and I like I said what Mr. Snyder said just now, they put us in this position to make those decisions for them, now when we have this discussion about this Charter, the individuals who was part of making these decisions and gave us that control and we can give them a reason and explain to them why we think these things should be changed and they agree, then I'm more inclined to support this, you know but I would like for those people to be involved because it took a lot of time and effort to put this Charter together, I think we have a real good Charter. Do you have some things we may have to change a little bit? Yes, but why not sit down as a group and discuss it, take our time and make sure when we present something to the public, it's something that the council members all agree on, well thought out, looked into and also input from the original charter members that's still here and I think we owe them that respect in form because I wasn't around, I was around but I wasn't involved but I really don't want to overlook them and changing or doing anything to their Charter, they took all that hard time to get it done. Now is it a good idea? Probably so, but we need to allow us as a group to take our time whenever you're changing a Charter, yes that is not something that comes before the public very often and you don't want to make it a habit of coming to the public every election and to changing the Charter. It's been stable for many years so any changes that we make we should agree on it as a group, and those changes should last as long as the Charter that has been serving us you know since that one been adopted because I don't want to get in the habit of we vote on this change tonight and then a year later, we're voting for two more changes. Like I said, one time that's all. Thank you."

Councilman Boe stated, "Ms. Hotard asked to speak before me."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Thank you. Just for a point of clarification, a vote tonight on this item wouldn't change the Charter. We're authorizing the public to decide on whether or not this change would be made. We don't have that authority, Charter was adopted by the people, it has to be changed by the people so we would be voting to change the Charter and I understand what you're saying about looking at everything at one time, we know we've talked about before making Charter changes, doesn't happen, it can be a lengthy consuming process, what I like most about this and we can table it, whatever, is that we presented with a budget 30 days sooner. You know and coming from so many years ago when you had a forty million dollar budget to over sixty million with seven million in recovery dollars and all of these other things, having an additional 30 days to look at something, is not a bad idea, especially when we're talking about public money. Does this mean we don't discuss the budget in an open meeting? Absolutely not, because it's voted on by ordinance and we have public discussion on ordinances. It's only requiring that we have additional public hearings and if you go into other parishes and Orleans and Jefferson, they do have budget hearings and actually each department head comes up and they present their budget, so I was looking at it from that perspective, getting a budget 30 days sooner is not a bad thing

and it's something that we could have benefited from you know this year. Any other changes that we make we may not see the benefits from them this year and basically the only thing this is doing is requiring the administration to present us with a budget, sooner and requiring us to have more public hearings about it. If the public so chooses, yes this is a better process, we're not changing it, we're only authorizing the public to decide whether or not, yeah we want to see a budget sooner and we want to have more public hearings about it. That's it in a nutshell. Buddy it's your ordinance, however you chose to move forward I support it, I think it's a good thing but this is your ordinance and it's your wishes."

Councilman Boe stated, "Thank you Councilwoman Hotard, thank you Mr. Chairman. Listen, I'm one of the biggest advocates of when we go to the public we have to be unified and our efforts should be together. Again, I just wanted the public to understand that we're working on this, it's been talked about for a while, we're going to continue working on this, the Chairman has agreed to workshops. Mr. Chairman, sorry for doing this to your agenda but I think this public discussion was good and healthy for everyone to air out some of their concerns, I intend to bring these back at a later date, with or without a workshop and bring them to a vote for the 2017 Spring Election if it takes that long, but with this I'll make a motion to table after listening to my council members."

MOTION: Councilman Boe moved and Councilwoman Hotard seconded the motion to table Ordinance 16-04. The motion passed with unanimously.

16-05 An ordinance to propose amending the St. John the Baptist Home Rule Charter by submitting the proposal to the qualified electors of the Parish of St. John the Baptist and to place said proposal on the ballot of the next available election in the spring of 2016. Amending the fifth unnumbered paragraph in ART. III, Section A (1) (ii) Paragraph 5 by replacing with: All Council members shall be qualified voters of and shall have resided within their districts or divisions for a period of at least six months immediately preceding his assuming office. No Council member shall hold any other elected public office. (B. Boe)

The above ordinance was removed from the agenda by the request of Councilman Boe.

16-06 An ordinance to propose amending the St. John the Baptist Home Rule Charter by submitting the proposal to the qualified electors of the Parish of St. John the Baptist and to place said proposal on the ballot of the next available election in the spring of 2016. Amending ART. IV, SECTION A by adding: 15. Authorizes the Parish President to appoint a specified number of non-classified Positions, provided, however, that at no time shall the Council authorize more than ten non-classified positions. (B. Boe)

The above ordinance was removed from the agenda by the request of Councilman Boe.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilwoman Hotard stated, *"Thank you Chairman Perrilloux. At this time I would ask that the council accept the recommendations of the finance*

committee."

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Sorapura seconded the motion to accept the recommendations of the finance committee meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Natalie Robottom - Resolution - R16-07 - A Resolution adopting a Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire as a required part of St. John the Baptist Parish's annual financial and compliance audit

Natalie Robottom stated, "This resolution is required annually, there are a series of questions that must be responded to in order have in place before we can began our audit, it's in your booklet and we recommend your approval."

MOTION: Councilman Boe moved and Councilwoman Remondet seconded the motion to approve Resolution R16-07. A resolution adopting a Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire as a required part of St. John the Baptist Parish's annual financial and compliance audit. The motion passed unanimously.

Buddy Boe - Resolution - R16-08 - A Resolution ordering and calling a special election to be held in the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, to amend the St. John the Baptist Parish Home Rule Charter; making application to the State Bond Commission in connection therewith; and providing for other matters in connection therewith

Councilman Boe stated, "Mr. Chairman because two of the previous items were removed and one was tabled, the table affectively killed that ordinance because we'll miss the deadline for the bond commission, this resolution was required to actually call the election since none of the ordinances will pass in time for this April 9th election, please withdraw this resolution. Thank you sir."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Thank you. We'll withdraw that one Jackie."

DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:

Torri Buckles - FastTrac Program

Torri Buckles stated, "Good evening Council. I would like to bring everyone's attention to 2 new training programs that we have coming up soon at the Business Training Center located at the South Central Technical College in Reserve. The first is known as the SEBD Program, which is the Small Emerging Business Development Program. It is a program that provides technical assistance training to business owners, in particular it provides a cost share of up to 50% for everything from logo development, brochure development, website development, even your point of sales system. So if there's is any business and of course there are, businesses that need some additional funding, particularly with their marketing or any type of technical assistance training, this is the program you need to sign up for, it is no cost to sign up, you can register online or you can attend this workshop on February 18th from 5 - 8pm at the Technical College and they would be happy to sit with you and register you for this particular program. Also,

we are coming up with co-heart of the FastTrac Program, this will be our 5th graduating class, this class starts on March 3rd, we are limited to 20 participants and as of earlier today I think we were about 12. So if you're a resident or business owner, if you're interested in how to start a business or you're currently in business and you need some additional training to help run a successful business, this is definitely a program that you'd like to be a part of. Normally the cost is \$1100.00 to participate but through a grant we have with LED (Louisiana Economical Development) and also funding through Economical Development, the cost for each student is only \$100.00. So again, normally it's an \$110.00 program but your cost will only be \$100.00, this is a 10 session program, it's normally completed of anywhere between 7 - 10 weeks and so again, if you're interested in signing up for this program, please call our Training Business Center, you can ask for Mr. Wayne Aucoin at (985) 479-1247 or you can email them at stjohnbtc@lsbdc.org. Thank you."

Kerry Watkins - Recreation

Kerry Watkins stated, "Good evening Council. I want to ask the community and the council to help us keep the parks clean and free from vandalism during park improvement project. I know we have addressed this issue before but I'm asking for your assistance again. Just this past weekend, we had an incident at one of our park sites that needed be addressed. When someone vandalizes our park equipment and facility, not only are these repairs costly but they're also hamper our efforts to improve, to provide improvements and better quality of life in St. John. Please help us with this issue and report any suspicious activity to the Sheriff's Office immediately. Thank you very much for that. Also the regular basketball season has come to a close. The St. John Recreation All Star Team was selected for the 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th, 12th and 14 year old age groups. These teams will compete in various tournaments in the upcoming weeks. St. John will also host a 12 year old Regional Tournament, March 4th - 6th at Regala Park. Great job to all who participated and the best of luck moving on to play for All Star. Also we would like to thank our sponsor Raising Canes for sponsoring this year basketball season and look forward to working together for future events. Registration for the St. John 2016 Baseball Season will take place through March 3rd. Interested participants can complete their registration form online at sjbparish.com and submit it to the Parks & Recreation Department or contact Kerry Watkins in the Parks & Recreation Department at (985) 652-9569. Coaches are also needed for this season, anyone interested in coaching is asked to contact the Parks & Recreation Department. Thank you."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Mr. Watkins, is it possible you can send us an email when you have something like that going on about the defacing our equipment out there?"

Kerry Watkins stated, "Yes, I just got an email, I just got a phone call this morning about it and we addressed it so, I will definitely pass it one."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yeah, every now and then I make a pass by to the one back here you know to see if I see what's going on and I just like to know what's going on in my area back there, I don't mind."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "Do we have any cameras that are in the parks at all?"

Kerry Watkins stated, "Yeah we have several crime cameras at 2 locations but we are also installing surveillance cameras at all the parks at this time."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes I know when they first put that equipment out there in Belle Pointe they had some vandalism and I know they removed most of it off of there. Like Mr. Snyder, I would like to have an update. Did you have any reoccurrence of that?"

Kerry Watkins stated, "Not with the vandalism what that particular park, which once had graffiti at that park, this last incident was at the Cambridge Park."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Cambridge Park?"

Kerry Watkins stated, "Yes."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yeah, I just wanted to know, like I want to make sure so they behaving pretty good over there in Belle Pointe so far?"

Kerry Watkins stated, "Yes, so far so good."

Councilman Madere stated, "Ok thank you."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Can you say anything else about it? Graffiti or something like that?"

Kerry Watkins stated, "No it's not graffiti. I mean it's just accessing a project or building that's under construction."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Did we make known to the public the ordinance we passed about vandalism and tearing the park up, make it public, put it in the L'Observateur we pass and tell the Sheriff have something passed to enforce it?"

Kerry Watkins stated, "I'm not sure if we did or not."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "I think we need to air that out, get that to the public, let them know there is an ordinance and fines if you go and vandalize the park and let the Sheriff know to."

Kerry Watkins stated, "Ok."

Larry Snyder - (Carry Over 10-13-14) Discussion Lions Water Plant Phase VIII design

At the requests of the Council, a water projects workshop has been scheduled for February 16, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.

Lennix Madere - (Carry Over 10-27-15) Road concerns in District III

Councilman Madere stated, "What I need to know is...okay my concern is and I think I mentioned it to you before and I mentioned it at a couple of meetings. I definitely like the fact that we improving the roads in every

district, every year you know so many every year and maybe 2 or 3, last year I wasn't too happy because I got a half of a half of a street. You know and this year I think I may get 3 or 4 streets. What my concern is, what my concern is the fact that, I would like to see is and maybe you can explain I think we had this conversation and a I think the roads should last longer than what they're lasting, you know I think you said they had like a year of guarantee on the road but I feel as though we put a road down you know I don't think we should be looking at the fact that this road is cracking 3 years or 4 years down the road, I think you know we should get at least in my world thinking at least 10 years out of a street before we even think about doing a repair to it, whether it's the base of the problem or whether it's the grade of asphalt that we using, something has to change you know, we should get at least 10 years out of a road. I know if someone build a building or expand, they expand with a 10 year growth period. So I'm just not satisfied with a road that maybe last 2 years or 3 years and it start to crack up, you know and you being the parish engineer, you may have a solution or some insight as to what we can do as a council as you know to make sure we can try and get more years out of these roads that we're fixing. Basically that's my question to you, what can we can do to insure that we can get 6, 7 years and above out of some of these roads because East 16th Street is a prime example of a road that's been down over 20 years and it's just starting to really fail, so whatever that road cost they definitely got their money worth out of it you know so, that's the kind of length and time I'm looking for, roads that last an excess of 6 or 7 years before we have to do anything to it. Now I do realize pipes busting with the parish going cut them up, but that's man made activity you know we cut it. But just the fact, I'd like a road to last a little longer. What can we do?"

Chuck Savoie stated, "Well, first of all I'm going to tell you that the warranty that you're talking about by contractors is the industry standard, that's 1 year. If you, I guess if you could change that meet something you want to say 2 years. The problem with doing that, I don't know that many contractors would probably want to bid on it because they won't award a warranty because of the past industry standards so that's where the 1 year warranty comes from. Generally roads, asphalt roads last anywhere from 7 to 15 years, that's the general rule okay, depending on the traffic, depending on the condition of the road. Some of the roads that we have in the parish, in particular the one you're talking about, we found a crack down the middle of it, but it was more due not to a failure in the road as it was due the fact we had no shoulder on that particular road, we overlaid it and there is just a big ditch on this side when I went and looked at it, it did crack down exactly the length of what the ditch was. But that was probably more due to the fact that you know the weight of the garbage trucks, school buses and so forth and nothing laterally supporting that particular location. We do a lot of roads throughout the parish so every situation is different, you may run into a situation that you have a great base under a particular road, whereas you might run into another situation that the road does not have a particular good base. We don't know all of those answers and I can't tell you it's an exact science and that I'll be able to promise that this particular road will last any longer than another particular road. And so, we are spending you are spending you have a budget usually and I try following the budget to meet the number of roads that you want to get done. Now of course we can go in and probably spend a lot more money and build a brand new base, put in the subsurface drainage on the right in that particular location and probably get

a much longer warranty to that particular road but we're going to spend seriously more money to accomplish that. It's been the general rule of the parish over the past many years that I've been doing them, they want to try and get as done as many roads as they can to encompass as much of the public as they can. Because even though one may fail or another one may fail, but in general your roads have over, over, over when you consider all of the roads compared to 1 or 2 have lasted a pretty lengthy time. I will make an effort you know in particular if I know if you have a particular condition to report back to you to see if you want to increase the cost and some of these roads but, like I said this goes by a road by road basis depending on what the base conditions are, the subsurface conditions are and many other conditions. Because some of these roads you know they are like just a simple side road, they may not get the traffic that say another particular road might get. I don't know if I'm answering your question but it's all depends like the old folks saying; depending what you put into it what you're going to get a lot out of it, but the truth is, is that we have to spend probably to get a guarantee for every one of the roads, you probably have to go in and do, go in a little further than what we're doing."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay I understand exactly what you're saying and I hope that the council and administration understand exactly what I'm saying. I think the roads that need repairing need to last longer, whatever that take or whatever that encalls because I don't like spending money on a road and then you have to come back and spend that same amount of money or people begging to get their road fixed again within 4 years or 5 years. You know, I roads should last longer than that and that causes us to make sure that when we examine these roads the base is bad, then we should pour anything on a bad base. This particular street, the base is too bad if we put asphalt on it, it's going to fail in a year or two. So that road there we have to check that off and we have to take it down to the ground and take it back up in order for it to last a length of time that it should. Okay and we put asphalt on a bad base it's not going to last, the minute a big truck pass it's going to collapse. Okay and we put asphalt on a road like you said on East 31st Street and they don't have a ditch and it's too close to the ditch that doesn't have a shoulder, okay then we know that road is going to crack down the middle, that's exactly what it did. Now once the water gets in that road and it freeze, it cracks and it's getting even bigger. So within 3 years or 4 years that road will be back to the same condition it was before. So whatever it take to make sure that road, that the citizens on that particular street is going to have a road that's going to last 8 years 9 years then we need to do whatever it take to make sure that when we lay that down that the road have the best opportunity to last. Because if we had on 31st Street, it's cracked straight down the middle then that road never had a chance to last a year, because it didn't, it really didn't last a year. So that's what I'm saying just when we evaluate these roads make sure we evaluate them and if this one need a new base on East 14th Street and then we put a new base. If East 21st Street don't need a new base then we don't put a new base. Whatever it take to make sure these roads are going to last a given amount of time and not 3 years or 2 years then that's what we have to do, that's what I'm looking for. I'm not saying every street we have to tear up the base and put a new base, but it should be examined and determined you know by you all and with Mr. Nunes, whoever it is that makes the decisions as to what have to be done to make this road last. That's all I'm saying."

Chuck Savoie stated, "Well in addition to that, if you want if the parish wants to spend the money you can go and do additional soil testing, it's expensive but you would have to do soil testing and take cores on all of the roads before that. But that was not the intent of originally starting the asphalt program it was basically to give to overlay all of the streets again, but now you're talking about a reconstruction if you want to consider that in each case, you're going to probably have to do some original soil testing and you're going to have to spend the money to do that, so that increases the investigation of each one of these roads. I don't know where you want to go with that but you all have to make that decision."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay for each street we would have to do soil testing for each street? That's what you're saying?"

Chuck Savoie stated, "Yeah, you have to do some core testing."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay now I'm just saying this I don't know. Now I've been living in St. John Parish in District 3 all my life, I didn't think anything changed. Someone tested those cores several years ago so I don't think they changed. I don't know if you have a record of it, when we test one area or one street, I'm pretty sure what's on East 31st Street is on every street going down that area I don't know if there's much different soil, so I don't think we need to do a soil testing on every individual street. What you find on one and what you'll find on the rest of them, you know and to me those people that say you got to test every street, those are the individuals that want to line their pocket with some money. You know cause if I think there's some soil in my front yard it's going to be the same in the back. So I need one test, one street same for all of them that's the way I see it. We just going to have to get that done at another time."

Councilman Perrilloux asked, "Let me interrupt, Mr. Savoie. East 31st Street where's he's talking about, it's still under warranty, correct?"

Chuck Savoie stated, "I think, I'd have to go check..."

Councilman Perrilloux interrupting stated, "Yeah if it is let's set up a meeting with Barriere, Mr. Nunes, yourself and Mr. Madere to see if we can address and solve that problem on East 31st Street. If it is in that case let's build the sides up or build a ditch up to support the road but let's call a meeting out of this meeting because we're not going to solve it here tonight and talk about East 31st Street."

Chuck Savoie stated, "I think you need to put some subsurface drainage, you need to put some culverts in that side ditch."

Councilman Madere stated, "It's not just on East 31st Street, I'm talking about in general."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Right, because that's the one you brought up."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "And kind of in that same vein right there, I know we're going to have a capital project meeting or something like that,

committee, I believe that's something we can talk about in those committees how we're going to handle road improvement projects going forward because the asphalt because it is a little less expensive we can go a lot more but we've got some real big problems in Division B and I know in seven and six and five and it's a lot of mostly concrete, some of the newer areas may have some asphalt for it's all concrete. And so it cost more, we've got some areas that are beyond just a little panel replacement, we really need to take a long hard look at how we're going to tackle some of those areas that have been neglected, not that we intentionally neglected them but it's just more expensive and so do more with some of the asphalt we need to look at that, so Chairman if at one of these committees or workshops we can include streets going forward and I'll ask for some guidance and direction from the administration about how we can handle some of these street repairs that we have especially I know in six when Greenwood is approaching seven and six it's really bad we've got some bad areas along Madewood that are just beyond panel replacement. Tweet I feel your pain you know from a contractor, you know the warranty is, if you're asking me to just scrape up 2 inches of asphalt and that's what you want, I'm coming scrape up 2 inches of asphalt and lay it down if you tell me that's what you want. But in cases Chuck, can you tell just form the naked eye if you have a bad base before you do it so we're not...

Chuck Savoie stated, "Yeah usually the surface is, in this particular case had about 300 foot of ditch, okay that had no culverts in it and the edge of the shoulder is in a lot of cases and a lot of the rural streets you going to see where you don't have much lateral support. In this particular case it didn't but for the 300 feet, so you don't know whether it's going to crack and so you have a hairline crack, it went right down the middle of it and it expanded a little more as the garbage trucks and buses and heavy weighted trucks and vehicles go on that, it emphasizes so I agree with Councilman Madere he is pissed off because we just paved that and then something happens but that can happen in this business it is the nature of asphalt."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "You can't predict them all but what I would like to ask you know we submit all of our streets especially in those areas that you have asphalt you can do a visual inspection and say okay here we have some bad bases if we just go in and overlay we could run into a problem so maybe we can prioritize..."

Chuck Savoie stated, "I don't do that I will come back and tell you cause none of the streets this year even I'm recommending that just going in and overlaying it will not be the solution, that's why it takes us a while. Some of them I'm recommending we totally chop them up, rebuild the base and put a new asphalt down on that. So then we do that each time, I don't want you to think we just look at it and say overlay it."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Ok, ok. We'll add that item to the Capital Projects I guess agenda, see how we're going to move forward."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Thank you Ms. Hotard."

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Remondet seconded the motion to go into executive session to discuss update and concerns regarding home on E. 30th Street - regarding health and safety conditions. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Becnel seconded the motion to go back into regular session. The motion passed with Councilman Wright absent.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Lennix Madere - Update and concerns regarding home on E. 30th Street - regarding health and safety conditions

Larry Snyder - Building at Cambridge and Airline Hwy. graffiti removal

Parish Buildings - Security

Water bill issues - 133 Beechgrove, Reserve, LA

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

Any and all pending legal matters

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

There were no ordinances to be introduced at this time.

PRESIDENT REPORT:

Good evening. I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable Mardi Gras. This year, the weather was rather cool but very pleasant. Both parades, DuMonde and Towahpahsah were very well attended and everyone seemed to have a great time. Thanks to these great organizations for providing this fun-filled weekend. I'd also like to congratulate all of our local Krewes, Kings & Queens and their courts for the Mardi Gras reigns. Thank you to my staff, fire department and Sheriff's office and all involved for their hard work and dedication. We will be holding a wrap-up meeting to discuss issues, concerns and plans for improvement next year. Managing both parades is a great deal of work and it requires a coordinated effort and teamwork. I'd like to remind everyone that February is "Black History Month" and "Heart Health Awareness Month." This month, we especially encourage everyone to celebrate the contributions of African Americans to our Parish and Country by participating in events throughout the community. Riverlands Church will hold a Black History Month Celebration and will honor African American elected officials on Sunday, February 28 at 5:00 p.m. at the church located at 123 Redemption Way/ 480 NW 3rd Street in Reserve. The public is invited to attend to this celebration. We also encourage everyone to help raise awareness for heart disease and healthy habits to prevent heart disease. In recognition of National Wear Red Day - my staff and I wore red to work last Friday and we

encourage everyone to wear red on Fridays throughout the month of February. Good luck to our Miss Andouille Queen Madison King who will spend next weekend competing at the Louisiana Association of Fairs and Festivals Queens of Queens Pageant in Baton Rouge. We want to wish Madison the best of luck and know she will represent St. John Parish well as she competes against queens from across the state. St. John Theatre will present Al Li'l Fats Jackson, A Fats Domino Tribute on Saturday, February 20 at 7:00 p.m. General Admission tickets are \$20 and will be sold at Allied Express. The show is a fundraiser for the theatre and we encourage our residents to support this great cause. Faith-Based leaders and elected officials are invited to join my staff and I for breakfast on Saturday, February 27 at REGALA Gym in Reserve for 8:30 a.m. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss pressing issues that affect our community and to initiate proactive measures to help St. John become the best that it can be. Letters have been sent to the Faith-Based Community and we ask that you RSVP your attendance to my assistant Megan Collins by Friday, February 19 at 985-652-9569. A town hall meeting is also scheduled for Thursday, February 25 at 7:00 p.m. at Rising Star Baptist Church, 620 Cardinal St. in LaPlace. The public is invited to attend to express concerns and questions to Parish Officials. Congratulations to the 18 River Region players who participated in National Signing Day last Wednesday. This is a tremendous accomplishment and we look forward to following your bright careers. Good luck!

ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:20 PM, Councilman Boe moved and Councilwoman Hotard seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

/s/Marvin Perrilloux
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
Council Secretary