

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS**  
**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH**  
**TUESDAY, MARCH 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017**  
**CHAIRMAN LARRY SNYDER**  
**VICE-CHAIR JACLYN HOTARD**

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 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017, 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 Remondet, Councilwoman District II, Lennix Madere, Councilman District III, Marvin Perrilloux, Councilman District IV, Michael Wright, Councilman District V, Larry Snyder, Councilman District VII, Raj Pannu, Councilwoman District VII, Jaclyn Hotard, Councilwoman-at-Large, Div. B

**ABSENT:** None

Councilman Snyder led the Prayer. Councilman Becnel led the Pledge.

Legal Counsel Keith Green, Jr. and Geoffrey Michel were present.

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

Allan Raynaud, Commander of American Legion Post 383, LaPlace, Vice Commanders, Benny Robichaux and Richard Drumm stated, "We are here to ask for your support in dedicating US 51 from Airline Highway, new US 51 from Airline Highway to where it ends, as Veterans Memorial Highway. We have spoken to the district council people, and they have indicated their support of it. I think this is something the parish needs to do to express appreciation to our veterans in a visible way in the parish, to remind the veterans that they are appreciated, and we've gotten huge amount of support from the Council and from the Parish President, thank you Ms. Robottom. But I think for people to see it and be reminded of it would make a great deal of difference. And that's all I have to say."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Thank you for coming in the first place, we really appreciate you guys. I'd like to thank you for serving. I'm sure we have some comments and we do have this item on our agenda, I think Ms. Hotard and Mr. Wright and myself, we discussed it and it's on the agenda. We will be discussing it later. Ms. Hotard do you have something you want to say?"

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Thank you and I would echo those comments as well, and thank you Mr. Reynaud for your service. We did have a conversation earlier and I know the item is later on in the agenda, but just to let you know that I did let you know I did instruct our Council Secretary to go ahead and draft up the resolution, that we will approve at the next council meeting, so that we can you know not change the name, but definitely find a way to show honor to our veterans on that portion of new 51 from Airline to the I-55 exchange. So we started that process, I had a conversation with Keith Green today in the District Attorney's Office so that he could approve the resolution to make sure that everything is okay, in its form and I look forward to moving that through and thank you for bringing this to our attention and the administration fully supports that as well. Thank you."

Allan Raynaud stated, "Thank you."

Albert Taylor, Reserve, LA stated, "I'm here representing a group of local citizens who came together to form a community organization, a non-profit civic organization. A concern with the local pollution problem, and we were trying to find a means of coalescing or working with the local government. We first wanted to make sure that people were aware that we were here and what we were about. So we were hoping that at some point in the nearer future the council would allow us to make a presentation before you. Something to where we need more than 2 minutes. We were hoping that in the future you can let us come, the organization, and make a presentation to you and to the parish."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Actually, you're on the agenda for tonight to make a presentation. Actually you're right after we introduce the businesses, you're going to be up again. Are you ready to make a presentation? You know that's what's on the agenda."

Albert Taylor stated, "We had it prepared, but we didn't know it would have been tonight. And I didn't think we could come in here you know and..."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well good. There's no problem with that, just talk to your councilman and we can, if you're not prepared for it tonight we can do it at another time, but he does have something on the agenda tonight. Ok!"

Albert Taylor stated, "Okay yeah. Thank you very much."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "You can present the information you want."

Albert Taylor stated, "Yeah but we just didn't."

Councilman Snyder stated, "They're not completely ready yet right now."

Albert Taylor stated, "We had it prepared, but we thought we only had 2 minutes tonight so we would just come and make sure that we were in order here."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Our 2 minutes is for anybody who wants to say anything on the agenda, and you had your 2 minutes. Now when it come up again, on the agenda, as one of the agenda items, if you have something you want to present that's fine. That's the way he has it down there. If not, if you want to wait that's fine, you can stay right there. Let's just do this. Do we have any new businesses that we need to introduce tonight? Any new businesses? Okay good, no new businesses."

#### **INTRODUCTION OF BUSINESSES:**

#### **Larry Sorapuru - Presentation - (Tabled 02/21/17) St. John Action Group**

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "He's going to table the presentation tonight that he's unprepared to give."

Albert Taylor stated, "We'd like to table it until the next meeting."

Jackie Landeche asked, "And it is called the St. John Action Group, correct?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "St. John Action Group"

Albert Taylor stated, "Concerned Citizens of St. John"

Jackie Landeche asked, "But its 2 different groups?"

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "That's the same group."

Albert Taylor stated, "The group is named, Concerned Citizens of St. John."

**MOTION:** Councilman Sorapuru moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to remove the above item from the table. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "He's not going to talk tonight Larry, he's going to be placed back on the agenda by Mr. Madere and myself."

Councilman Snyder asked "So you want to table it again?"

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Correct."

Councilman Snyder asked "For what reason? Because they're not prepared for tonight."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "They're not prepared because he was under the impression he had only 2 minutes to speak."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Okay now, when do we want to have this thing on the agenda, for which date?"

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "Will the next council meeting be ok?"

Albert Taylor stated, "Next council meeting."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Next council meeting? Okay good. We need to let the public know who may not be in here, exactly what's going on because there may not be some people tuning in to find out exactly what this presentation is about. Now they know why we put it on the table. Oaky?"

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Council Chairman, we need to clarify the name of the group. If we table it as the St. John Action Group, then the St. John Acton Group has to give the presentation."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "It was removed from the table."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I know, but you're asking to table it again and you haven't altered the name. We need to have the agenda clear."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Larry, we have down here is St. John Action Group. Now what group is this that's you're going to put on the agenda next week?"

Albert Taylor stated, "Concerned Citizens of St. John"

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Concerned Citizens of St. John"

Councilman Snyder asked "Okay then all you have to do is put it on the agenda?"

Councilman Madere asked, "He just made a motion to remove it, right?"

Jackie Landeche stated, "Exactly."

Natalie Robottom asked, "Since it was moved from the table, it was removed the agenda?"

Jackie Landeche stated, "Yes."

Councilman Madere asked, "That's what they're telling him, they moved it from the agenda and replace it again."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "You can't remove it from the agenda until you take of the agenda until you take it off the table. You can't take action on any item until you remove it from the tables. Councilman Sorapuru's motion was to remove the item to put it on the table so we can take any type of action on it. So we voted to take it off the table and put it on the table, so at this time if the name of the group is incorrect, I would think and maybe legal at some point chime in, offer a motion to correct the agenda to reflect the name of the group, let's put that in a form of a motion to change it, and then offer another motion to go ahead and table it to the next meetings when the group is prepared to give their presentation. That would be the proper order, thank you and legal confirm."

Councilman Snyder asked "So the name of the group is, St. John Action?"

Albert Taylor stated, "Concerned Citizens of St. John"

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "And Mr. Sorapuru, put that in a form of a motion, to amend the agenda tonight to reflect the correct name of the group, let's vote on it so we can have this clear, and then vote to put it back on the agenda."

**MOTION:** Councilman Sorapuru moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to place the Concerned Citizens of St. John Parish on the agenda for the next meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Now motion to table it."

**MOTION:** Councilman Sorapuru moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to table the item Concerned Citizens of St. John to the next agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**ITEMS:** Approval of Minutes - February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017, Regular Meeting; Councilman Wright - Appointment of Kali Jenkins to the Economic Development Committee; Councilman Wright - Appointment of Robert Arcuri to the Water, Sewerage and Drainage Board; Natalie Robottom - Appointment of William "Grady" Geiger to the Coastal Zone Management Committee

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Pannu moved and Councilwoman Remondet seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes - February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017, Regular Meeting; Councilman Wright - Appointment of Kali Jenkins to the Economic Development Committee; Councilman Wright - Appointment of Robert Arcuri to the Water, Sewerage and Drainage Board; Natalie Robottom -

Appointment of William "Grady" Geiger to the Coastal Zone Management Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:**

**17-03** (Tabled 02/21/17 until 05/09/17) An ordinance amending the text of Chapter 109 - Natural Resource and Environmental Preservation and Protection, Article II. - Coastal Zone Management with the intent of the adoption of the St. John the Baptist Parish Coastal Management Plan (CMP) and the establishment of a local coastal management program in accordance with The Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (CZMA) and The Louisiana State and Local Coastal Resources Management Act of 1978 (SLCRMA) as amended and in accordance with Louisiana Revised Statutes 49:214.21-214.42 and the Louisiana Administrative Code, Title 43, Natural Resources, Part 1, Office of the Secretary, Subpart 1, Chapter 7, Coastal Management (Parishwide) (N. Robottom)

**17-07** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving a family plot re-subdivision of Lot 1-RC and a portion of the Norman Kroll Tract (from the south line of Lot 1-RC to the north right-of-way of LA Hwy. 3127) of a portion of Alliance Plantation into Lots 1-RC-1, 1-RC-2, and 1-RC-3 of the Norman Kroll Tract of a portion of Alliance Plantation, located in the area generally bounded by LA Hwy. 18, LA Hwy. 3127 Chauvin Ct., and Percy Ct., containing municipal address 3393 Hwy. 18, Edgard, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana as shown in a survey prepared by Stephen P. Flynn, P.L.S. on December 13, 2016 (PZS-16-1156) (N. Robottom)

Alexandra Carter stated, *"This re-subdivision request was unanimously approved by the Planning Commission at the February 20th meeting. Administration recommends denial based on technical requirements for installation of public infrastructure; however, it is described as a family re-subdivision."*

**MOTION:** Councilman Sorapururu moved and Councilman Becnel seconded the motion for discussion.

Councilman Becnel stated, *"Question Alex. I'd just like to know when Planning & Zoning approved it, did they approve it with stipulations and certain conditions or did they just straight out approved it?"*

Alexandra Carter stated, *"So Planning & Zoning is actually recommending planning for denial on this one. The stipulations are if the council were to approve it, which what we're recommending is, with family plot re-subdivisions, it's with the understanding that the family plot stays within the family. As people have done these in that past, it hasn't been as clear how we enforce that. So what we're doing is we're clarifying that it stays within the family, within the ordinance, so that in the future they were to try and sell it to not a family or person not in their family, then we can turn to the ordinance and say it very clearly the family plot is intended to be used by family members only. So it seems like a stipulation but it really, it's more of a clarification on previous practices and on what we're in and sort of dealing with today, with family re-subdivisions."*

Councilman Becnel stated, *"I apologize. I think I wanted to ask you, the Planning Commission, they approve you said, right?"*

Alexandra Carter stated, *"The Planning Commission did approve it."*

Councilman Becnel asked, "But were there any stipulations or conditions or they just straight out approved it?"

Alexandra Carter stated, "Well I would say they approved it unanimously. But when the Planning Department makes their recommendation, we're clear about what it is that we're recommending. And so, we recommended denial but the stipulations are built into it. So and I think I see where you're going with this, but the stipulations are for to make sure that the code is upheld with the family plot re-subdivision. I would say it's just a clarification, it doesn't it's not an additional requirement, and the additional stipulation for fire access is a concern about public safety. So that is something that we want to make sure that is in there and that's you know if future development is there, you'd think they would just check with fire safety and make sure that emergency vehicles can go up and down the street."

Councilman Becnel stated, "Well on that note, I ask Cain Dufrene if a fire truck can go down that street in his opinion?"

Cain Dufrene stated, "We're good."

Councilman Becnel asked, "We're good? Ok."

Alexandra Carter stated, "It is all in the ordinance that was introduced to the council and distributed and advertised with stipulations."

Councilman Becnel stated, "Ok, alright and I don't know if Mr. Borne wants to speak."

Councilwoman Pannu stated, "In here I'm reading that they approved it. I mean how can the Planning Commission approve it and then we go back and disapprove it? I don't understand that, how can that be if you're not, people sitting on the Planning Commission out there you know."

Alexandra Carter stated, "They're council appointments. So they're representatives of the community. So when the Planning Department makes a recommendation, it's technical when reviewing the code to see if it measures up. And this application, it has a 15 foot access way servitude, it's required to have a 20 for access way servitude. That servitude is meant to be or is required to be paved, it's not paved. So because of those technical deficiencies, the Planning Department is obligated to recommended denial. Now the Planning Commission here's the case of the applicant and looks at the surrounding neighborhood and sort of weighs in from a community's prospective. So what you're given today is both the Planning Department's technical recommendation and the Planning Commission's recommendation, which is a community prospective. And from those two recommendations they're separate, you have more information to make a decision about what's appropriate. Does that make more sense? So they shouldn't be counter to each other, they're side by side."

Councilwoman Pannu stated, "I understand but I think maybe they should have communicated well with the Planning Department to makes that it's okay for us to approve it, because it doesn't make sense sometimes, that's why the residents ask; you already approved it, why are you denying it now? Maybe if we have some sort of rules and regulations then okay we can approve it only after it is approved by the Planning & Zoning, then the commission should have the right to approve it."

Alexandra Carter stated, "This comes down to the process and I guess when we say approved, that's the funny word here. The Planning Department and Administration, we make a recommendation. The Planning Commission also, makes just a recommendation. So the actual request is not approved until the council acts, so you'll be just taking two recommendations under consideration today. And nothing has been approved to date on this case. Does that make more sense?"

Councilwoman Pannu stated, "Yes, so if you are recommending that we deny it, it's up to the council whether they're going to go with you or they're going to go with the Planning Commission?"

Alexandra Carter stated, "Exactly, tough call tough job."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Yes I went to visit the site today, I spoke to Mr. Borne, I had a conversation on the phone with him and I went to the site today. Could we ask Mr. Borne to come up and explain exactly what he's doing with his track of property, because I looked at the information you sent Alex, it was very, very beautifully laid out and sketched out, but it appears that the guy is trying to develop a full scale subdivision. And after talking to him, that's not what he's trying to do."

Alexandra Carter stated, "It's a family plot subdivision of 3 lots."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Yes, Mr. Borne would you come up and explain to the council exactly what you're doing to your property."

Michael Borne stated, "Good evening, currently right now my property consist of lots RC-1 and RC-2 the first and all we're really looking to do is take lot RC-1 where I currently reside at and keeping it in the family. And take RC-2, create an RC-2 and then RC-3 consist of 40 acres of farm land/swamp land, and that's basically all we're looking to do."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I just have a quick comment here and Councilman Becnel and Councilman Sorapuru, I understand this is your area, it's not one that I'm as familiar with, obviously we have different areas for different reasons. So just with my experience on the council, what I'm looking to do is yield on your expertise as to what your constituents and what you believe you know the decision should be made. So if either of you can even weigh in, if you have visited the site you said, but that often times help. Other council members who represent other areas to know your constituents and you believe is best for, for your area."

Councilman Becnel stated, "This is being a former member of the Planning & Zoning Board, what I did, went on site and I saw the property, and sometime you know when I was on the Planning & Zoning Board, we make decisions and some of the rules, you know I don't mean to be rude, like a when a family trying to develop something, it's only a family and what I don't like and I didn't like it when I was on the board, there's too many what ifs and ifs with this. You know the future is today, they'll deal with that 20 years from now, but deny them what he's trying to do right now and that's the way I was on that Planning & Zoning Board, that's the way I'm going to stay as a councilman. Because I look at it from the human side, I go and look, I always did that and go on site. I don't see nothing wrong, and once they came through, that fire truck can go down that street, that was enough for me. And all these people are trying to do is just, that's a family thing, they're not selling lots, on

top of lots, and we understand all these rules and restrictions, they'll deal with them. When/if somebody wants to move there 10 years from now and they have to pay for their own utilities, well that's written in there they understand that. You know, you understand that right Michael?"

Councilman Wright stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Becnel stated, "So that's what I'm saying, to me I just want to move forward and let these people develop their land, you know that's all I want to do."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Clarification, I think we've had this discussion before. We are held to the standards of following the code; however, the way this was written, was we made a technical recommendation because we can't say it met the code when it didn't. So again, if we didn't want to bring it forward, we would of. The Planning Commission voted unanimously, it's up to this council, but on record my Director had to say it didn't meet the code. So you are free to approve it, we fully understand, I know exactly where the plot is, I know it's a family plot, we've obviously had this discussion in our office, it isn't all about that. If you support it and the rest of your fellow council members support it, you're fine to vote for it. Not an issue. But on a practical technical standard, our office cannot recommend something that we knowingly know, violates the code. You understand Ms. Pannu?"

Councilwoman Pannu stated, "Yes."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I read this thing also and it seems like the issue is that one street that's not paved and I have a question. If they decide to dedicate as their street and give it to parish, will we have to do so some work to it? You know like put a black top road down and all that stuff, concrete road?"

Alexandra Carter stated, "Right, so at this point it's still all technically with the family plot subdivisions, all technically private property. So it's private road, private lots, if and they can't sell it to anyone outside of their family. So the only time they would be able to hand it over to the parish was if they upgraded the infrastructure, put it in and then dedicated it to the parish like they would through a normal subdivision process. And we've advised them that, it's in the report, we make it very clear so that they understand what their obligations may be in the future report."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yeah I read it I read it. I have one other question I just want and after this we can sit down Alex. Supposed that property was rezoned rural, would we still have a problem here with that?"

Alexandra Carter stated, "It would be the same situation."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Alright thank you."

**MOTION:** Councilman Becnel moved and Councilman Sorapura seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 17-07. The motion passed with Councilwoman Pannu abstaining.

**17-08** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the requested rezoning of Lot A of the John Esparros Tract, located in the area generally bounded by W. Airline Hwy., E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street, McReine Rd., and LA 3217, containing municipal address 152 Shadowbrook Lane, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana from the Residential District One (R-1) to the Rural zoning district (PZR-17-

1060) (N. Robottom)

Alexandra Carter stated, "This re-zoning request was unanimously approved by the Planning Commission at the February 20th meeting and Administration recommends approval."

**MOTION:** Councilman Sorapuru moved and Councilwoman Remondet seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 17-08. The motion passed unanimously.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Councilman Madere stated, "At this time I'd like to ask that the council to accept the recommendations of the finance committee."

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

**OLD BUSINESS:**

There was no old business.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Natalie Robottom - Resolution - R17-07 - A Resolution authorizing a 6-month extension of the Adult Uses study and Associated Interim Regulations**

Natalie Robottom stated, "This was a study that's being done by the Planning & Zoning Department, however, they weren't able to finish, it addresses some of the concerns we have with adult uses and some of the lack of clarity in our current ordinance. By definition they can have one six (6) month extension to finalize this report. Because they've not finalized it, they'd like the six (6) month extension, but they are going to be focusing on this and trying to get it done sooner than later."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Good, good!"

**MOTION:** Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Remondet seconded the motion to approve Resolution R17-07. A resolution authorizing a 6-month extension of the Adult Uses study and Associated Interim Regulations. The motion passed unanimously.

**DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:**

**Larry Sorapuru- (Tabled 02/21/17) Update from Bond attorney on financing for water projects**

Councilman Sorapuru stated he wanted this item to remain on the agenda until the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting in June to gather more information.

**Lennix Madere - Drainage in District III**

Natalie Robottom stated, "Actually that's one of our Hazard Mitigation Projects, and it's in the hands of GOHSEP and FEMA, the design is complete, it was actually one of the first ones completed. I did have an opportunity to speak with the Deputy Director of GOHSEP and asked Mr. Boucvalt to put together a list of concerns and delays that we have and I'll be meeting with

him to try and expedite those projects that are being funded through Hazard Mitigation."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay and the other thing was the submergible pumps in Belle Pointe."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Same thing. Those are all funded through the Hazard Mitigation Grant, and their process is going through GOHSEP and it just appears that it's taking much longer than it should, they continue to ask for information that we previously provided, and then they send it to FEMA, they already asked for the information so I'm going to have a meeting with the Deputy Director on that."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay and the last item, I don't think you can answer that one. The engineer that designed that project for that drainage on 24<sup>th</sup>."

Natalie Robottom asked, "Are they here?"

Councilman Madere asked, "What's his name?"

Natalie Robottom asked, "Representative from Buchart Horn?"

Councilman Madere stated, "Right."

Natalie Robottom asked, "Did you want to come up and address the question? I did have a couple of notes on here just to follow-up you had drainage in District III. I'll just state this; the project is moving and proceeding on schedule, they've completed sixty-eight hundred feet of the ten thousand feet, E. 24<sup>th</sup> Street has been completed and the contractor has moved to E. 26<sup>th</sup> Street, and it's my understanding that a second crew will be added this week to move to E. 22<sup>nd</sup> Street. It's also my understanding that you had a meeting out on the site and they've installed a temporary pump to pump down the ditch that you were concerned about, and they also met with the resident and had a plan to add a conflict box in the area that you were concerned where there was hole near a resident's home. That's what I know."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right."

Mira Pore, Buchart Horn stated, "I'm happy to answer any questions you have."

Councilman Madere stated, "I think you know that I had a few meetings and questions concerning this project, and I still have those concerns and questions concerning that project until it's completed and I see that it's working. I remember back several months ago I asked you how we were going connect that 18" pipe to a 42" pipe. And then I went to Ms. Robottom about 2 weeks ago, I think it was, right before carnival. When you came to the end where you were going on 26<sup>th</sup> Street, you had the 42" pipe all the way down in the ground, and the only way the water was connecting was going down a slope, and I was told at that time they were going to dig that down all the way to the bottom of that pipe, creating a waterslide. And that really, I really didn't like that answer I got! Okay because we did the same thing in the back of Perrilloux, we dug that canal down, and we ended up with a pile of water sitting there that's why we have to pump it out. Now, when you come to the end where the project stops and then you have the ditch that have 18" pipes and 42" pipes is at least 3' or 4' down in the ground, and to dig down to the very

bottom of that pipe, from that 18" pipe you're creating a slope, a very deep slope."

Mira Pore stated, "So we'll take a look at that, I think you have a valid point. For the most part the runs where they currently terminate, they terminate with the structure connecting to existing pipes, and then if there's a ditch it has a pipe extending into the opened edge, and then the slopes the ditches regraded the slope down to the pipe, I think this is the situation you're talking about."

Councilman Madere stated, "And that's the problem. Okay we shouldn't have a ditch sloping down 3' from an 18" pipe here and then slope down from here down to the ground, that's not improving."

Mira Pore stated, "Like so we can look at this particular situations and see if we can address your concerns."

Councilman Madere stated, "I think we need meet out there."

Mira Pore stated, "I'd be happy to meet with you anytime."

Councilman Madere asked, "Probably Monday next week?"

Mira Pore stated, "Yeah we'll have to look."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right, okay thank you."

**Larry Snyder/Jaclyn Hotard/Michael Wright - Discussion dedication of Highway 51 as "Veterans Memorial Highway"**

Natalie Robottom stated, "I thought they were going to stay. But I did speak with Mr. Reynaud, everybody received a copy of his letter. He told that he had been in contact with all of you and we just had our GIS Administrator distinguish, cause originally his request was to go all the way to the parish line with New 51 but it actually terminates at I-55. So we had that discussion, printed some maps and we'll be discussing directly with the DOT Representatives. I don't anticipate a problem, the way it was written in the letter was to rename it, which we know we would have to take legislative action. So am I hearing that we're doing something other than that, they're looking to dedicating it or ad nomenclature or okay, okay. And just for clarification and I'm not sure why that was, but we did name the parish named Veterans Highway, next to the War Veterans Home, I'm not sure why they thought it would be a conflict with Metairie, obviously there's other Veterans Memorial Highways, the town would reflect the difference, so I don't necessarily see a problem with that, but there is a Veterans Street I think in Reserve and if it's Veterans Memorial Highway, I think that would carry a little meaning. So I would be happy to work with yawl on that."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Good, good that'll work and just you guys make sure you get a festival plan for this too, okay? Thank you."

**Larry Snyder - Discussion regarding Civil Service Manual**

Natalie Robottom stated, "Now just keep in mind and this is our request, the Civil Service Board has requested that this be approved but as a result of the study, there are some things that based on our Retreat, they wanted to look at

*the compensation package, the benefits. So if there's a change, we'd rather make the change before you adopt the manual, rather than to adopt it and change it. So that's the only reason for the wait. I know Stacey was in touch with Christel, there were a few things that we met with them, they had forgotten some or omitted some job descriptions or omitted some positions that we wanted to make sure was added into the document, as soon as we get that back, which should be this week. We'll make sure yawl get a draft copy, other than that it seems like you know they have some really good recommendations to be honest, we really weren't as far off as we thought, but I think they did a good job on this study and it'll give us something to work with."*

**Larry Snyder - Ruddock Boat launch repairs**

*Natalie Robottom stated, "We spend a lot of time on this, this week and hopefully someone with more knowledge will be able to help us. We have been maintaining the grass along the right-a-way through a contract and prior to that the Sheriff's Office helped to maintain that boat launch with his inmate crew. But what we found is that it is Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, they have what's called a Self-Clearing Permit Station there, where you can go in there and get your permit through a Keas and fish or hunt, and if somebody stops you, you'll have that. However, they are denying ownership of that boat launch, the DOT says they own the parking lot but they don't own the boat launch. So there appears to be a little discrepancy there, which we did spend a lot of time, we are going to continue to work on. We are on the parish right-a-way so we don't own the boat launch, but we did send pictures of the current status to both organizations with a request to assist with maintenance or repairs to that facility and we're going to continue to investigate that, we are going to try to through the Clerk of Court's Office, but everybody seems to have a little piece and acknowledge a little bit, but nobody wants to claim ownership of the actual boat launch itself. We'll work on that."*

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yeah well good then. I hope so because I'm afraid someone is going to get hurt there."

There was no executive session.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Parish Buildings - Security

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

John Barrett vs. St. John the Baptist Parish, Docket# 68043 (Graffiti issue)

Sky Nicole Jones, et al v. Troy Miles, et al, 40<sup>th</sup> JDC

Any and all pending legal matters

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:**

**17-09** An ordinance to amend St. John the Baptist Parish Code of Ordinances to create Chapter 8.5 - Compromised Settlements and Judgments, to provide for the manner and method of entering into and satisfying compromised settlements and judgments, and the penalties for non-compliance therewith, to read as follows: Payments of Compromised Settlement and Judgements (L. Snyder)

## **PRESIDENT REPORT:**

Natalie Robottom stated, "Good evening. I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable Mardi Gras. The weather was great and both parades, were very well attended. We would like to thank everyone for their patience on Sunday awaiting DuMonde. Although the parade ran late due to circumstances beyond our control, it ended up being a fun-filled afternoon. Thanks to these organizations for providing a good time for all parade-goers. I'd also like to congratulate all of our local Krewes, Kings & Queens and their courts on their Mardi Gras reigns for one final time. Thank you to my staff, fire department and Sheriff's office and all involved for their hard work before, during and after the parades. A wrap-up meeting was held last week to discuss issues, concerns and plans for next year and several suggestions for improvement were made. Managing both parades is a great deal of work and it requires a coordinated effort and teamwork. We also need assistance from our residents and parade goers. Please help keep our Parish clean by disposing food, trash and other items in proper trash receptacles or bags. Although we provide clean up after the parade and the next day, we need assistance with this next year to help us to keep St. John beautiful. In the spirit of beautification, thanks to Keep St. John Beautiful Committee Chairman Za Maurin for spearheading the Leaders Against Litter Golden Litter Grab Friday morning. The event kicks off our Spring Beautification efforts. Za, Judge Snowdy and I were joined by one resident and a few staff members as we picked up bags of litter on Belle Terre Boulevard beginning at the River Region Chamber of Commerce and ending at the Post Office. Please mark your calendar for the Annual Spring Clean Sweep that will take place Saturday, April 29th, 2017. Groups and community organizations will join Parish leaders in sweeping the community of litter and trash on this morning. We will meet at Thomas F. Daley Memorial Park at 8:30 AM on Saturday, April 29th and clean the Parish until around 11:00 AM in which then we will gather back at the Park for food and music. To register, please visit the Parish website at [sjbparish.com](http://sjbparish.com) or call Terri Abadie at 652-9569.

Congratulations to Riverlands Christian Center and staff for the grand opening and ribbon cutting for the inspirational Soul River Exhibit - a musical dedication through African American History - this weekend. It was a great event and I encourage our residents and leaders to visit the center and experience the Exhibit - which is a stop on the historical African American tour. Riverlands Christian Center is located at 480 NW 3RD Street in Reserve. We would like to recognize the coaches and players of the 2016 7-8 Year old St. John Heat for winning the Southeast Louisiana Football League Super Bowl recently that included teams from Hammond, New Orleans, Donaldsonville and Plaquemine. We offer a big congratulations to our Recreation Department, the team and of course the parents, families and fans for this great feat. We will recognize the team at the next Council Meeting. Also great job to our Basketball participants and All Star teams for an exciting year. Residents may have started seeing marketing materials regarding the April 29th Election around the Parish and being distributed from our office. On April 29th, residents will vote on a 7 mills Ad Valorem tax dedicated to the levee project and flood protection. An additional 7 mils will cost St. John property owners only \$1.50 to \$13.12 more per month for homes valued from \$100,000 to \$300,000 and only \$18.95 to \$53.95 per month for homes valued from \$400,000 to \$1,000,000. Residences valued under \$75,000 will pay no additional tax. The tax will help pay the Parish's portion of the project which consists of earthen levees, flood walls and pumping stations. Without this protection, St. John remains vulnerable to tidal flooding and storm surge, as demonstrated during Hurricane Isaac in 2012 and the floods of 2016. Additional information has been posted to communication outlets and at [sjbparish.com](http://sjbparish.com). Town Hall

meetings are being scheduled for April, with special presentations at homeowner and other group meetings. If anyone is having a meeting and would like us to attend, please call 652-9569. Congratulations to former Andouille Queen Madison King for being named a Dean's Scholar for her fall semester at LSU Law and also being awarded as the top 25% of her class. Thanks for making St. John shine and keep up the good work as you worked toward your goal of becoming an attorney! The Office of Fire Services will be hosting a blood drive for the son of Firefighter Devon Jackson on Monday, March 20th at Hemlock Fire Station from 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM. He was born February 7th at a mere 1lb 3 ounces. He's currently on a conventional ventilator which is helping him breathe and weighs only 1lb. Please support this good cause. Pin Oak Terminals will be holding a Job Fair at the South Central Louisiana Technical College in Reserve on March 23rd from 7:00 AM until 4:00 PM and March 24th from 9:00 AM until 1:00 PM. Attendees are asked to bring a copy of their resume and be prepared to take a test onsite. The Reserve Campus is located at 181 REGALA Park Rd. You are invited to kick off Spring with our annual Easter in the Park event Saturday, April 1<sup>st</sup>. The event will be held at the Hwy. 51 Park in LaPlace and at the West Bank Complex in Edgard from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Children ages 2-12 are invited to participate in an Easter egg hunt beginning at 11:30 AM and visit with the Easter Bunny. Food, refreshments and prizes will also be provided for participants. Thank you.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

At 7:25 PM, Councilwoman Pannu moved and Councilwoman Remondet seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

/s/Larry Snyder  
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche  
COUNCIL SECRETARY