

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, MARCH 12TH, 2019
CHAIRMAN THOMAS MALIK
VICE-CHAIR MARVIN PERRILLOUX

The Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session in the Rudolph Sorapuru Chambers, Edgard, Louisiana on Tuesday, March 12th, 2019 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, Larry Snyder, Councilman District VI, Thomas Malik, Councilman District VII, Jaclyn Hotard, Councilwoman-at-Large, Div. B

ABSENT: Marvin Perrilloux

Councilman Becnel led the Prayer. Councilman Madere led the Pledge.

Legal Counsel Keith Green, Jr., Christopher Cortez and Law Clerk Kennilyn Schmill was present.

PUBLIC COMMENT - AGENDA ITEMS ONLY (2 minutes per citizen)

There was no public comment at this time.

INTRODUCTION OF BUSINESSES:

Michael Wright/Jaclyn Hotard - Presentation - Van Bordelon/Benny Robichaux - Flag Retirement Ceremony

Councilman Wright stated, "Thank you. I asked Mr. Bordelon and Mr. Robichaux to come up, they're going to tell us a little about the Flag Retirement Ceremony and the Program, and Memorial that they're working to put on the Southeast Louisiana War Veterans Home."

Good Evening. My name is Van Bordelon, I run the Boys Scout Troop in LaPlace, we here to bring some attention to an upcoming Flag Retirement Ceremony. We will be having it on March the 30th, which is a Saturday, at the War Veterans Home in Reserve. One of the fundamental things we teach the BSA is: citizenship and respect for our Veterans. I reached out to Ms. Hotard and Mr. Wright, about speaking on this because they've been able to attend, and it's something everyone who's in the community service should attend. At this Ceremony we're asking for anyone and everyone to invite Veterans to the Ceremony. It is to Honor the Flag they fought for obviously, and it also involves all of our youth. We'll have youth, not from just like Boys Scout Troop, we'll have from all BSA Units in the Parish we'll have a number of other units from St. Charles Parish, we'll have boys and girls of all ages from Cub Scouts, up to Eagle Scouts, we'll also invite the Young Marines to partake in this. One of the things I wanted to bring up, was the importance of our kids doing this, and the process or the 'Trail the Eagle' (as we say in BSA), part of the process of having certain experiences and certain experiences can't be in a classroom in this case it can't even be in the camp ground. For a young boy of 12 years old, to come and conduct this very sacred ceremony in front of Veterans, and then be glad he didn't do it wrong or he

didn't get in trouble with Mr. Van, you know he thinks he's accomplished today, but then at the end of the ceremony when the Veterans come down to thank him with tears in their eyes, that's a moment that I can't recreate anywhere else. And it's a moment where boys and girls learn to respect their/the Veterans of this community and really everyone that has put in to it. And like I said I'm pleased, any and all Veterans, have them attend the ceremony will be done about 80% of it is done by the boys who are our kids and Mr. Benny has the other portions that the Veterans will be doing. So, I have additional flyers I did hand out some earlier, I'll hand out some more. But again, Ms. Landeche here, she was able to put us on the Council TV Channel (is that what it's called? Cable channel?). Some young ladies were sitting by said they were going to work on looking into the School System and maybe I should've thought about that already, but we're open to hearing all ideas as far as trying to get the word out and trying to make this a big deal. In addition to that learning that these boys do, the Reserve War Home has become something very beneficial to my Boy Scouts, we've already done four (4) Eagle projects there and with additional work to that facility, hopefully we'll have countless more Eagle projects done there. So, I'm going to yield here and let Mr. Benny jump in...

Natalie Robottom interrupting asked, "Can you possibly assist with this? The time and location, and date? And also, if people wanted to attend to have flags they would like to have retired, what would be the process?"

Van Bordelon stated, "Okay the time and date is Saturday, March the 30th, 10 AM, and with regards to (I'm sorry)."

Natalie Robottom stated, "If you're not in attendance and you have a flag that you want to have retired, what would be the process of getting it retired?"

Van Bordelon stated, "If you have a flag that you have flown or your business have flown and needs to be retired properly. Mr. Benny's number is on this flyer mine is as well, you can lookup BSA for Southeast LA Council and they will direct you to one of us as well. But, either me or Mr. Benny will be happy to take your flag, not only from your home but from your business, even from government buildings, to dispose of them properly and give them the respect they're due, which is what Mr. Benny is going to talk about."

My name is Benny Robichaux, I'm a World War II Veteran. You all have a hand out that I have for you, and I designed that memorial and if you look at it, I forgot to put the dimension you know but that's one of the largest in the State, and that thing is going to be 100 feet in diameter. It has two 48-foot promenades that come back from it and wrap around the flag that's there now. It has a small memorial, most of you are familiar with the Home up there and the way it's set-up to the memorial that's there now."

Natalie Robottom - Recognition - 2019 Retirees; Michael Johnson (Public Works) 36 yrs., 5 months; Terrell Jackson (Public Works) 30 yrs., 5 months

Natalie Robottom, Parish President, introduced and presented Plaques to the 2019 Retirees. The Parish President and Council congratulated and thanked them for a job well done through the years.

Natalie Robottom - Proclamation - March as American Red Cross Month

Natalie Robottom, Parish President, read the proclamation for March as American Red Cross Month.

Natalie Robottom - Proclamation - March as National Developmental Disability Awareness

Natalie Robottom, Parish President, read the proclamation for March as National Developmental Disability Awareness.

Natalie Robottom - Proclamation - March as Art of Respect Month

Natalie Robottom, Parish President, read the proclamation for March as Art of Respect Month.

CONSENT AGENDA:

ITEMS: Approval of Minutes - February 26th, 2019, Regular Meeting

MOTION: Councilman Snyder moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to suspend the rules to add to the consent agenda Permit Approval - Frisco Fest Bike Ride - Saturday, March 16th, 2019 beginning at 8:00 AM and Fun Run - Sunday, March 17th, 2019 beginning at 8:30 AM. The motion passed with Councilman Perrilloux absent.

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Sorapuru seconded the motion to approve the amended consent agenda consisting of Approval of Minutes - February 26th, 2019, Regular Meeting; Permit Approval - Frisco Fest Bike Ride - Saturday, March 16th, 2019 beginning at 8:00 AM and Fun Run - Sunday, March 17th, 2019 beginning at 8:30 AM. The motion passed with Councilman Perrilloux absent.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:

18-36 (Public Hearing Held) (Carry Over 11-13-18) An ordinance naming the Baseball Complex located in the Juan Anthony Park in Edgard - the "DeVante Smith Baseball Complex" (K. Becnel)

MOTION: Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Sorapuru seconded the motion to amend Ordinance 18-36 to add the middle name Michael to Ordinance 18-36. The motion passed with Councilman Perrilloux absent.

MOTION: Councilman Becnel moved and Councilman Sorapuru seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 18-36. The motion passed with Councilman Perrilloux absent.

18-37 (Public Hearing Held) (Carry Over 11-13-18) An ordinance naming the Airnasium located in the Juan Anthony Park in Edgard - the "Raeaneka Small Airnasium" (K. Becnel)

MOTION: Councilman Becnel moved and Councilwoman Hotard seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 18-37. The motion passed with Councilman Perrilloux absent.

19-07 (Public Hearing Held) (Tabled 02-26-19) An ordinance amending ordinance 18-43 relative to the annual Operating budgets for St. John the Baptist General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, Enterprise Funds, and Capital Project Funds for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2019 and ending December 31, 2019 (N. Robottom)

MOTION: Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilwoman Remondet seconded the motion to remove Ordinance 19-07 from the TABLE. The motion passed with Councilman Perrilloux absent.

Robert Figuero stated, "These amendments reflect changes to estimated revenues

and expenditures for 2019 and Administration recommends approval."

MOTION: Councilman Snyder moved and Councilman Sorapura seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 19-07 for discussion. The motion passed with Councilman Perrilloux absent.

Councilman Snyder stated, "First of all, Page 16, lines 26 and line 111, I mean 110. And if, well this is in the budget, and it's that's what Salaries and Car Expenses for the Director and being moved to line 126, Professional Services. Line 126 already had \$520,000 in it. Nah, if we add that, it's going to bring it up to \$623,000. Now, why do we need to put that under Professional Services? Why can't we go to the bottom line? Can we put it in the Janitorial Service, which we need \$40,000 to do to complete this contract, with Star Maintenance? We don't have any use for it we don't have any particular thing to pay, pay with this right now, this is for Professional Services? What are we paying out of Professional Services, right now as we owe \$623,000?"

Robert Figuero stated, "You're correct Councilman. As of right now, no we don't have anything to pay for that total \$623,000 as of right now."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Right."

Robert Figuero stated, "However the thought process when I moved it was, the fact that we lost a Utilities Director. A lot of the duties are now falling amongst other individuals so now our time is now spread thin, well thinner than it was before. So, we've been required additional systems to help us accomplish a lot of these task that's a that are in front of us. As I've explained it several times to several individuals, you know just for example: meter projects for example I needed more assistance with that, Blake and I were double teaming with that project, Project Managing that project together, well now that he's gone I need assistance I can't physically or within a timeframe get it done on my own. So, I need the assistance of outside Consultants to assist us. In this particular case, it's going to be meters or talk technology the ones that own the software, unless installing the software. I'm now reaching out to them so they're going to perform additional duties for the software upgrade that we're currently implementing at this time. So again, the thought process when I moved to Salaries and this into Car Allowance and into Professional Services was, at the time when he was here we didn't need additional services. But now that the fact that he's gone, I can say personally I know we're going to need additional help. There's just not enough time in a day for us to accomplish everything that we need to accomplish. We're going to have to utilize that money for additional services. The original \$520,000 was allocated towards multiple items as in years past. Whether it's a lot of times it's Temp Workers its outside Consultants and so forth, and it pays for a lot of our Professional Service Contracts that we have in place already. And Parish Engineer and so forth, so again, that money is allocated based off of years pasted, that \$520,000, we feel was an accurate number for 2019 expenses. Now that the Utilities Director is leaving, again we're going to need additional assistance. We're going to need outside help, and that was the reason why I moved it to that Professional Services line item."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I see the Parish President got her hand up."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes Mr. Snyder, I'd just wanted to add and be a little bit more specific with regard to what Rob is saying. For example: Stantec is the Contractor that we have that Blake was assisting with, well now we're going to require more help from Stantec. Munis is our new financial system, again we're

trying to merge our Financial billing into that system we're going to need more help from Munis. These are contracts we already have, but we know we're going to need more help. The Tyler Technology component, again what we attempted to do was fill some of the vacancies with temps, especially in our Utility Department, those individuals are paid out of Professional Services, the Professional Services line item. So again, the previous Consulting Contracts were covered in the 500, and that was our Parish Engineer and our Consultants that we have in various projects, which I'm sure we can break that out to you. But what we know now and had a lengthy discussion on, was that there were several projects that Blake was managing, that he is not going to be able to manage and Reed cannot, he is operationally managing things in the field. So, we were looking to have someone help us carry those projects over. The goal line, and the mechanism to do that is through Consultants and they're typically paid out of Professional Services line item. If we moved it to the Fund Balance, we just have to come back to you and ask to amend it back up to something when a Consultant is recommended. Whereas if it's not all used, then what's left goes into the Fund Balance, but we can't spend it out of the Fund Balance."

Councilman Snyder stated, "And I do recognize that and we got a lot of work, that's what you're saying we got a lot of work."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Snyder stated, "But my concern is that, we have we got a contract that we approved and we can't find \$40,000 for right now, well might be \$50,000. Can't find it, so what's going happen when we get to the end of that \$120,000, I think! We just going just drop it! And here we got a hundred and something thousand dollars, that we don't have good use for right now. You're trying to find some use for it, you're trying to find some use for it. Why don't we use some of that to do that contract, where we got already signed? And we work, these people are working, but we're going to run out of money, sometimes July, August, September, October, something like that? So why can't we use this money that is free right now? So, so, so, I'm looking at, I'm not quite sure how to do that, but it's all in the General Fund. You know so I'm saying this, take this money that we're going take let's put this to the bottom line and let's look at this when we get to it. And take the money out the bottom line and put this in that contract we got with the Janitorial Service, Star Janitorial Service."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Mr. Snyder, respectfully I'm going to have to check on that."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Check on what?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "On whether or not it could be moved to that."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Well this is in General Fund isn't it?"

Robert Figuero stated, "It is not."

Councilman Snyder asked, "It's not? What Fund is it in?"

Robert Figuero stated, "This money is currently in Utility Budget."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Oh!"

Robert Figuero stated, "So there's no mechanisms for us to move money out of the

Utilities Fund Balance into the General Fund."

Councilman Snyder stated, "So, so okay..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "I just want to have to check, obviously..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "The money has to come from somewhere though."

Natalie Robottom stated, "That's right. I just want to verify that money that is generated through sales tax or mileage, whatever it is, specifically for water, waste water, whatever, can be moved for something else and I can't answer that tonight."

Councilman Snyder stated, "That's fine that's fine. And that's, I don't want to pass this with this in here. Because I see what's happening here, we're trying to set this thing up and we can hire an Engineer to take over Utilities Department."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Right!"

Councilman Snyder stated, "A contract Engineer!"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Several, several!"

Robert Figuero stated, "Exactly! Several different individuals to help us, assist us with each other."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well that's what that's what we got five hundred something thousand dollars to do that?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "No, no."

Robert Figuero stated, "No, no."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well five hundred something thousand dollars that'll be a dedicated check?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well let's, I'll tell you what we'd like. Let's, let me see what it's dedicated from. I'd like to see what it's dedicated from, alright?"

Robert Figuero stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Alright. What's the other one in the book right now we got to pay five hundred something thousand dollars for before we pass this?"

MOTION: Councilman Snyder moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to TABLE Ordinance 19-07. The motion passed with Councilman Perrilloux absent.

19-08 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the re-subdivision of the Gabriel Webre or Assigns Tract from the Mississippi River to the 40 Arpent Line into Lots 1-GW and Lot 2-GW of the Gabriel Webre Tract, located in the area generally bounded by Hwy. 18, E. 10th St., E. 9th St., and Hwy. 3127, Edgard, LA, as shown in a survey prepared by Stephen P. Flynn, P.L.S. on November 14th, 2018. (PZS-19-1206) (N. Robottom)

Rene Pastorek stated, "This re-subdivision request was approved unanimously by the Planning Commission at its February 18th meeting. Based on the consistency with zoning district requirements and the intent of the Land Development Code, Administration recommends approval."

MOTION: Councilman Becnel moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 19-08. The motion passed with Councilman Perrilloux absent.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Becnel stated, "Yes, I ask that the Council accept the minutes of the finance meeting."

MOTION: Councilman Becnel moved and Councilman Sorapuru seconded the motion to accept the minutes of the finance meeting. The motion passed with Councilman Perrilloux absent.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Jaclyn Hotard - Instruct the administration to discontinue the policy of only accepting trucks at the parish dump for residential customers (Action required)

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Thank you and I do see the comments here from Administration. My concern is and I did have a good conversation with Mr. Kindrick about it. The concern that I have is with private individuals who attempt to use the dump, let's say you know they're bringing a few personal consumption items and they don't have a truck. So, you've got a little SUV like I have, you have a Mini Van, you borrow your neighbors lil trailer that they haul their golf cart around to bring a view items, well then, they're told that they can't. You have to have a truck to bring it in where you can't have the items on a trailer. And so, I had two (2) instances with two (2) individuals in that situation, one had a little Mini Van, one (1) borrowed a trailer to bring a couple of fence boards, and then the other individual was a small SUV with a trailer. And the intent is to not have commercial users using the dump because the behind the parish building as well, is what I'm talking about. To not have commercial people use it because those are businesses, you aren't making money off of it it's for our residents. And so, the intent of what we put in place I believe was good, but right now there's just a little bit of an inconsistency and that's the word that was used here. But there are inconsistencies because some are you know private residents only have access to a trailer, you don't have a truck. They might have a..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "And sometimes they take trailers. The inconsistency is they take trailers too! Sometimes they take trailers."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "What do you mean?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "They don't all, they don't use trailer all the time. So, when I say it's inconsistent, there's different people working it, some of our trailers, some of our trucks, so we need to work on that. But you stated it perfectly. We're just trying to avoid commercial use of it, but whether you know a lot of people have trailers, that they can bring things from their home or something other than a truck. So, that's a discussion we're going to have in speaking with employees I think they were doing different things, but some

trailers were allowed."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Right, I see what you're saying. So, some people come with the trailers. And the two (2) individuals that called me, like I said was one with a Mini Van and the trailer, and one was a lil SUV and a trailer. And so, I called there just to find out, and you know it was said about you couldn't have a trailer, but just right and the intent is to make sure that we don't have commercial use of it because it's for our residents. So, I just wanted to put some emphasis on that, obviously you guys are going to address it so that if someone comes they don't get turned away. So, thank you."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "Any particular reason that they were refusing material in a vehicle, what was the reason for coming in a car? Not letting them?"

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I don't know I wasn't there."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Oh, so you didn't talk to the people at the dump?"

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Well no. When I called they told me that they couldn't accept items that were brought on a trailer. And this individual, both individuals had a trailer because they didn't own a truck to put it in the bed, so they couldn't put four (4) fence boards in the back seat of their ill well one was a lil SUV and one was a Mini Van. So, they didn't want to put, you know fence boards or that into their vehicles, so they borrowed you know hey, call a cousin, the brother, let me use your lil small trailer put the items on the trailer, when they got to the dump they were told 'we can't accept the items on a trailer'. Well that was all they had to bring the items and it was for personal it was personal use, it wasn't a contractor or the results from a construction project. It was in one case somebody had to replace a few fence boards and another case I think it was some items out of a bathroom that they had done a little remodel to a vanity."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "And this is I'm just a learning process, so we call Metro to pick-up bulk stuff, we pay Metro to pick-up that bulk stuff on side of the highway?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "It's picked up, there's several processes. The second collection if you have bulky waste you can put it next to your garbage can and Metro will pick that up. On occasion we've had some horrible situations where nobody's picking up anything, they've evicted somebody there's trash all along the house, Metro will take a picture of that to show us what they're picking up and get authorization to pick it up and then we end up paying for it. We also the incinerator, where we bring our tree limbs and commercial tree cutters can bring their own trees there. And then we have our recycle yard, which is for residents and again I think, and it's difficult because we don't you know our folks don't necessarily know who are contractors. And so sometimes they try to apply a rule or make an assumption that everybody hauling on a trailer, maybe a contractor that's not necessarily the case. But as I said, there's been some inconsistencies because they accepted trailers as well. So we're just going to work with them, I think our sign may say no trailers, or may have and of course the intent for that was again, for Commercial uses for our residents, but we all understand that, some of our residents have trailers, trucks, cars, you know they bring it in boxes, so we're going to work with the people who work the recycling yard to try and address that. But there was no intent to school anyone other than Commercial Contractors from being paid for something and just bringing it to us to dispose

of."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "And to your comment Mr. Larry, if you had a couple of fence boards you could put them at the road, but some residents it might be that they repair the fence on Sunday, and their first collection is on Wednesday. So, they don't want to have the fence boards in the garage or they don't want to put them along the road for that long and kill the grass, it's a variety of reasons. Some people just don't like to have anything at curbside, you know for whatever reason and so they prefer to come and bring it, so."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "And I understand that you know with the point you mentioned, but right now I'm just starting to think I'm concerned a little bit we're paying Metro to pick-up and we're paying dumpsters at the recycling yard, we're paying two (2) different places you know, that's another story for another day, maybe look at some numbers maybe we need to take a second look at all of that, make sure people are signing in giving their driver's license number or address that they live in St. John Parish. Now I can't go in St. Charles Parish dump, because I don't have a driver's license for St. Charles Parish."

Natalie Robottom stated, "They have to show their license."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Yes."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "They have to show, now when they come they have to show their driver's license?"

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "I'm going to just ask Administration to just re-evaluate the situation with paying for dumpsters at the recycling yard and have Metro take pictures and send us a bill. I get calls every week, I get calls every week about debris on the side of the highway that Metro didn't pick up. And some people probably not calling, maybe Metro is not getting the picture, but Metro has been responding to my calls, they pick it up but I'm looking at the numbers right now for dumpsters and Metro. So maybe we can evaluate that a little better down the road. Thank you."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Who pick up the dumpster at the Recycle Yard?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Metro."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I think that's in their contract."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Snyder stated, "And so like what you were saying Larry, is that because we got Metro picking up a lot of places we shouldn't be paying for dumpsters. Aren't that's free from Metro? Those three (3) or four (4) dumpsters that's back there? I think it is in the contract."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Its part of their contract, but the disposal fee is not. We still pay a disposal fee for those, they don't continually go around the Parish picking up dumps, you know but there are occasions when people are evicted and there's a whole pile of stuff on the road that becomes a safety hazard that we will send them out to pick up and get out of the neighborhood. However, that's not what we like to do, because that means we're paying for it to clean up somebody else's house. You understand who is probably no longer paying garbage cause there's nobody in the house. So that's not what we typically, like that's

not our real service that is available to our residents, but we've done it in the past. What is available the day pick-up and our recycle yard and our incinerator, that's available based on the fee that they pay for garbage. The other is something that sometimes we're pushed into doing because it needs to be done, but that that doesn't happen all the time. Our typical method is to utilize the dumpsters that in yard as well as the recycle bins that are throughout the Parish."

Councilman Snyder stated, "The dumpsters that that's at the recycle, those are the ones I'm talking about. Those are the ones that they pick-up and that's part of their contract?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Ok. Alright, alright thank you!"

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay I think maybe I can clear up what Mr. Sorapuru was concerned about. Some individuals don't even have trailers, they don't have a truck they don't have access to a trailer. So that's why they put their debris to the curbside you know and that's why Metro go out and pick those up when they called it in. You know some people have trucks some people don't, some people don't have trailers, don't even know anyone that they know have a trailer. So, and a I don't know how much Metro pick-up you know a week or a month you know, but I think mainly that's what their service is for you know and especially like when they call white goods, washing machines, ice box and stuff like that. You know they pick those things up, and sofas, we don't bring too many sofas come to think our recycle yard. I don't think too many come. So, a lot of those big items are placed on side the road and Metro picks those up."

DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:

Lennix Madere - (Tabled 02-12-19) Update on status of contract negotiations with Star Maintenance Janitorial Services, LLC

Councilman Madere stated the above item will remain TABLED.

Larry Snyder - Discussion regarding possible Charter changes

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well actually, I guess we can talk a little bit about it now, it's been over 20 days. I was concerned, just be honest with everybody, I'm a let the public know my concerns with the Charter. One issue I got some issues with, and it's the fact that we lose good people, to me, we lose some good people we lost some good people because of term limits okay? Nah, the Parish President the Parish President appoints two (2) people that we don't have to approve, that's her people but there's also all the Directors, okay! Now we're coming up at the end of the year and there's new election coming up, we got some Directors and we got some people in positions that might leave, they might just leave because they're not knowing what's going on with their jobs at the end of this year. And I was thinking about that a little bit because I hate to lose good people, you just lost two (2) here tonight, we are going see some affects from that trust me. Cause I know those guys and that's Terrell and Mr. Johnson, those guys work hard. And Terrell work in my District over there, all over the parish they're asking about him. So, we going to miss them, for dependability and always going to work, on time, do what they got to do things like that, you see that's the way those guys there were built. We got some Directors are the same, you know they do great jobs and if you get a Parish President in here, like say for instance; I'm running for Parish President, I know nothing about that job, sure I

can - you do this, you do that, and you do that. Report back to me when you finish doing it, let's see where you are. And look, if you got good people you could do that with then that makes my job easier. But we can't do that now, we lost which I thought our Utilities Director was a pretty good guy, I really did I thought he was doing a decent job and he was easy to work with, we lost our Planning & Zoning Director, you know I thought was good people I'm a be honest with you, and we got some good people that's still there now, but they're in limbo, these people got to do a job, they got to do a job for us. Mr. Robert is one of them, our Health & Human Resources (Human Services), these people doing good work for us right now. But you know something? Their jobs are on the line, you know. The next President come they say nah, I then already made a commitment to this person you got to go, you got to go, and leave us high and dry. We got to look at that in our Charter. That's what I'm trying and I want people in the Parish to realize that. I don't care how we do it, we need to look at it. Myself, I'd like to see people like that be hired under contract you see, that's what I'd like to see. Let them get hired under contract, approved by this Council but report Administration to the Parish President. You know if the Parish President decide to leave or get impeached, something like that, she don't have to take them. So, if that happens we don't lose good people in the process. The next Parish President comes here and say I want mine, I'm a put all my new people in here. That's the only reason why I want to look at the contract I want look at the Charter. It's just a thought right now, there may be some other ideas out here that may be better than this, but that's one way we could get to keep good people you know but regardless who the Parish President is, as long as you do a good job you got a contract, you see."

Councilman Sorapururu stated, "Yes Mr. Snyder I feel your fever on that, but they got many many fronts many hats that we can trade places with in that Charter, there's a lot a lot of things that need to be turned around but I just want to remind the council members and yourself, that when the Charter was drawn up many years ago, there was a Commission that was appointed by the Council. So as this Council shouldn't go into the Charter and make any changes, I think we're going to make a change, we get a Commission, appoint a Commission together and bring the recommendation back to us. I sat in on a number of meetings years ago where the Charter was being drawn up. A lot of people thought the Charter was a Councilmatic form of Government wouldn't pass, and it passed. They got some good things and some bad things, I've heard people say we need to just go back to Police Jury System. Maybe so I don't know. But the fact is, I want to let you know that I'm in favor of looking at and reviewing things in this Charter, and we can get a Commission to do it the way this Charter was drafted and started up, don't let this Council pick and choose what we want done, let the public have an opportunity to have input and give us a draft back. And I'm not just talking about the Directors, I'm talking about the whole shooting match Mr. Snyder. I'm with you 100% on that."

Councilman Snyder stated, "The Charter is a good working document it's been here since 1982, I think it was done writing this thing or '83, back in those days. And it works it works, but I think now it might need a little bit tweaking, and looking at it when you look at it, everything goes through changes. And we had a committee back then, cuz we never been down this road before so we needed a committee to look at this thing. But now it's been working for so many years and I don't have a problem getting a committee, that would be nice I don't have a problem. Ms. Robottom sent me some information on some people who there are Consultants who do things like that. But I think this whole change, I mean a lot of changes to a Charter, our Charter don't need a whole lot of changes. We just need to look at some things that might help the Parish in the future, that's what

I think and that's why I'll look at that particular thing right there. I don't, I think it's wrong for old people like, people that runs our Parish actually take care of our business for us. In whereas they, a year before they get ready to leave, Parish President get back coming up for election again people might be looking for another job you know. And we going to lose a lot of good people, we've lost some good people. I don't know, so from here now if somebody, what you said Mr. Larry, Larry that's a good idea, you want to come up with a Committee or a group of people if we need to do that, if that's what you want. Well I don't think [INAUDIBLE]. I think we have some things we could look at and if we need to talk and have some input from the public and maybe input from some people around the parish or business people, we can do that. But I just think we need to look at it, I believe so."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Just a couple of things Mr. Snyder, and I'd love to sit with you when you go over some of your thinking but I agree with Mr. Sorapur. The Charter is a good working document but most of the people who entered into this form of Government have reviewed and revised and amended their Charter at least two (2) times. So, we have not kept up as a Parish, and there are some little things, again, when you create a Charter and you've never been through it before and you put things that you think that might work but in actuality they're don't. So there probably needs to be a comprehensive review of the Charter. With regards to Directors, you know I hear what you're saying but..."

Councilman Snyder's comment was INAUDIBLE.

Natalie Robottom stated, "I understand. With regard to contracting, there are a lot of issues that go along with that. When you're contracting with employees, you know again, that's not stable. They have no benefits and they're not allowed to enter into the retirement system, and then you will pay them unlike you're doing Directors now for anytime they work over allowed contract time. So again, that's something you'd have to consider. Too, there are a lot of reasons why Directors aren't going to stay, and even if you issue them a contract that goes past term it's their choice on whether they want to work for whoever is elected President. You can't force them to stay, it's you know some people might stay and work for anybody, but there's other people who will not. And I think it's unfair for someone else to pick a President's Directors and have them to pick them for them. It's a reason that the Charter is like it is, there has to be some type of relationship from before or ability to work with the people who are going to be responsible for running the Parish, and ultimately comes backs to the President. It's doesn't come to the Council; these people would be working for the President so they should have some say in to who will be working for them. So, you know that a long conversation that I know you're trying to address, I don't know that this is the answer I don't know that it will solve what you're saying, because even if you put it into contract that would go into another term, you have no guarantee they will stay."

Councilman Snyder stated, "There's no guarantee our Parish President would stay. There's no guarantee our Governor would stay, I know there's no guarantee. I don't have a problem with that. I've looked at Charters before, I've seen Charters I've seen blue prints of Charters before."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I'm sorry, say that again."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I've seen blue prints of Charters before. And honestly, this is a Charter here already written, okay? So, we can't say it's not working it's been working for the Parish for a long time. It's just a concern I

got with the particular part of it. And we need to look at that part of it, that's what I was saying. I'm not saying there's anything else is wrong with it. If people want to leave, that's their prerogative to leave, let them leave regardless of what the contract or if they got a contract. Now we got to look at, they got to wait till their contract over with, or there got to be something in their contract where they can be relieved or we can relieve them. So that that's not an issue as far as what I'm trying to accomplish here now. I'm looking out for the good people that we have in here and the good people that, look I don't know I guarantee you we have lost people cuz it was getting close to the end and they got a job offer somewhere else. We have lost some good people."

Natalie Robottom stated, "That is correct."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I know the story, and we need to look at something. Do we need to look at the whole Charter? Maybe not! But there may be some things you'll, some other people might want, I don't have a problem let's look at it, let's call a meeting I'd like to have a meeting on Charter evaluation from this Council. Let's have a Special Meeting on that, I'd like to see that happen. Let's direct that to the Chair, you know let him look at it. Give him a chance to look at, what do you think, talk about it, we can get the public in here and they can listen. They can have any part if they want. But I'm saying this is our document, so we need to look at and I think that part there is a little weakening and I don't like putting people in that position. I don't like that."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes I agree with Mr. Snyder, a lot of things that he said but I also agree with Ms. Robottom on what she said about the Parish President having the right to choose their Directors. Because if you're going to hold the Parish President responsible okay, then I think she should have the right or he should have the right to pick the individual that's going to work as the Directors for them. And I understand the fact what Mr. Snyder saying, because I know a lot of these people since I've been in office and they all have been dedicated good workers. Okay but it's just the nature of the game in political positions. Okay when you take these political jobs you know there's guarantee there's no sonority, there's no way of building up equity or anything in there okay. You're basically company, and whenever the Parish President leave the new Parish President come in, they may have a certain plan a certain direction and even may want to choose someone else that they have. And I think most of the Directors understand that when they took those positions, and that's why I'm not upset when they leave because I know they make a decision cuz they probably won't take that position because they might not fit in with the new Parish President coming in, so that's why they decide to leave. You know I hate to see them go, but I do thoroughly understand why, cuz this is just the nature of the beast political. Okay it happened, the President of the United States, come in and clean house and picked whoever they want, whoever he wants he picked who is going to help him do the job the best way possible okay, and that's what it is now. Do the Charter need some tweaking in some areas? It probably and yes it does. Okay and I support the fact that they want to get a committee together to look at it. But bottom line is any changes that's made to the Charter will be done by the voters, we can only recommend these changes to them and they'll have to vote on them. We can't change the Charter just by a simple vote of the Council. You know it goes to the public. Okay I definitely understand Mr. Snyder, what he's saying I definitely hate to see an individual leave, but it's just the nature of the beast and the nature of business. Political situations."

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "Well I think Mr. Madere just said everything I was going to say. I agree with Ms. Robottom and I understand what Mr. Snyder's

saying. It is the nature of the beast that happens. Federal, State, local Government, some of these people may stay on with the next Administration. But if they've been a good Director, their work has proven themselves, and if they had nobody in mind they may keep them so...I mean I've been through it myself it's just how those things work and they expect that running into these jobs. But the Charter review is a great idea. Thank you."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Thank you and I said it before, I do think the Charter review is a good idea. And I agree with Tweet and what President Robottom said. It actually speaks to our separation of powers of you will. If we want to balance Administrative to Legislative, then there has to be the ability Administrative to elect those individuals that we work for, were he or she. And if you actually look at neighboring parishes, our Charter and Natalie might be able to add some to that maybe litigate, but our Charters' actually enforce protections to our department heads, that in neighboring parishes they don't have. They're actually completely at will of the Administrator, where is in our Charter, once a Director is confirmed it is required a 2/3 vote of the Council is required to dismiss a Director. Where is in other parishes, and I believe St. Charles for sure I'm not sure of St. James, but even Jefferson they're completely at will, Parish President hires Parish President fires. And so, there's some argument or one argument on one side of the coin per say, you know if there's a department head that maybe isn't working up to par, the Administrator is kind of stuck if you will they really don't have any recourse unless you can get six (6) votes of the Council. And so, some people will actually say that it's almost an over reach, the Legislative is over reaching into the administrative side because we almost have a little bit of a, we have a Veto power we're saying you can choose but once you choose your stuck with them for four (4) years, even if that department head completely defies the administration. So our Charter I'm saying all that, our Charter actually enforce more protections for our department heads than most, most parishes and I do you know it is one of those things, cuz I mean I don't like to see Directors leave, I've seen some get fired, I've seen some leave you know just with changes of Administrations and you know some of us, especially when you have good people but I guess like you said, it's the nature of the way the system is set up. And we do have a little bit more protection for our Directors, although some do argue that creates even a more problematic issue because you know if you have six (6) votes with the Council, then it really doesn't matter what a department head, what the relationship will be with the Parish President. We had situations not with this Administration, but in the past where there have been some issues. But I do think looking at the Charter is always a good thing, I do understand why this that system is the way that it is as far as our moving Administrative and our Legislative sides."

Councilman Wright stated, "Thank you and just to add briefly to that. There's also an understanding with the vote of the people vote to elect the Parish President are also voting on that Parish President's vision so they are trusting in that Parish President to appoint those Directors and Department Heads. So, the Parish President decides to keep or delete, keep or bring in new staff that is their given right, and the people elected them to do that. But I do agree that the Charter does need to be looked at, but I would also ask if we could do that we make it a comprehensive review, I think bringing in an outside firm that specializes in Charters and legal languages because this is a legal document. I would caution us to try to make changes ourselves and bring it to the voters, bring in more of a specialized firm to work with us to make the changes."

Councilman Snyder stated, "The consensus of this group is that we look at the Charter, and that was my intent in the first place, we look at the Charter. And

consensus of this group is to get a Consultant in here to guide us along with that. And that's what I eluted to earlier when I said Ms. Robottom sent me some information from 2014, and we got that I didn't want to send it to you because I didn't want to get accused of the sun shining okay. So, I didn't send it to no one else, but I had cuz I brought it up and I had it on the agenda. But what I have is just a little information I have, and I'll pass it to you or the administration can send it to you. But since we we've gotten this thing going, we got election coming up in the latter part of this year, I think we ought to keep it going. And I think we ought to have a little meeting, special meeting to just discuss that and might look at someone, some of you may know some people that could lead us in that direction. And nah let's look at it and get us a committee together. So, I'd like to request this from the Chairman, when you get a chance let's try to schedule another meeting here, just for that."

Councilman Malik stated, "You know it's a, you know I think at the end of the day, I think this is a legal document and it should be reviewed periodically to ensure that it's staying with changes and the times. You know we have 20% of the population using bitcoins that's going to increase to 40, so things like this have to be taken into consideration. Times are changing, whether it's people my age want to or not, so anyway! I think so, we still have to do this. I do appreciate you bringing this up."

Lennix Madere - Discussion regarding Royal Engineers - relative to the CDBG project

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes I see they have specific concerns regarding a constituent matter was addressed with Councilman Madere. That's not quite right. Okay what was discussed on the phone, I received a phone call from Ms. Toombs and Ms. Valentine concerning that constituent's concerns she had with some things in her house. Now what I did learn from them was I didn't see it but they said (and I believe them) that two (2) documents was signed by this constituent. One (1) saying the project was 50% complete and another one (1) saying the project was 100% complete. My problem is whenever someone calls me, okay I'm going to look into their situation their problem. Okay and I have a couple of concerns with the conversation, one thing with the conversation was; Ms. Toombs asked me why I didn't them, and my answer to Ms. Toombs at the time was; we pay Royal Engineers all this money to answer this question. And I've been dealing with Royal Engineers for almost a year with this one individual person. So, any information that they gave me over the phone at that time, Royal should have been able to give that to me several months ago when I first started talking to them about the individual. They knew her name they knew her address, they knew her street they had to follow-up with her, so whatever they told me on that particular day, Royal Engineers should have been able to give me that information months ago, almost a year ago. Okay and one thing I didn't like was the fact; why didn't Royal ask the individual (a woman) or any person that's not in carpentry (not knowing anything about house repairs), to sign a document to say that something is 50% complete! That's like asking me to go to the garage and look at my car that's being fixed and sign a paper that's saying its 50% complete. I wouldn't know, until you give it to me. Okay and it might not be complete then. So, I don't like that document, 50% complete, and then 100% complete. And then, did they tell the individual do they have a timeframe as far as when they can call and say hey, I'm not satisfied or something gone wrong! What's the warranty? I think you mentioned some of the warranty, what a year?"

LaVerne Toombs stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Madere stated, "A year had passed up. Okay if that being related to the constituents that they have a year to come back and file a complaint against whoever did the work. And this particular individual, I know it's been it was inside of a year that the complaints start coming to me and to Royal Engineers. Okay Ms. Toombs may not be aware of it, Ms. Valentine may not be aware of it, but she is not out of her warranty when she complained to me about the problem with Royal Engineering. Because I had been talking to them before I ever brought it up to him at the Council meeting the last time he was there, I brought it up to him again, but I had been dealing with him several months before that way before that, so she was well in her warranty. And Ms. Toombs even said that Mr. Reddick said that a window that they worked on for the lady wasn't in her scope of work, he was doing it as a favor for me, I never asked for a favor. Okay, I'm not asking for a favor. I asked him to do the work that he was supposed to do at that particular house and the problem that she complained to me about. Okay so I never asked him or anyone to do a favor for anyone. Okay, follow the rules do your job! Whenever someone call me who work for the Parish, like Code Enforcement and they say what about this and what about that, I say; don't ask me just to do your job. Okay just do your job, alright then we'll deal with it afterwards. So, I think this individual is well within her warranty okay, what I do not like the fact, oh one other thing to! Administration have said constantly and they have a lot of work to be done, so that's the reason why I didn't call Ms. Toombs or Myra. When we pay someone millions of dollars to handle these situations I shouldn't have to call Ms. Toombs I shouldn't have to call Myra, I should go straight to the horse's mouth that we pay millions of dollars to operate this situation. Okay? And he should have been prepared able to give me all the answers all the information that I need, okay, and to help this individual. Cuz I gave him all the information he needed. Name, address, street, everything! So, he failed to follow through and do, when we ask this and that's why he dragged on for over a year, okay? Because the action was slow, and that's why I kept coming back to him, and kept coming back to him, and we paid them millions of dollars. Okay and the response should have been quick, fast and in a hurry. Okay so, they have not been addressed but it will be addressed. Okay because I do think she was well in her warranty. I if you, it's just like the insurance company dragging on for a year and a day to tell you they're not paying your claim. Okay well she was well in her timeframe. So, I will be talking to Royal Engineers and to Mr. Reddick again to solve this problem with this individual."

LaVerne Toombs stated, "And Councilman I would ask specifically if you would keep me in the loop, so that I can try to move the process quicker if that is the case, in regard to this matter."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay no problem. Okay, but I know she well in her warranty."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Yes so Mr. Madere, let me clearly understand. You requested Royal to be here tonight and they didn't show up, is what you're saying?"

Councilman Madere stated, "Whenever I request a, well I didn't specifically say to them. I just put this on the agenda, but I mean if we're paying them and anything they have their name Royal, someone should be here to answer the question."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "And, I can understand Ms. Toombs and Administration being busy doing things, but I would think with the number of problems we have with this with our grant, our grant construction situation, I would think that

Royal would've been here tonight to answer your questions to a help address that."

Councilman Madere stated, "My point exactly and we're not paying them a couple of thousands, we're paying them millions of dollars to handle millions of dollars, and to handle thousands of hundreds of people in our community. So anytime we have something on the agenda, like their name, they should be here or their representatives and not Ms. Toombs standing up to speak for them or Ms. Robottom, that's what I'm saying. They should be here."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "And I totally agree Mr. Madere, and maybe we'll get..."

LaVerne Toombs interrupting stated, "Councilman Sorapuru, the information that Councilman Madere asked we gave him the information that was the correct information, of course we can't go into detail regarding the information it was shared in regard to the constituent. However, I did speak with Royal they provided us with the information, we shared that information with him, and that was pretty much it. I did speak to Mr. Reddick with Royal, he informed me that the conversation was somewhat different. So again, my recommendation is that maybe we all should get into a room together and try to get some clarity."

Councilman Madere stated, "Well, let me give some clarity right here to the public, okay! The way I see it is the way it is. Now I don't care what type of spender Scott Reddick put on it, okay it's plain and simple. The woman called me, told me what her problem was I called him, name, address, telephone number, nah what kind of spend can he put it on? Okay that's the only kind of spend he can put it on. Either you address the problem or you don't address the problem. So whatever story he wants to tell, tell it here. Tell him come to the meeting and tell it. Okay, tell him come to the meeting and tell it, and don't send the information through a third party. Okay I speak directly to him when I called him, okay I had never had any intentions on calling anyone in Administration. If I was going to call anyone besides Royal, it would have been Myra Valentine. It wouldn't have been Ms. Robottom, it wouldn't have been you, because Myra Valentine is involved with this and know more about it. Okay, but I went straight to the horses' mouth from the beginning. Nah Royal need to be standing right there and I want him to tell me anything different I said tonight. I gave him a name, address, more than once."

LaVerne Toombs stated, "And Councilman Madere. Again, the information that you requested we gave you that information and you found out something a little bit different than what you were told, and I don't know what else more than you would, what other information that you would want."

Councilman Madere stated, "And that's not your job, that's his job. That's his job to do deal with that. He's the one that should be asking me this here, that's his job. He got paid millions of dollars for it, okay and like I said; it was over a year I've getting with him with that one individual person. So, I respect the fact that you're standing up there trying to answer for him, okay but we didn't pay you all that money we paid him."

LaVerne Toombs stated, "Councilman, I'm not up here standing and trying to answer for the Consultant. I am responding to a request of yours and the information was given to you, and again as I stated before, the information that you received wasn't correct, and we gave you the correct information. So again, I believe that's my responsibility is when someone inquired for me to provide you with

clear and precise information which was given to you, and again I think that's the responsibility of Administration."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay, let me correct you on this went down. I put this on the agenda just as it is. I didn't request any information from you. Okay you made a phone call to me and asked me why I had it on the agenda. I never made a request to Administration, never made a request to you, or to Myra. I just place it on the agenda and our Secretary put it on the agenda. The next thing, I received a phone call from you..."

LaVerne Toombs interrupting stated, "Yes you did."

Councilman Madere stated, "Asking me why I had Royal on there..."

LaVerne Toombs interrupting stated, "No sir that's not what I said. That's not what I said."

Councilman Madere asked, "What you said?"

LaVerne Toombs stated, "I asked you what was, I wanted some clarity..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "Okay you wanted clarity or why..."

LaVerne Toombs interrupting stated, "Yes sir. You were thinking, Councilman this is what we were thinking. We were thinking that you wanted to know how many homes that we have that are complete, what was the process or what's going on regarding the homes that we have? So that's why I called you so that we make sure that we give you a good information. That was the reason why I called you. When you spoke with, when you told me that it was a constituent matter I then inquired with you, asked you what that was, I looked into it contacted you with the information."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay and let me tell you something. I appreciate that you took that step, okay but like I told you on the phone, the one that should be taking that step and looking into that information, is Royal. Okay, and that's the only one that I really want to talk to because you paid him big money. I want him to give me the answers straight out of his mouth, cuz he's the one that's handling it. Okay I appreciate the step that you took, but Royal Engineers should be here. And like I said, the information that you gave me the other day, I should've had that information 365 days ago. Cuz it's been at least a year I told him about that constituent."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Mr. Malik. I'd just like to add that we weren't aware that you wanted Royal here. They would not pick up our agenda and know that you wanted them here from this agenda item. As Ms. LaVerne said, because the item is non-specific, it doesn't really tell you're going to talk about we called to find out. Had we known and you know in my discussion, I didn't deal with it at all except to discuss it with Ms. LaVerne who thought it was handled by the information that she provided you. So, she feels there was a need to go any further as you can tell by the response. But again, if the item were more specific, and possibly in your conversation with Ms. LaVerne you've asked to have Royal here, we would have requested that they attend. But based on this item, there's no way for us to know that you what you wanted to talk about, nor that you wanted Royal present to address your concern. But in the future if that's what you'd like, please make sure that we are aware of that, and we'll make sure somebody's here."

Councilman Madere stated, "We'll I understand what you said in that regards, but we have placed on the agenda an item before against Royal and they showed up. We don't always request that they be there. But I, and I think Administration may have contacted them on behalf of the fact that they will be on the agenda. Okay, so I understand, I don't have a problem listening to what you say about that. They need to address their problems themselves, like I said; this item you were not aware of it, Ms. Toombs was not aware of it, okay but I've been dealing with Scott Reddick on this particular individual for well over a year. Okay, and for him, so I want him here for the next meeting for him to put a spin on his story differently from what I told him. Okay, I want him here. So, I'm making it clear now that this stay on the agenda, that he come here, bring the file on that lady and then I want him to tell this Council exactly what he discussed..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "I don't think you can discuss her case."

Councilman Madere asked, "What happened?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "I'm not sure that he'll be able to discuss..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "Well we're not going to do names, we're not doing names. It's a case, we can discuss a case without any names without putting their name out because there's probably more than one case like that. Okay we can discuss everything thoroughly without mentioning a name. Okay, we've been talking about it all night and no one still don't know the street, name or address of the individual I'm talking about. So Royal can come in and do the same thing, okay? But he will give me the right story and not a makeup story or an imaginary story in his mind that he's telling you. Okay, so I want him to be here for the meeting for the relay of that story."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "Yes, does Royal still have an office here in the Parish? They're not on Belle Terre Blvd. anymore?"

Councilman Madere stated, "They left without notification, that's what they told the Parish President."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "I mean Mr. Madere I mean on a serious note. I mean if this has been going on for over a year, and you have not had a sit-down conversation with them?"

Councilman Madere stated, "Oh I've talked to him on the phone several times."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Okay, but I mean the office used to be down Belle Terre Blvd..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "Oh I went to the office. Okay but like I said, you know that song Christmas song 'It Ain't Dere No More'? It Ain't Dere No More!"

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "I mean if Administration is asking to set a meeting up with Royal, Mr. Madere, sometime this week that would be a good thing to do instead of waiting until another week. This has been going on that long."

Councilman Madere stated, "No, nope! It's been going on for like I said for several months, over a year. It started this is 2019, it started in '18. Okay so what I'm saying is I want him here, I want him here!"

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "And the ladies house is half way completed?"

Councilman Madere stated, "No, no, no! I didn't say half way complete..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "Her house is finished, she had an additional request, and it was deemed whether correct or not, unrelated to the storm."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Okay."

Councilman Madere stated, "Wait a minute..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "Again..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "Wait a minute, hold on hold on, wait a minute. The question was asked to me; if the lady house was completed. Okay Administration answered for me. I'm going to answer that question myself, because Administration was not around when she called me and made her complaint. Okay and I don't think Administration had been to her house to see what she is talking or what I was talking about. I've been there. Okay and the complaint that I put in to Royal was a logit complaint, vouch worth, uncomplete work, you understand? So, that's my concern, I've seen it, okay and I know it was not a good workmanship that was done. In fact, I even mentioned to Myra on the phone (that I'm not going to mention the name) nah when that person did the work for the lady, an item that she had that was built in her house was removed, and they had to bring it back. Royal had to make him bring it back. In other words, lite fingers! Okay and Royal made them brought it back. So what I'm saying is no one in here can speak for that lady, and say that everything was complete, okay a signed paper by someone, uh un, don't really know when something is complete until you see it and if it was completed and the workmanship was bad, it was said tonight she have a year warranty and she was well in her warranty when she complained to me and I complained to Royal."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "I remember you had showed me some pictures about six (6) months ago. The sheetrock works?"

Councilman Madere stated, "Yeah okay."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Okay, thank you."

Councilman Madere stated, "So I'm going to solve this problem when I get Royal Engineering here."

Lennix Madere - Update on drainage District III

Verdell Kindrick stated, "As discussed last year at a Council Meeting, the Parish Engineer drafted a report regarding Chad B. Baker and was distributed on July 10, 2017. Based on preliminary review of the report and comparison with similar projects, the estimated cost of the project ranges from \$750,000 to \$1M. Currently, funding for this project has not been identified."

There was no executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Carmouche v. Shell Oil Company et al. - 18th JDC No. 78185

Parish Buildings - Security

Any and all pending legal matters

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

19-09 An ordinance to amend St. John the Baptist Parish Code of Ordinances, Chapter 2. Administration, to provide regulations to prohibit and restrict St. John the Baptist Parish from disbursing and/or making compensatory time payments to unclassified employees of St. John the Baptist Parish, to provide for an accurate and balanced budget, and to eliminate the potential for fiscal liability of unbudgeted and unanticipated costs in excess of budgeted line items for salaries of unclassified personnel. (M. Perrilloux)

PRESIDENT REPORT:

Natalie Robottom stated, "Good evening. I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable Mardi Gras. Turnout for all parades was exceptional and the weather held out until the very end of the parade. Thanks to Towahpahsah in Reserve and Krewe DuMonde and Dage in LaPlace. Everyone appeared to have a fun-filled weekend. Krewe of DuMonde and Krewe of Dage' rolled a little early but we beat the rain. Thanks to Public Safety, Communications, the Sheriff's Office, Fire Department, Public Works and everyone else who helped to make the parade roll safely. The pre-planning paid off. The Sheriff and I participated in Read Across America week during the busy Mardi Gras week. I had the pleasure of reading at John L. Ory Magnet School and Lake Pontchartrain Elementary School. Read Across America is a reading program that calls for every child in every community to celebrate reading on March 2, the birthday of Dr. Seuss. We have been quite busy. We also hosted our annual Spring Clean Sweep on Saturday and had a great turnout from the community. I want to thank my staff and Za Maurin and the Keep St. John Beautiful Committee for their efforts in the Parish wide cleanup. Beautification of the community is extremely important, and it starts at a young age. Events such as the Clean Sweep and the upcoming Cleanest City contests motivate our residents and business owners to take care of their property for a cleaner community. I'd like to congratulate Dr. Courtney Millet, it was recently announced that she will take the helm as Principal at St. Charles Catholic High School in July with the retirement of longtime principal, Mr. Drew Cupit. We would like to congratulate Dr. Millet, who we have all worked closely with when she was Superintendent and in her previous role at SCC. We wish Mr. Cupit an enjoyable retirement. Mr. Cupit spent many hours in our EOC and served as liaison to our private school community during emergencies and we thank him for his efforts. Gov. John Bel Edwards recently declared an emergency because of the threat of flooding along the Mississippi River and other bodies of water. A few weeks ago, the Bonnet Carre' Spillway opened to relieve some of the pressure, but the river remains over 16 feet at the Carrolton gauge which puts us in a flood fight. Until high water levels subside, it is critical that everyone abide by restrictions in place for the Mississippi River Levees which includes no digging or subsurface work within 1500 of the levee centerlines and no driving or parking on the levees. These restrictions also apply to construction projects within 1500 feet of the river. Many of our projects are on hold until the river subsides. St. John will continue to monitor Mississippi River Levels and advise residents as conditions warrant.

Thank you for complying with these restrictions that are in place for your safety. It is also extremely important that all residents sign up to receive emergency notifications to your home phone, cell phone, email or SMS text messaging device. You can do so by visiting the homepage of the Parish's website and clicking on "Stay Connected." These alerts are critical in times of emergencies. Please do not wait until something happens to try to find out how to sign up. Thank you."

ADJOURNMENT :

At 8:50 PM, Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Sorapuru seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilman Perrilloux absent.

/s/Thomas Malik
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
COUNCIL SECRETARY