

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, MARCH 13th, 2012
CHAIR LUCIEN GAUFF
VICE CHAIR JACLYN HOTARD

The Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session in the Rudolph Soraparau Chambers, Edgard, Louisiana on Tuesday, March 13th, 2012, at 6:30 PM.

CALL TO ORDER:

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

ABSENT: None

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

Legal Counsel Billy O'Regan was present.

Natalie Robottom - Presentation - Patricia Collins, Senior Director of Government Affairs, Comcast

Patricia Collins, Senior Director of Government Affairs for Comcast was present for the council meeting and gave a brief power point presentation on the upcoming items for Comcast stating that it will all start on the West Bank. They will be receiving internet service on broadband and a host of many new channels and services that Comcast will be offering.

Natalie Robottom - Proclamation - Developmental Disability Awareness Month

Natalie Robottom read the proclamation for Developmental Disability Awareness Month in the Parish of St. John the Baptist.

Art Smith - Presentation - Haston Lewis - 30+ years on the St. John the Baptist Parish Council and Police Jury

Natalie Robottom presented Mr. Haston Lewis with a plaque for 34 years of service to the people of District I and the parish. Mr. Art Smith wanted to make sure that he knew what he meant to the people of the West Bank and how thankful they all are for his many years of devoted service to them and the parish of St. John the Baptist.

Art Smith - Acknowledgement - West St. John Student Council and Student Government Association

Councilman Smith introduced the members of the West St. John Student Council. The students were here as a project to see the dealings of the

parish government. They thanked the council and the parish president for the opportunity to participate.

Lennix Madere/Marvin Perrilloux - Acknowledgement - Frank Lapeyroleri, Wilhelmina Armour

Councilman Madere and Councilman Perrilloux commented on the members of the Reserve/Garyville area that made wonderful strides in the fight for Civil Rights for the people of St. John the Baptist Mr. Frank Lapeyroleri and Mrs. Wilhelmina Armour were both instrumental in moving the parish forward as a community for the equality of all people in the parish.

Consent Agenda

Items: Approval of Minutes February 28th, 2012, Regular Meeting; Councilman Snyder - Re-appointment of P.J. Champagne to the Utility Board; Councilman Smith - Re-appointment of Rosemary Soraparu to the Airport Advisory Board; Councilman Madere - Appointment of Alicia Johnson to the Economic Development Board; Councilman Madere - Re-appointment of Faith Farlough to the Planning and Zoning Commission; Councilman Madere - Re-appointment of Wayland Martin to the Recreation Board

MOTION: Councilman Smith moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes February 28th, 2012, Regular Meeting; Councilman Snyder - Re-appointment of P.J. Champagne to the Utility Board; Councilman Smith - Re-appointment of Rosemary Soraparu to the Airport Advisory Board; Councilman Madere - Appointment of Alicia Johnson to the Economic Development Board; Councilman Madere - Re-appointment of Faith Farlough to the Planning and Zoning Commission; Councilman Madere - Re-appointment of Wayland Martin to the Recreation Board. The motion passed with 8 yeas and 1 abstaining (Hotard).

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:

12-04 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance granting approval to further extend the valid period of time of Conditional Subdivision Approval for an additional twelve (12) months for **Carriage Plantation Subdivision**, Lots 1 through 16, located on Main Street, in Section 27, T-11-S, R-7-E, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana. (A. Sutherland)

Angelic Sutherland, Director of Planning and Zoning, stated, "*Just too clear up something it is actually listed as Main Street on the actual survey and plats but it is considered Old Hwy. 51. It is the area right past Stayton Mobile Home Parks on the left. Administration recommends approval.*"

MOTION: Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 12-04. The motion passed unanimously.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

12-05 An ordinance for a family re-subdivision as per St. John the Baptist Parish ordinance of the Gregoria Petrolia Tract into Lot 1 and Lot 2 of the Gregoria Petrolia Tract situated in

Section 33 & 34, T-11-S, R-7-E, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (PZS-1023) (N. Robottom)

12-06 An ordinance to re-zone Lot 1-A, Square 28, Cambridge Place East, Section 1 & to show the change in the current zone of Zone C-1 to Zone R-2 & Lots 13B & 14A, Square 25, Cambridge Place East, Section 1 to show the change in the current zone of Zone C-2 to Zone R-2 situated in Section 65, T-11-S, R-7-E, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (PZR-12-1012) (N. Robottom)

Councilman Snyder stated, "I would like to make a motion to have Ordinance 12-06 removed from the Introduction of Ordinances."

Natalie Robottom asked, "Can we get a legal opinion?"

Billy O'Regan, Legal Counsel, stated, "Article 4 of the charter does provide that at the Introduction of Ordinances the council can reject an ordinance by majority vote before it is advertised in avoiding advertisement and public discussion."

MOTION: Councilman Snyder moved and Councilwoman Hotard seconded the motion to have Ordinance 12-06 removed from the Introduction of Ordinances. The motion passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "This evening the Finance Committee met and we held all orders of business at this time I would ask that the council accept the recommendation of the finance committee."

MOTION: Councilman Snyder moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to accept the recommendations of the finance committee. The committee approved to take the three bids for Telemetry for lift stations under advisement, approved to award the bid for inflow and infiltration repairs to BLD Services of Kenner, LA, approved to grant administration authorization to advertise for bid for Reverse Osmosis Membranes, approved to grant administration authorization to execute the Certificate of Substantial Completion with Central Electric of Monroe-West Monroe, La. Inc. for Ruddock Well #2 electrical renovations and motor replacement, and approved to grant administration authorization to execute Change Order No. 6 in the amount of \$3,870.00 with J.A. "Jack" Julius, Jr., Inc. of Marrero, LA for the Central Library Addition in LaPlace. The motion passed with 8 yeas and 1 abstaining (Millet).

DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:

Art Smith - Discussion relative to canals on the West Bank

Councilman Smith stated, "I put this here because a lot of residents are asking what canals are being dug. I know that there were a couple, but I didn't have the complete list and just basically for information purposes."

Theresa Rodgers stated, "To provide you with the information you requested we did some research. The Moll Canal was cleaned in 2009, and the Lafourche Basin Levee District performed hogging and snagging operations for all or a portion of the following canals in 2010 and

2011: Columbia, George Cousin, Golden Star and Westline. They recommended additional permits from the Department of Natural Resources and the Army Corps of Engineers for Ben Canal, Company Canal, Dugas Canal, East End Canal, Gason Canal, Guss Road Canal, George Cousin Canal and Bayou Becnel Canal, which are in process. Note that although the portion of George Cousin Canal from Highway 3127 to approximately 3000 feet beyond the power lines was cleaned in 2010, the remainder of the canal could not be cleaned without obtaining a 404 Wetlands permit. That is the current status for the West Bank Canals."

Councilman Smith stated, "Thank you this will also improve the drainage once these things are done. I just really wanted this for informational purposes for the people on the West Bank."

Art Smith - Discussion relative to the Parish adding dumpsters on the West Bank

Councilman Smith stated, "That should say District I. I have been having a hard time getting dumpsters placed and we have been asking residents to clean up; we even have something that we are doing ourselves Saturday and especially on the West Bank once we get cleaned up there is no place to put it. So I have been trying to get dumpsters placed there since January and to no success. I am asking these residents to clean up property but then when they clean it up there is no place to put the trash. So to me that is a dilemma. I had a person call me and said they cleaned it up and put it out front but the parish isn't picking it up so what do we do about it. If we had dumpsters strategically placed we can then take and put the trash in the dumpsters and have them picked up. I am just looking for some relief so that we can get some dumpsters out there. I know we have recycle bins over here but we don't have a recycling program."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes Mr. Smith you did bring this up I think last week and you made a request with regards to dumpsters in the past. The parish has entered into a contract with IESI/SWDI for garbage collection that involved recycling. There are a number of recycle bins throughout the parish and that was re-visited at the time of the contract because of lack of use or failure to be used for recycling. What you are asking for are dumpsters for general residents to place garbage. There is a recycle yard on the West Bank. There are a couple of dumpsters here on the West Bank at I think 2nd Ward School but they are primarily used for our Public Works Department. At this point the reason we delayed our current contract doesn't call for IESI/SWDI to provide or us to pay for dumpsters throughout the parish. What we asked for was time for us to meet with the garbage company to see what might be available, what those costs might be and I can tell you for the month of January the public works dumpsters, which were two, was \$4,800.00. So when we look at adding additional services we have to make sure that we have the additional funds. What we asked was to give us time to meet with the garbage company to see what might be available, to see where they are and to identify locations with our public works crew. The recycle bins that we have throughout the parish remain there. If at any point there needs to be a scheduled re-visit we have done that before as we have in Mrs. Millet's district with the St. Andrews bin. We would be happy to do that again. We did get current numbers and the recycle program hasn't changed with regards to the dumpsters that are currently being used but what you are asking for adds additional cost and we need to identify what those costs are and how they will be paid for. We will

be happy to get back with you once that is done."

Councilman Smith stated, "It is kind of hindering my efforts."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Well right now the current plan allows for if you put debris out on your second pick up the garbage company will pick it up. When we do cleanup programs we provide dumpsters, trash cans, bags and we have crews on site or it is identified to come and remove the debris when there are identified clean up days but throughout the parish there is not a process right now for putting dumpsters or paying for them without having a means for compensating not only the garbage company but also the land field for disposal. We will be happy to work with you on that and identify a funding source and complete a needs assessment to see where that might be warranted."

Councilman Wilson asked, "What is the approximate cost for 20 or 30 yard dumpster? Do you know?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "I don't have it with me but I want to say it was 250 a pull but there wasn't a charge for the dumpster but that was part of our contract. If we are going to renegotiate that contract we may be able to get better pricing but we can't just add things without having those discussions. So I think they charge more to remove it but then they didn't charge for the rental but of course that doesn't include the disposal fee which the parish has a separate contract and is responsible for paying as well."

Councilman Wilson stated, "The reason why I mention it is that there are numerous companies out there that have dumpsters and it is a set rate for dumpsters like \$250.00 for a 30 yard dumpster and you pay nothing when it goes to the yard. It is just the cost for the dumpster every time they come to pick it up."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Again we have a set contract that was negotiated and approved by the council. We will be happy to sit down with the company to see what our options are and come back to you with a recommendation."

Angelic Sutherland stated, "On behalf of the Planning and Zoning Department I wanted to announce and remind all council members, planning and zoning commissioners, zoning board of adjustments as well as my planning and zoning staff and code enforcement department that there is the Zoning 101 workshop on Saturday, March 24th from 8:00 AM until Noon. It will be held at the Community Center in the atrium. This will serve to provide the necessary four hours of training for the new zoning board of adjustment members as well as the new planning and zoning commissioners. It is being offered by Tim Jackson in conjunction with UNO and our land use plan."

Stacey Cador stated, "The parish is hosting a code of governmental ethics training for public servants through South Central Planning and Development Commission on Wednesday, March 22nd from 9:30 AM until 10:30 AM at the civic center in LaPlace. The training is being facilitated by the Louisiana Board of Ethics and is per Louisiana revised statutes 42-1170 which requires all public servants to receive a minimum of one hour of this training during each year of employment or term in office. Participants will include employees and representatives of Assumption, LaFourche, St. Charles, St. James and St. John and Terrebonne Parishes."

Public servants will have an opportunity to receive this training on the web as well."

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Art Smith - Wallace Indians - Adoption of the Wallace Fire Station and the Wallace Park

Councilman Smith stated, "I just wanted to make it official that the Wallace Indians would like to form a partnership with the administration and parish government in adopting the fire station and the park. They just wanted to make it official. They want to join in and make our community better. I just wanted to acknowledge them and make it official."

Theresa Rodgers - Resolution R12-11 - A Resolution to urge the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, to follow the recommendations of the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, Office of Coastal Management, as to the implementation of fair and reasonable regulations on wetland habitat assessment and compensation for wetland impacts

Theresa Rodgers stated, "The Modified Charleston Method (MCM) of assessing wetland habitat and determining compensatory credits will result in increased costs for developers in offsetting wetlands loss. This could potentially drive development out of the region. This issue was addressed at the recent meeting of the Louisiana Police Jury Association and urges the Corps of Engineers to revise the MCM to provide adequate and defensible compensation calculations for required mitigation. Administration recommends adoption of this resolution."

MOTION: Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Smith seconded the motion to approve Resolution R12-11- A Resolution to urge the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, to follow the recommendations of the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, Office of Coastal Management, as to the implementation of fair and reasonable regulations on wetland habitat assessment and compensation for wetland impacts. WHEREAS, pursuant to federal law the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) enforces regulations regarding Louisiana's wetlands and when development is proposed in a wetlands area, the developer (local and state government or business) is required to pay a mitigation fee that is used to preserve other wetland areas; and WHEREAS, much of coastal Louisiana is under the purview of the New Orleans District of the USACE and subject to that District's application of regulations pertaining to the assessment of wetland habitat and the designation of applicable compensatory credits for impacts to said wetlands; and WHEREAS, the St. John the Baptist Parish Council knows the importance of wetlands to public safety and to the economy; and WHEREAS, the cost of mitigation fees assessed by the USACE greatly increases the cost for capital projects in this Parish; and WHEREAS, the USACE, New Orleans District, has promulgated rules, also known as the Modified Charleston Method (MCM), pertaining to the assessment of wetland habitat and the computation of compensatory credits for wetland impacts from public safety and economic development projects; and WHEREAS, the MCM significantly changes mitigation requirements for unavoidable wetland

impacts greatly increasing the cost and hindering the ability to build public works projects which protect the public and facilitate the growth of our local economy; and WHEREAS, the MCM has been criticized as an unreasonable and unwarranted change to the USACE'S mitigation policies by numerous public officials, many of Louisiana's congressional delegation included, government and regulatory bodies, including the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, Office of Coastal Management (OCM); and WHEREAS, in public comments in response to the proposed MCM rules, OCM criticized the MCM for not being based on actual scientific data and for failing to certify the MCM as a model which is adequate to assess habitat impacts on the USACE'S own civil works projects; and WHEREAS, OCM has further stated the MCM must be revised as the effects of the current MCM language will be to impose excessive mitigation requirements and exponential penalties on public works and infrastructure projects while not providing enough credit for marsh creation projects or insuring that sufficient mitigation banking opportunities are available. NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the St. John the Baptist Council fully supports the comments of the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, Office of Coastal Management, calling for the New Orleans District of the USACE to implement changes to the MCM to address the punitive nature of the calculations utilized in the MCM to quantify compensatory mitigation credits, to provide for fair and adequate credit for marsh creation projects, cease the use of the cumulative impact factor on the adverse impacts table of the MCM, and otherwise revise the MCM to insure the fair valuation of habitat creation and wetland impact which does not unreasonably burden the regulated public. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the St. John the Baptist Parish Council urges the USACE, New Orleans District, to heed the criticisms of the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources and the numerous government officials, regulatory bodies and private concerns with respect to the MCM, its stymieing impact on public works and economic development projects and its failure to follow the mandates of the Clean Water Act, Section 404, which requires that compensatory mitigation be practicable and, thereof, to take all actions necessary to revise the MCM to provide adequate and defensible compensation calculations for required mitigation for unavoidable impacts to wetlands. The motion passed unanimously.

Stacey Cador - Approval of revised job title for Zoning Regulatory Administrator

Stacey Cador stated, "The current Building Code and Zoning Regulatory Administrator job description was revised to reflect the current needs in the department. This job description replaces an existing one that is currently vacant. As building codes are addressed through a third party administrator, there is a greater need for the department to address zoning regulations and planning for future development. The job remains in Grade 11, but revisions were made to some of the duties and qualifications. The job description was approved by the Civil Service Board on February 28, 2012, and administration recommends approval."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Why do we need a new job description? Did the responsibilities change?"

Angelic Sutherland stated, "The initial job description that is on the job scale is titles building code and zoning regulatory administrator. There were some building code functions as well as zoning functions. We currently have an agreement with a third party, South Central Planning

and Development, who handles our building code work so they serve as our third party building code officials. So we wanted to amend the job description to more accurately fit what this person is going to be responsible for doing and that is more of the zoning and planning functions."

Councilman Snyder asked, "So you are creating another position?"

Angelic Sutherland stated, "We are swapping out the old position with the new one and because we made changes that we felt were significant changes we decided to go back to the civil service board. We are dropping the building code portion of the job title and keeping the second half of the job title which is zoning regulatory administrator. We made one change to the qualification. We would like a certified planner. The qualification has always been an educational degree in planning. That is the same qualification as the job description that is currently on the grade scale."

Councilman Snyder asked, "How long has that job been under civil service?"

Angelic Sutherland stated, "It was created in April of 2009."

Councilman Snyder asked, "What did we do before 2009? Who was doing that? Who had that responsibility?"

Angelic Sutherland stated, "I am going to say that prior to 2009 there were some revisions to the state building codes. All parishes have to follow the state building codes when you are building new constructions and such and at some point it became a requirement that every parish or municipality have a certified building official on their staff or either contract with a third party to handle that portion."

Councilman Snyder asked, "So are we contracted with South Central Planning?"

Angelic Sutherland stated, "Yes we are contracting with South Central Planning."

Councilman Snyder stated, "So we don't need this position."

Angelic Sutherland stated, "The building code portion."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I am talking about this position that we are talking about right now."

Angelic Sutherland stated, "We actually do need a certified planner. We do have building permit clerks who receive applications. We have a manager that oversees that portion of the office but we do not have a person with the planning background to plan for the future someone who has knowledge and history of planning and can do that in depth research that is needed at times to address a lot of our applicants concerns and questions."

Councilman Snyder asked, "It just seems like if we did without this position before 2009 and the person that did it from 2009 until today it really wasn't her responsibility, she was doing something else. Since South Central Planning has taken that over then why do we need her

position? Why can't we share that responsibility with some of the people that you have there? That is my take on it."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I think as Ms. Sutherland was attempting to explain there are new requirements on the books now that obviously many of you are dealing with code and code violations and problems that arise when mis-information or improper information is given to our residents, businesses and developers. Part of that comes when there is not the knowledge base or the skill set to do the jobs that you are in. We were not responsible for creating this job. It is there. It is grade 11. It was created actually a whole grade 11 was created in 2009 when neither of us were here. There was an individual in the position that did bring a skill set that was not previously in the office and although she had two jobs one was building code and one was the zoning portion. She is the person responsible for updating all of the codes, all the municodes, changing the ordinances, reviewing them, matching them with state statutes. Also for making sure that information is provided to individuals who are applying for permits know and understand what is required or allowed in certain areas. They are also the individual through our office helps put together what is brought before the zoning board, the zoning board of adjustments. So there is a need for an individual in that office. As we plan for and recently received a contract from the state to develop a land use plan to redo all of our zoning ordinances. We have been meeting with the public to determine what we want the future to be that will require a skill set. What we have done is amended the job description to reflect what we feel from working in the office the individual is required and has been doing and we didn't feel that the job description that was originally created in 2009 reflected that. Based on day to day operations and work within the office and the types of jobs and problems and concerns that are expressed not only by you but by our residents, our office revised the job description to reflect what is needed. It is not additional. The money is budgeted. The individual left in early February. We have an option. We can change the job description or have it approved and advertised or we can advertise with the existing one. However the qualifications and requirements are still in place and that was just our option. We would rather have the job description reflect what is needed. You are constantly referring zoning and code enforcement issues to us. We think we are weak in that area and we need to sure that up. There is obviously a problem as you see with enforcement and we want to make sure that we have knowledge and understanding of those ordinances in making sure that that person is working with those responsible for addressing them through violations and of course Ms. Sutherland is the one who takes them to court based on again day to day experience, working in the office, what was provided, what we see is needed. We are making the recommendation. It is up to you if you choose not to we will advertise the existing job description and of course as in all descriptions there is that line that says and anything else assigned. So within that job we can assign additional duties however we just wanted the job and position that we were going to full to accurately reflect the day to day operations and needs of the office."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "I know that we are changing the description and taking out the building code and I know because we have a contract with South Central Planning but down the road what if that contract is gone. What is wrong with leaving that title there? It doesn't have to be there but the title there allows us in the future without having to come back to the council and once again asking to redefine this description."

Angelic Sutherland stated, "We did take that out of the title but actually in the duties that person is still in charge of making sure that the building codes are upheld."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "So why take it out?"

Angelic Sutherland stated, "The specifics it's for were taken out but generally that person is still responsible for making sure that they are upheld so in the event that we do not have a contract with South Central then maybe the minor details won't be in there step by step what this person is responsible for but they will still be ultimately for ensuring that the building codes are met."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "Once again why take it out?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Because at this point they are not doing it and in order to do it they would have to be a certified builder."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "You are changing the recommendation for the requirements. So why change the title?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "We changed the job description to more to accurately reflect what the job entails today. Actually when the job was created there was no contract, there wasn't a plan to contract with South Central Planning. They were planning to try to do that in house. That is not our plan. We do not have the staff. We do not have the capacity to have all the inspectors or the equipment to do that which is why we are in a consortium with South Central Planning and we share those cost with other parishes so that we can afford it. As a small parish we cannot afford to have a building office which is why the council or the previous one entered into the agreement. As a small parish we cannot afford to hire the quality of people that is necessary to complete that process. So we will always have to contract with a third party."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "I understand what you are saying this title is the current building code and zoning regulatory administrator that doesn't mean this person is going out and doing the building code inspections. It just means that they are the administrator. Someone has to call South Central Planning."

Angelic Sutherland stated, "Some of that was in the previous job description and that person was required to go out and perform field inspections as needed."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "I think the only person that did field inspections was Adrienne Labat and she hasn't been here for a while."

Natalie Robottom stated, "That is correct. That is what she is saying but that was in the job description that we edited so we took it out because they don't do that. The job description that we edited had that the person would go out into the field to do inspections and they did not."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "So you are editing the description as well as the title?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Right. We didn't just change the title. We changed the job description and the title to reflect what is needed in the office."

Councilman Wilson asked, "So that means that this particular person will go out and do the field inspections?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "No that is what was removed."

Councilman Wilson asked, "Okay so we are adding another one. How was the money budgeted for this?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "The exact same way. There was a person in the job. They are both grade 11 that didn't change. That person resigned in February and prior to filling the position we revised and reviewed what they were doing based on what the job description said and chose to amend the job description before hiring."

Councilman Wilson asked, "So the person that we are hiring here is just to work with the inspectors that do go out in the field?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "The job description, I think is in the booklet. It is the same level of position we didn't change that. What we removed was the part that they were no longer doing which was the building code portion because that has been contracted out to South Central Planning there is not a need for someone in that office to do that. So what they are going to be doing more of is the zoning, the ordinances and working with our code enforcement officers to make sure they are knowledgeable of the codes that they are supposed to be enforcing and to make sure that there is follow up and making sure that they are clear. This person also makes all the updates to ordinances that you pass or amend and all of that goes to the website in the municode section which makes it accessible to the public. So a lot of the job description remains the same but what we have added is a closer relationship with our code enforcement and our inspectors because they are the ones responsible for enforcing and observing the codes and we thought that relationship should be a little bit closer than it had been in the past. Initially code enforcement was in public works, now it is in planning and zoning and we just think it is important that whoever is doing the violations is familiar with the codes."

Councilman Wilson asked, "Who is doing the inspections on the houses that are being built?"

Angelic Sutherland stated, "That would be the actual two inspectors that we have."

Councilman Wilson stated, "The actual two inspectors but what you are saying is that they are not qualified so you are going to put another person in the position that has the qualifications of a general builder."

Angelic Sutherland stated, "No. The building code official is the portion that was removed from the title. This person is focusing on zoning, enforcing zoning ordinances, amending and administering the zoning ordinance. Also what this department is lacking is someone who is knowledgeable about Coastal Zone Management and Flood Plane Management. We have a lot of monies that are coming down regarding Coastal Zones and

trying to get these projects in our parish specifically projects around the lake funded and we really do not have anybody in this department that is knowledgeable about that. That was another portion that was added to this job description. This is what we would like this person to focus on mainly and that is why we took out the building code portion, the inspection portion because that is being handled by South Central Planning."

Natalie Robottom stated, "We haven't changed any of the existing positions and maybe you are not familiar with. We have two inspectors who their jobs are for new construction and construction. They go out and do those inspections relative to what the requirements are within the parish. That has not changed. In the enforcement side we have two inspectors who assist our code enforcement officers for violations and our inspectors are not able to write violations so our code enforcement officers do that but they do almost the same job which we have two full time inspectors who are responsible for violations as well as four part-time code enforcement officers who go out and do violations. So none of that has changed there was another person hired who was a regulatory administrator who left. We could have posted her job and replaced her but we wanted to more accurately reflect what is needed and what was being done in the office. At the time her job description was created in 2009 there must have been a vision that instead of contracting out they were going to use that individual to do the building code portion but obviously they realized that they couldn't and contracted with South Central Planning but never altered the job description or requirements that were initially put in place. That was in 2009 neither of us were here, since we have been here they have not been doing what was in the job description which is why we amended it to reflect what is needed in that office and that is based on our experience and knowledge of what has been going on, what we anticipate will be going on and just basically from working in the parish. None of the other employee's jobs are affected, we are not amending that this is one individual who resigned that we are replacing and we don't know who we are replacing it with. We developed a job description. It will be advertised and anyone interested in applying can apply if you work with us now or you don't. This is what we are looking for to help our office. We have a large number of people there, they are all doing different things but this is the piece that we feel we are missing to make the office function better."

Councilman Snyder stated, "It seems like to me that the responsibilities that this lady had was turned over to South Central Planning."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Parts of them. She had two portions to her title, yes."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Alright and the responsibility that you are trying to give to this new position, it seems like we could pretty much handle that by hiring some more code enforcers full time. I know this sounds stupid but you told me a little while ago that they work with your code enforcement to make sure things are done right. That is what this person is going to be doing or the other lady that left was doing. Now I realize there are some regulatory things there that needs to be handled by someone but we have professionals over there already. Why can't they handle that? We have been having this for as long as St. John Parish has been here. Now we have more people over there and we want to create another position to handle just regulatory."

Natalie Robottom stated, "We are not creating a new position."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well yes we are."

Natalie Robottom stated, "No we are not."

Councilman Snyder stated, "There was someone over there already that was doing something else."

Natalie Robottom stated, "She was doing both things. She was doing regulatory and supposedly building codes but she wasn't."

Councilman Snyder asked, "What were her qualifications?"

Angelic Sutherland stated, "She had an associate's degree. I am not sure if it was in planning but it was in a related field. She had government experience. She actually worked in St. Charles Parish previously before coming to St. John so she did have government experience in that area and she was a certified building code official."

Councilman Snyder asked, "You don't have anyone else in that building right now that can do that?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "If they are they are welcome to apply for the job. We are deciding on a job description and basically there have been lots of changes since 2009 and one of them was code enforcement was not housed at Planning and Zoning. Code Enforcement and the inspectors were in Public Works. So that is six people who were not at that building in 2009 before but now they are. There are a lot of things that changed and basically and we can continue or we cannot. I am going to ask you to vote and if it is not for this job description we will advertise the other. It is that simple. We have done our homework. This is not for anyone. We know what we need. We have worked in the department for a while. We know the skill set of the individuals involved and everybody in the parish is welcome to apply for the job. We will evaluate and interview them as we do with all positions. However based on our day to day knowledge, what we need and what we are asking for, the information that we require to do our jobs, the job description that was developed meets that need."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "She is correct in 2009 the previous council did create this position when we anticipated them to handle the building code permits and then when we realized that it was something that the parish didn't have the ability to take care of and we needed to have the third party come in and it was a collaborative effort with some of the other parishes. South Central Planning came on board and they assisted with the permit process so that is how we got to this point. When Kristie left it gave an opportunity for the administration to analyze the department and really get the position to what it was and what the needs of the department really were. So that is just some background on it and Natalie kind of shed some light on that. So it gives them the ability to fill the position more in line to what the needs of the office are."

Councilman Snyder asked, "So does this mean that we are paying South Central Planning to do part of that job? Are we going to take that back and let them put it on this new position?"

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "As it was before South Central Planning really was doing some of what the previous job description was and I think that is what administration is attempting to do is to create this position to more accurately reflect what they are actually going to do because when the previous position was created in 2009 some of those duties in 2010 were taken away and given to South Central Planning. So they don't need to do those duties anymore. They need to do actually what it is Ms. Sutherland and Mrs. Robottom has said assist more with the zoning, code enforcement, have the coastal background and those types of things. So even if we don't change this job description here we still have the other person that job is still vacant and the administration can still advertise for that job but it would serve us better if we actually have what the job description and what the person really needs to do and it just so happened that in 2009 a job was created for the building code inspector and then in 2010 South Central Planning took over some of those duties. I am trying to just clear it up since it happened before some of you guys were here."

Councilman Smith stated, "Just for my understanding Mrs. Robottom, if we don't approve this you are still going to advertise the position and would that position that you are advertising for will it have the same duties that you are asking us right now to change?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "No they will not. They will have duties that they will not be doing because that has been contracted out to South Central Planning and that is why we looked at it. Part of the job description is no longer accurate because that has been contracted out and will be contracted out because the parish does not have the capacity to do that. So the items that were removed are not being done in the office and they will not be being done but in order to make it a whole job description and because of the changes in the department and who is actually there they needed to focus more on code enforcement since that group of individuals are now housed in Planning and Zoning and we know and you know that there are problems and inconsistencies with code enforcement and we need to make sure that everybody is familiar with the codes and what they are and what violations would actually be. So what we have removed is what doesn't apply at this point and time in 2012 and has not since 2010. So the job description as it was remained on the books however the individual in the job was not responsible for the building code portion so we are removing that."

Councilman Smith stated, "So just for clarification purposes either way you are going to hire somebody whether it is the job description that you have here or the one that you are asking to change and the salary is going to stay the same?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Same thing it is grade 11 we didn't alter any of that it remains the same. That is something that requires civil service approval, they placed it previously at grade 11 that is where it is and that is what we will advertise for."

Councilman Smith asked, "So if we don't approve it you are going to hire somebody that is not going to do the duties that you need them to do?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "They are going to do what we need them to do. Their job description will not reflect what they are doing. Do you have that?"

Councilman Smith stated, "No I have that. You kind of through me off when you said you were going to hire them but they weren't going to be doing the description."

Natalie Robottom stated, "No they are going to be doing what we need them to do. They won't be doing what their job description says that they are doing because that portion of their job description is being handled by South Central Planning."

Councilman Smith asked, "So basically all you are asking us to do right now is the formality of wording?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Everybody would like to have a job description that is specific to the job that they are doing. When you hire someone then you know what they are being held to. They are not being held to building codes because that is being done by South Central Planning so the individual when she was hired the anticipation was that she would be doing that. So she understood that when she applied for the job. Now we know that you are not that is an area of the department that is handled by South Central Planning. So instead of advertising with a job description that you know half of is not true we wanted to accurately reflect what was being done in the office."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I was just going to answer that for Art as well. If we don't approve the change of the job description then it can still be advertised as what the current job description states. They can still fill it but we know going in that is not what we need that person to do. So it wouldn't do us any justice or service to advertise for a position that we know that that person isn't going to fill."

Councilman Smith stated, "I just wanted to bring that point up to clarify it."

Councilman Madere asked, "If we go with these changes, the individual that will take this position will know the job description and will be held accountable for those job descriptions because in fact they know exactly what it is that they are supposed to be doing and it is going to clear up some of the problems that we have in planning and zoning?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "That is our goal. We have been there long enough to know there are specific issues. We get them from you. We get them from residents. We are attempting to try to address that."

Councilman Snyder stated, "My point is that if we get this professional person why can't they take the responsibility that we give South Central Planning and save some money."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Because we can't save money because South Central Planning has a staff. They have inspectors for plumbing, for electrical, for whatever. We cannot afford to provide all those services which is why we joined up with at least 7 other parishes or 6 now to fund that. We all pool our money so that they may hire maybe one inspector who does that but they go around from parish to parish instead of each parish hiring their own. We don't have the capacity or the money or requirement to have a full staff that would do all of the building code inspections in St. John Parish. Which is why there is an agreement in place, not just with us, St. Charles Parish for a little while

thought that they could do but they couldn't do it as cheap because when you are pooling your resources nobody could beat the price that South Central was charging us to provide all of those services. As a matter of fact I think our last contract was a reduction because they have invested into all of the equipment and the personnel and they travel from parish to parish doing the portion that is necessary. We don't have the people or the capacity and couldn't possibly afford to staff our office with all that is required to inspect new construction in accordance with the new building laws that came into place after Katrina when the state mandated that. If we brought it into the parish and charged the residents based on what it would cost us there would be increased costs to our residents. So by belonging to the consortium with South Central Planning that is reducing the cost that is passed on to our residents."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "That was actually something as well when we looked at bringing in South Central Planning was the cost of the permitting and that it was going to add to individuals was so much because the parish had to absorb all the cost and then another thing that Mrs. Robottom didn't mention was there was also a software component of it the building codes and everything South Central Planning has all of the software and all of these other things so it is more cost effective for us to continue on with those six parishes and allow South Central Planning to handle the building code portion of it."

Councilman Smith asked, "That job is going to be civil service right?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes which is why we are bringing it before you. It was brought to civil service with the proposed change. They approved it. The next step is to bring it before the council for approval before we can move forward. We didn't adjust the salary at all. However when grade 11 was created and it was placed in there in 2009 it was higher than many of the others but we have not altered the salary."

Councilman Perrilloux asked, "This department has been running like this since 2009, despite its flaws. Now we want to hire somebody to fill some other duties but aren't some of those duties the director's duties right now?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "We are replacing a person who resigned. That person had a full time job since 2009."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "But this person she did those duties."

Natalie Robottom stated, "At this point the director is doing some of those duties but there was a director and that individual before. This is not a new position. We are replacing a vacant position as we do in all of the departments."

Councilman Gauff stated, "So what we are looking at is a position for someone with more education, more experience in planning and zoning..."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I don't think the individual did any supervision. I am going to tell you my perspective. If you are at grade 11 which is the highest grade, my expectation from somebody who is being paid at grade 11 is more than somebody who is not. Our assistant directors or managers all of those individuals who are paid a lot less have supervisory responsibilities and we felt that if you are going to

be paid at the highest grade and have more responsibilities than at least you should be able to manage and help supervise within the office."

Councilman Gauff stated, "That is the point I was trying to make is that with this grade 11 we are looking for someone who is more educated, more experienced, knowledgeable about planning and zoning, managerial experience and I was just trying to get the complete package to explain to the public and to our council what you are proposing and see if this is where we want to be."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Coastal flood plan management too, all things that there is a responsibility for and now with the restore act and the money that is being sent this way even more so you need people with expertise in that. We are sending people to meetings with engineers and individuals who are looking at Coastal Flood Planes and all of this impacts your insurance and you have to have somebody who understands what the mapping and the requirements are. That position was at grade 11 and we left it there."

Councilman Gauff stated, "Seems like all of us have had issues with planning and zoning and the zoning laws. It seems like we are looking for an upgrade so let's at least considerate it but if you have concerns continue to ask about them."

Councilman Smith asked, "What is the salary?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "The starting hourly pay is \$25.42 an hour. We did not create this job or put it in grade 11."

Councilman Gauff stated, "The other thing is we are replacing someone that left the position. It is not a new position. It is a position that was previously there and was previously budgeted for."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "This new person that we are going to hire or advertise for is going to be working directly with Angelic our Planning and Zoning Director is that correct?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "That is correct as the previous person was."

MOTION: Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to grant approval of revised job title for Zoning Regulatory Administrator. The motion passed with 7 yeas and 2 neas (Snyder, Perrilloux).

Lucien Gauff - Amendment to the travel policy to add "when a Department Head or Parish Council member is required to use his/her personally-owned vehicle for Parish activities in the immediate vicinity of his/her official domicile, the Parish President may authorize Department Heads and the Council Chairman may authorize Council members to receive a lump sum allowance for transportation (mileage) in lieu of a Parish-supplied vehicle"

Lucien Gauff stated, "With this amendment actually I was looking to instead of the tedious process of tracking mileage every time we are out and riding and going through our neighborhoods that we would be afforded a stipend that would be given to us monthly. I think this would actually come out less than the mileage that is used now. It is just that it is

one of those things where we are not tracking it and you are sitting down trying to re-track to get all of your paperwork. That is why I asked that we amend the travel policy that is already on the books."

Councilman Snyder asked, "What am I voting on?"

Councilman Gauff stated, "A monthly stipend. That you would get a monthly stipend instead of mileage you actually have the choice you can do mileage or you can receive the stipend. It was determined it would be \$400.00 for Divisions A & B and District I and \$300.00 for all other districts."

Councilman Smith asked, "So the council has decided on this?"

Councilman Gauff stated, "You can do either. You do have the option. This gives you the stipend. If you decide to not take the stipend that month then you let Mr. Vince know and there is the option. The previous policy was just mileage at .48 cents a mile."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "This is just really an amendment to the travel policy that is currently in place. As it stands this is the policy for the department heads and for the administration and the council wasn't included in the new travel policy that they adopted I believe in 2009 as well that allows the directors to receive a vehicle allowance in lieu of taking mileage. So the council wasn't included in that travel policy so this was a house keeping item basically to make sure that we were included in the travel policy and had the option as the current administration does. So maybe that will clear things up."

Councilman Gauff stated, "In essence it is just an amendment to their policy that is already there."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "I know that this is something that this council or some of its members have decided on. I personally think that the paycheck that I get, as little as it happens to be, is covering my mileage as well. I have never turned in mileage unless I am on a trip but that is just me. I am not speaking for the rest of this council. Everyone has their own voice but this is my job to take care of my district and if I turn in a mileage I turn one in and if I don't I don't but I am doing my community service and that is why I am doing this job. You all can make your own decisions. I am going to abstain because I just don't want to do that."

MOTION: Councilman Smith moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to amend the travel policy to add "when a Department Head or Parish Council member is required to use his/her personally-owned vehicle for Parish activities in the immediate vicinity of his/her official domicile, the Parish President may authorize Department Heads and the Council Chairman may authorize Council members to receive a lump sum allowance for transportation (mileage) in lieu of a Parish-supplied vehicle". The motion passed with 6 yeas, 1 nay (Snyder) and 2 abstaining (Millet, Smith).

CORRESPONDANCE/COUNCIL BRIEFS

Councilman Smith stated, "I wanted to thank Haston Lewis and congratulate him on his retirement. The fence is up at the Farmer's Market and hopefully we can get that opened soon. We are making constant

progress on the airnasium. Also I got a phone call today from Mr. J.B. Falgoust from Pleasure Bend and he is willing to donate some property to the parish if we will use it for recreation. I got this today at around 5:15 PM and I didn't have time to tell anybody too much about it but he is willing to work with the parish to donate some land for a couple of things. So he has that on the table. I would like the residents to be patient with us until we can get some of these canals dug and solve some of our drainage problems. Yesterday I went out and road both sides of the river and we have major problems because of our canals. I would also like to say that the Miesville Revitalization committee is having a cleanup of property starting this Saturday morning at 8:00 AM until 1:00 PM at 187 Apricot Street. You guys are welcome to join us bring your rakes, shovels and gloves and we are going to do some clean up."

Councilman Wilson stated, "I would like to tell Mr. Lewis that it was a pleasure working with him all of those years. He helped break me in, in 1984 when we first started the council. He served his district well and it took a lot of cooperation between all the members of the council to make things happen."

Councilman Madere stated, "I would like to tell the residents of District III that we will be having our first community meeting at the Reserve Library on March 29th. At that particular time we can address any particular concerns that they might have with the district. At this time I haven't had the chance to talk with Mrs. Robottom but I am going to extend the invitation now. We are also going to embark on a district clean up. I am going to need an individual out there to help us pick a date and we are going to clean up district III."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "I would like to thank Pastor Frank for the acknowledgement they gave me at the Miesville Memorial Church of God and Christ. I am sorry that the communication got dropped. I thank Mrs. Burl. I would also like to say that I am having a town hall meeting tomorrow at 6:30 PM at the LaPlace Library. This is number two of four. It will be for New Era and The Grove."

Councilman Wright stated, "I would just like to encourage all of the residents to go and see St. John's Theatre's Spring Show. It is a great show and I do believe Parish President Robottom will be a guest speller this weekend at 7:30 PM. Also I look forward to tomorrow night at the LaPlace Library also to be speaking to the Old 51 Hwy Civic Association and I look forward to that as well."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I would like to congratulate Mr. Lipper also. He was always an inspiration. When you see someone really care about the West Bank the way he did. He left me with some words that I will never forget and that was 'watch the money'. When you watch the money it can have a different effect on things. Mr. Perrilloux stole my thunder about Bishop Frank. He and his congregation did a fantastic job in the black history program this past Sunday. I would just like to thank them and everyone that was involved. They are doing a great job over there with the young people in that area."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "First I want to let the residents know that tomorrow night at 8:00 PM Mr. Dean Torres, who used to be our director of the United Way, will be on Larry the Cable Guy showing off our swamps. So, tomorrow tune into the History Channel and you will see St. John on national TV. Also I want to remind everyone that the Rotary Club

is doing their annual pups in the park on March 24th. So for all of you animal and dog lovers come on out and have some fun. It will be a dog day in the park."

Councilman Gauff stated, "I would like to say congratulations again to Mr. Lewis. Thank you for your service. Pastor Frank and Mrs. Burl and your congregation, thank you for the award I was given. I didn't know I was being awarded. I didn't know anything about the event. So I'm sorry about that. I would also like to say congratulations to Principal Merick from West St. John she was principal for the year. So congratulations for an excellent job."

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Natalie Robottom stated, "Good Evening. Congratulations to all teams who participated in the 12 year old Bidy Basketball Tournament held the first weekend in March at Regala Gymnasium. It was another successful weekend at Regala Gymnasium with participation from a number of parishes as well as high attendance. Thank you to all who participated and helped throughout the weekend. We wish the 13 year old team the best of luck at the International Bidy Basketball Tournament in Madisonville on March 23-28. Congratulations on your success thus far! Congratulations to the West St. John Girls Basketball for making it to the semi-finals game at the 2012 LHSAA Girls State Basketball Tournament held last weekend in Ruston. We would like to also congratulate the Riverside Academy Boys Basketball Team for receiving the State Runners-Up title at the 2012 LHSAA Boys State Basketball Tournament in Ruston. We are proud of all of our basketball teams for representing St. John the Baptist Parish well and continuing to focus on high goals. We continue to support all of you and wish you the best of luck in next year's season. Registration for St. John the Baptist Parish Youth Baseball is currently taking place. Interested participants should register by filling out the registration form available online at sjbparish.com and in the Parks and Recreation Department. A \$40.00 entry fee as well as the form should be sent in to the Parks and Recreation Department once completed. Registration will end on Wednesday, March 21, 2012. Coaches and volunteers are also needed for the St. John the Baptist Parish Youth Baseball league. Anyone interested in coaching or volunteering with the Parks and Recreation Department, please call the Parks and Recreation Department at 985-652-9569. Reminder: Early Voting is currently taking place for the Presidential Primary election and will end Saturday, March 17, 2012. Democrats and Republicans only can vote between 8:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. at the Registrar of Voters offices at the Percy Hebert Building in LaPlace and the St. John Parish Courthouse in Edgard. There are still some outstanding street signs that need to be placed at intersections along airline highway and major thoroughfares. Public Works has ordered these signs and once they are received, installation will begin in an effort to complete this project. With receipt of a BP Grant, the River Parish Tourism Commission purchased tourism signs that have been installed throughout the parish to direct tourists to our attractions. How many and where are they located? What do they direct people to? Installation of an 8 feet security fence on the Farmers Market grounds has been completed. A work order for lighting has been issued with Entergy to install floodlights on the property. Once grant funding is received from USDA, the building will be purchased and installed upon receipt. Until that time, preparation work is being done to ensure the site is ready for the building once it is received. Completion of the farmers market is dependent on receipt of the USDA

grant funds. The building for the West Bank Park Airnasium arrived yesterday, Monday, March 12 and is expected to be erected within 10 days. Substantial Completion for this project is expected at the beginning of April 2012. This project is within budget and no change orders are expected to arise. As the Governor's budget proposes to remove the Reserve/Edgard Ferry; we are encouraging residents as well as business owners to make contact with our legislators to keep the ferry here in St. John Parish. Sample letters that can be mailed to our State Representatives and Senators will be posted on the website shortly. Please use these letters to send to the legislators. The more contacts that are made to them, the better our chances. The Department of Transportation and Development has a strong opinion on taking it away from Reserve and Edgard, but it is up to us to fight for the additional means of transportation in our Parish. A reminder that sections of Louisiana Highway 18 in Edgard and Wallace will be closed between Highway 640 and the Veterans Memorial Bridge for filming at Evergreen and Whitney Plantations on Wednesday to film at Evergreen Plantation and Thursday to film at Whitney Plantation. Potential Road Closures could take place on Friday; however, it is unlikely. Due to weather conditions during the week, the film production may close the road to get some filming completed. As information is received, notifications will be placed on Channel 15, the St. John Parish Website under Road Closures, and Facebook. During this time, traffic will be diverted to Hwy 3127; however, residents will have access to neighborhoods and businesses. Please stay tuned, as dates and times are subject to change based on weather conditions. Emergency responders, including fire fighters, EMTs with Acadian Ambulance Services and Sheriff's Deputies are aware of the road closure and the detour plan. During some of the filming, traffic will be permitted to flow on the highway with only temporary stopping of cars by St. John Parish Sheriff's Deputies. Motorists are asked to read the electronic boards and detour signs which, will be placed in various locations on the West Bank to alert drivers of road closures. The ferry and the courthouse will be accessible during this time. Thank you for all of your patience and cooperation during this time. A town hall meeting for residents in New Era and The Grove communities is scheduled for Wednesday, March 14, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. at the St. John Parish Central Library in LaPlace. Residents from the New Era and The Grove subdivisions are invited to attend to meet with Councilmembers Marvin Perrilloux, Lucien Gauff, and Jaclyn Hotard, Parish President Natalie Robottom, and her administration. Please take this opportunity to receive information and updates in your area. The Highway 51 Homeowner's Association is holding a meeting for to discuss their concerns. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 14, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at the St. John Parish Central Library in LaPlace. Residents from the Highway 51 area are invited to attend. The St. John Theatre presents The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee on Friday, March 16 and Saturday, March 17 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$12 for students, and \$10 for children and can be purchased in advance at Allied Express in LaPlace or at the door approximately one hour before the show begins. Team St. John will be hosting a fundraiser in partnership with Let's Top It Frozen Yogurt Bar and More in LaPlace for Relay for Life. On Monday, March 19, 2012 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., a portion of the proceeds will go to the parish's relay for life team in an effort to raise money for the American Cancer Society and help fight for those who are suffering, who have suffered, and those who may suffer with cancer. Let's Top It Yogurt Shop is located at 150 Belle Terre Blvd. between French Riviera and PJ's Coffee Shop. Come support Relay for Life and Team St. John on March 19th. The River Region Chamber of Commerce will

be holding a Parish President's Forum on Thursday, March 22 from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at the St. James School Board Public Relations Building located at 1876 West Main Street in Lutcher, LA. St. James Parish President, Timmy Roussel, St. Charles Parish President V.J. St. Pierre and I will speak on the state of each parish. Breakfast will be served at the event. Registration can be completed online at www.riverregionchamber.org or by calling Angela at 985-359-9777. The 4th annual Pup's in the Park charity dog walk will be held on Saturday, March 24, 2012 at 11:00 at the Highway 51 Park. Demonstrations by the St. John Sheriff's Office K9 team followed by the walk at noon and talent contests at 1:00 p.m. Food will be available along with adoptable pets. This event is sponsored by the Rotary Club and serves as a fundraiser for local animal charities and initiatives. Entry fee will be \$10 for contests. This year the money raised will provide replacement bullet-proof vests for the K9 dogs in the St. John Sheriff's Office. For more information, visit www.pupsinthepark.com AT&T will be holding its Grand Opening on Saturday, March 24, 2012 at 9:30 AM with the ribbon cutting at 10:00 AM. AT&T is located at 400 West Airline Highway in LaPlace near Home Depot. There will be food, give-a-ways, and prizes along with radio broadcasting directly from the store with Radio Station 93.3. All are invited to attend to see their new store that features hands-on design to engage customers and provides a "try before you buy" service experience. The Greater New Orleans Therapeutic Riding Fundraiser will be held on Saturday, March 24 at 12:00 p.m. on Shadow Brook Lane in LaPlace. This is an annual fundraiser to promote well-being of disabled children."

There was no executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Personnel Matters

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

Cable Franchise Agreement

Any and all pending legal matters

ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:13 PM, Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Snyder seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously

COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

Council Secretary