

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, MARCH 26TH, 2019
CHAIRMAN THOMAS MALIK
VICE-CHAIR MARVIN PERRILLOUX

The Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist Parish, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session in the St. John the Baptist Parish Government Complex Chambers, LaPlace, Louisiana on Tuesday, March 26th, 2019, at 6:30 PM.

CALL TO ORDER:

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

ABSENT: None

Councilman Becnel led the Prayer. Councilman Sorapuru led the Pledge.

Legal Counsel Keith Green, Jr., Christopher Cortez was present.

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

Margaret Fiedler, East 12th Street, Reserve, LA. I am here to ask that all the neighbors of the project that is underway now, with the Housing Authority to create a Green Space instead of mixed income housing. That all of the residents in the area be kept in the loop, as to the development of plans and layout. We also want to know in the future, whether or not the Federal Government will seize the deed to the Parish or other entities, and we want from here forward this property to be kept as a Green Space, family friendly, and to the benefit of the people of Reserve. We want rules and regulations on this property as to hours, restriction of events allowed and the usage, a plan layout and fencing, prevent dumping, racing of vehicles such as motorcycles and 4-wheelers through there, which is all gone on in the past. Noise level restrictions, we want to be in the loop period. So, we would ask that just as we receive sex offender postcards on a regular basis on people who have been moved into the Housing Authority, and I grew up in a Housing Authority, so I know what it's about. That we be kept in the loop by having some type of postcard sent out to us as to meetings and plans as things progressed. And that's all I'm here to ask for right now."

Councilman Malik stated, "Ms. Margaret, thank you for your comments."

Hello Buddy Duhe, I've been living in St. John my whole life. It's just about the request to cancel the Andouille Festival. I just think its kind a, I don't know, I think we can or yawl can gather the budget and find some ways to save money on it. I think it would be just be kind of the easy way out to cancel the Andouille Festival. I know basically the whole Parish enjoys the festival, and it's something that everyone looks forward to and the community benefits from it. I know when you read the article it said something about - it's wasting Two Hundred Thousand (\$200,000) or I know that's a lot of money, but I'm sure there's ways that we can find to save the money or you know fix the budget on it. So just really think about it and hopefully yawl can come up with a solution and let's not cancel it. I know I mean my family enjoys it we've been going to it forever,

and it's something I look forward to, going to every year and I just would not like to see it go away. I understand you know budgets and stuff like that, let's just try to work together and find a solution to not cancel it. Thank you."

INTRODUCTION OF BUSINESSES:

Larry Sorapuru - Presentation - Trina Henderson, Executive Director of the St. John Housing Authority - Agency update

Trina Henderson stated, "Good Evening, Good Evening to all Parish Council Members, Parish President Robottom, and Parish Administration. Thank you for the opportunity to come before you this evening, to provide the Council, the Administration and St. John the Baptist Parish Community, an update on activities of the St. John the Baptist Parish Housing Authority. Before I get in to the Garyville Redevelopment Project, the Council and Administration should have received a copy of the agency's 2019 Annual Plan, as well as its 5-Year Action Plan. And I just want to share with, that plan has to go out for comment it was posted in the newspaper that it is out for public comment/public review. In addressing Ms. Fiedler's concerns, every year this is an activity the Housing Authority must take. We plan the Board and I, we plan our activities for the upcoming fiscal year, which provides everyone in St. John the Baptist Parish an opportunity to comment, make recommendations make their concerns known. So, I just want to let everyone know, the agency's plan, not only for the upcoming fiscal year, but any Redevelopment, any Capital Improvement Project that is also out there for public review. All you have to do is come to my office, we'll be more than willing to share that information with you. It was posted once again in the L'Observateur, it's out for public comment for over actually 45 days. Our Public Hearing will be April 29th, at 5:00 PM. I ask that if you all have any concerns, that you note them in writing where we can address them, as well as attend the Public Hearing April 29th, at 5:00 PM. With that being said, I think everybody is excited about the Garyville Redevelopment Project, I'm excited about it, the Board is excited about it, I've heard some really positive things they're absolutely beautiful. Our first, one (1) Bedroom Units and three (3) Bedroom Units should be completed actually by this week. The flooring was put in last week, so they're just doing some final touches now they're working on the two (2) bedroom, the larger units. But I am here to answer any questions that you all may have regarding any activities are any plans. Like I said, a lot of the activities a lot of your questions will be answered in that PHA Annual Plan."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "First of all Ms. Henderson, I want to thank you for coming and giving us an update on the Garyville Complex, and I would like maybe to talk a little bit about the vouchers and all the complexes that we have. But I did have a request for some fencing in the Garyville Complex on the Westside of the new development, some fencing that was there before and it was taken down, and there was some concern whether they were going to have cameras installed, this is from of the residents that live in the area, and one other one was the old Row House. When is that going to come down that was one of those on the list to be demolished? So I'm getting phone calls about that."

Trina Henderson stated, "So am I. So, I want everyone to understand. The Agency, we have 240 remaining Dwelling Units, that's all four (4) of our developments. It's the intent or is the plan of the Housing Authority to demolish all 240 units over time. As with anything else, what is the driving force of making that happen? Funding! In our Annual Plan you're going to know how much the Agency receives and the Capital Funds from the Housing Authority. With the Capital Funds for instance, one (1) year we received Four Hundred Thousand (\$400,000), another

year we received Seven Hundred Thousand (\$700,000). Right now I'm working with our Architect to fence the newly developed newly development, the Garyville Redevelopment Project. In looking at pricing, now mind you, I'm saying we got Four Hundred Thousand (\$400,000), we're looking at fence prices of at an excess of over Two Hundred Thousand (\$200,000), because I do plan on putting up a gated electronic fence out there. So of course that's going to drive up the cost. With that being said, demolition, I just demolished 20 units, I think there were eight (8) fire damaged units, it cost the agency Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000), just to demolish those units. Mind you, I have 240 units that need to be demolished. So basically what we're looking at; what is the priority? Where do we focus? Our priority as far as which development we focus on? And I think you and I have spoken. We're looking at Edgard, reasons being because my occupancy is low, I'm not receiving that subsidy. HUD is no longer putting good money into bad units. So therefore, as my units come offline, my staffing reduces. Right now I'm down to one (1) Maintenance person that has to address four (4) Developments. So it would, who in the agency would focus on the Edgard? Because it does cost time, labor, what not. We've talked with the residents they're excited. So, our priority, #1 is to demolish the Edgard Development. Based on funding and what the bids and what happens there, then I'll have a better idea of what the next phase is. But to understand, it is the intent of the Housing Authority to demolish its housing inventory, it's just going to take time based on the funding received."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Thank you."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Ms. Trina thanks for coming, and that development in Garyville is awesome. I go out there two (2) or three (3) times a week, and they're working really to get it finalized looks like. I see they do some work on the weekends sometimes I think. That long building that will come down, am I right?"

Trina Henderson stated, "Absolutely!"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Cruz I think that's one of the things we talked about a long time ago. I know you had made plans maybe to keep it up, but then you changed your mind because you know it was just more feasible to tear it down."

Trina Henderson stated, "When we looked at it, and one of the questions was; you have that Row building, why did you put a new roof on it? Well guess what? We don't have, we have families that were residing in that unit. When you relocate you know it would have been easier just to shut that building down, and relocate those families, but if you don't have anywhere for those families to go, and a voucher at that time is not an option. A lot of our public housing units you know they're boarded up, they're boarded up because there's mold, wood rot, a collapsed plumbing. So that's why HUD approved for us to put a roof on that unit, looking at the monies we've put in there, we did think there was a possibility for us to rehab. But once again, as long as those units sit there, they're going to deteriorate. And so, we had an updated PNA completed just to support whether or not that unit should be demolished. We should receive the final report and it is in favor of that. So, it'll make it easier for HUD to I guess approve our demolition application once submitted for that Row Building. But to the community, yes, it is intent to the Housing Authority to demolish the Row Building. And again, contingent upon on available funding."

Councilman Snyder asked, "And the management of that building? Will the Housing Authority manage it?"

Trina Henderson stated, "The Row Building?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "No the new complex up there."

Trina Henderson stated, "The Housing Authority will manage that 22-unit Complex."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Ok. Well good! Thank you very much."

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "Yes, thank you Ms. Henderson for showing today I wanted to ask you. Does the Housing Authority have to or the, I guess the main office for HUD, do they have to approve each demolition? I know there's some smaller buildings that were in terrible shape that need to be demolished and I was wondering, can that be done without major approval for that?"

Trina Henderson stated, "Every unit that we demolish we must go through a demolition application, it must be approved by HUD."

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "And also, I had a couple of residents called me about putting their name on the list to get into these housing units. Is that list finalized, closed to any new comers?"

Trina Henderson stated, "Let me explain how that works."

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "Ok."

Trina Henderson stated, "A lot of people are under assumption that the new units are Public Housing. Again, HUD is getting out of the Public Housing business, they're moving more towards a multi-family. Those units will be considered what you call Project-Based Vouchers, which falls under the Voucher Program. So, under this program it was built under the Rental Assistance Demonstration Program under HUD, there's certain requirements that we must adhere by. As far as the waiting list, that waiting list was pulled from our current Tenant Based Section 8 waiting list. So, we had over 4,000 families we purged it, so we sent and I think we received we purged it down to 2,000. We sent over 2,000 letters to residents on the current Tenant Based Section 8 waiting list to see if there's any applicant that would be interested in a project-based unit. That's how that waiting list was comprised. So as of now we have a waiting list where starting, (I'm sorry) meeting with applicants next week to determine eligibility and whatnot. Once we go through that list of families, then we can open up the waiting list. But that was the process under that program."

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "And one other question. I know we have a Public Transit Authority where there's a busing service and whatnot. Are we going to educate the residents of what's available for them in the community, should they need access to all of that?"

Trina Henderson stated, "All of that is a requirement. As for under that program any Social Services, these residents we're going to walk them through everything. How to utilize, because these are there's new amenities that they may not be aware of. It is our job to make sure that the families that reside in those units they succeed. And they've become viable citizens or community partners with the community. So, we are definitely focus on that, I think that is a concern of the community."

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "Well exactly. I guess most of us don't realize it's going to operate differently than it did in the past. This is a different

operation as far as Project-Based, okay."

Trina Henderson stated, "Absolutely. Came back when I became ED, I was almost a curve ball there was a lot of catching up. As part of setting up criteria for this development, it's going to be stricter. Even our intake process is stricter. I mean, with Public Housing we didn't necessarily require credit check, all of that's going to be done. We want to make sure we place the best possible stewards in those units."

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "Okay, thank you so much."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Thank you Council Chair, and Ms. Sanders is it, now right?"

Trina Henderson stated, "It is."

Natalie Robottom stated, "First of all, thanks for coming. It was my understanding though that this presentation would be uploaded? We're grateful that you sent these updates on a monthly basis. But unfortunately, they're quite a few people that have no idea this is being built in Garyville. And just for informational purposes, the funding that was utilized to build these units was provided from CDBG Funding from Hurricane Isaac that was approved by this Council for this project. So, I want to make sure that everybody's clear on how this was built. But I did think you had the photos to upload for everyone, NO?"

Trina Henderson stated, "No. Those are reports that I received and they come in a PDF format."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Okay. We probably do need to make sure that the public is aware that this is being built, it is a different project. I was a result of Hurricane Isaac, and it's totally different from what was there. My question is related to - and we've had discussion back and forth about the demolition process and the amount of time that it takes, being that the only way this redevelopment was built, was due to CDBG Funding from the Parish and we're talking about your allocations of Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000) and Three Hundred Thousand (\$300,000), the cost to demolish the cost to fence, where are you anticipating getting the funding to redevelop or rebuild. For example, you indicated there was a preference to demolish the Edgard Units there. Where are you anticipating getting the funding to build new developments?"

Trina Henderson stated, "Ok. That is still in the works. The Agency, what we're doing we're talking about possibly procuring a developer partner, going out with someone to assist us and identifying funding. One of the options that the Housing Authority will have, once those units are demolished, we do have an option of disposition. Meaning that, if anyone is interested in purchasing one of those properties where we demolish, we can utilize that capital for new development. So, we're hopeful we understand the location of our properties, but there are some developers out there that may be interested in the property that we do own. And it would afford us if we are able to dispose of that property, it would allow us the opportunity to redevelop. But as it stands now, it's very difficult we're in a rural community, and we're competing when you talk about tax credits and the 4% the 9%, which a lot of housing agencies are relying upon for their new redevelopment. We're competing against the East Baton Rouge Housing Authority, the Shreveport Housing Authorities the Lafayette Housing Authorities. So, a lot of our rural housing we're in the same boat. We're trying to figure out how can we get on the equal playing field so that basically we you know, cuz we don't

have the resources that all these other agencies have. So, what about the smaller Housing Authority. So tomorrow I'll be in Baton Rouge, there's a QAP, there's going to be discussions on that and that's something we hope to bring up. You know, how do the smaller Housing Authorities compete with those larger Housing Authorities? But as of funding other than what is our subsidy and capital funding that HUD is providing us, that's all we have at this point."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yes Ms. Sanders, Congratulations!"

Trina Henderson stated, "Thank you."

Councilman Snyder asked, "How would I know how would I know if I qualify to be able to get one of those beautiful apartments over there? Is there something you're going to put out that the public might be able to go to before they come and engulf you guys with all lot of applications? So maybe I might know that no I can't qualify so I'm not going over there?"

Trina Henderson stated, "If you recall our waiting list is comprised of families that were on the Tenant Based Section 8 waiting list. I can't recall I think when we did that query we had over 200 families from the Tenant Based Section 8, waiting list that stated that they would be interested in the Project Based. So, we have to go through that process. HUD mandates that we utilize our current Tenant Based waiting list, before we go out and publicly market our property to bring in, I guess increase our waiting list."

Councilman Snyder asked, "That's changed? Because I thought I remembered somewhere that Communication here that, that new complex up here were going out and get completely new people. The people that live in that long one up there, can't move back there? I thought I had heard that somewhere?"

Trina Henderson stated, "Let me clarify let me clarify. Okay, we did have some families that were living or residing in the units that were demolished. I think it was a total of about five (5) families. Either those families as it stands now there's only three (3) remaining families that we had to relocate. And they chose to be placed in the Row Building. Those families have the first option, so if they're interested they've been compliant over the time that demolition has taken place, they have the first option before Tenant Based before we open up the waiting list. So, as it stands now one (1) family will be moving into a one (1) bedroom and we have, we only have three (3) bedrooms, so two (2) of those families will reside in a three (3) bedroom. Cuz they were definitely interested in those units."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Good, good, good, thank you ma'am."

Trina Henderson stated, "You're welcome."

Councilman Malik stated, "I have a question for you. Are there any plans or do you have the funds to build any more housing units in Garyville?"

Trina Henderson stated, "As it stands, No."

Councilman Malik stated, "Ok."

Trina Henderson stated, "Just for clarification. We're speaking of two (2) different waiting list. I spoke of a Tenant Based, which is our regular Section 8 waiting list, which we had over 2,000 families on that waiting list. Now, we had

to pull and create a waiting list for that Project Based. As it stands now there's over 200 families on that waiting list for the 22 Unit, newly developed properties. So, I just wanted to make that clarification."

Councilman Malik stated, "Thank you."

Trina Henderson stated, "You're welcome."

Councilman Becnel stated, "Thank you for coming up Ms. Sanders. Listen um, just a couple of concerns the Edgard residents called me and you and I did address them, it was ironic that they when they called and Councilman Perrilloux happened to be doing some business at the Edgard Courthouse, and he came by and visit me. And I just wanted to stress and he wanted me to bring this up to you again, you're tearing down some units in Edgard, and you did. But they left them uncovered for like 2-3 weeks and that was kind of bad, and they started to get nervous, the first thing they was worried about was is the asbestos, those little kid running around kids the wind was blowing, and I think you assured us that there wasn't any asbestos. So, they told me to make sure to stress that to you when you're tearing that down, please give them notification or post something because everyone became nervous. I mean I got a lot of calls which I have no problem accepting them, but we really need to pay close attention to that. And also asked me, and think we only have about 9 or 10 families?"

Trina Henderson stated, "That is correct."

Councilman Becnel stated, "In that area. So, you're going to be tearing down all the Units, right? And a couple of them asked me, Councilman Becnel, well I really don't know that you can answer that. When it's getting close, are you guiding them or helping them get like relocated right now? Or what's your timeframe? That's what somebody asked to have them move out of Edgard."

Trina Henderson stated, "Let me share with you. We do hold resident meetings, okay? Um, sometimes I have them at my office if I find out they're not coming out to the office, I'll go out there and meet with them so we do make the residents for those that, some show up and some don't. So, I'm not sure who's calling you. But it is our job to make sure that they are prized of everything that is going on. As far as relocation we're mandated, we must make sure that we handle all relocation activity for the residents. Like I said, you know our hopes is you know once the units are demolished, there will not be Public Housing, we're going to seek vouchers for those families. And it's our job to make sure we want those families to succeed."

Councilman Becnel stated, "Well will the Edgard Complex, will it be rebuilt or yawl are not sure yet? You're not going to?"

Trina Henderson stated, "At this time, and I have to be honest with you. We've had several HUD officials over the years since I've been here to review the Edgard site. And one of their concerns is the viability of the community. We understand it's a close-knit family. But as far as, once again I'm not building Public Housing, but if there is a Developer that is interested in building, they may have that option. But as it stands now, unless someone really shows an interest in redeveloping in Edgard, that's the only way I see that it's going to be able [CROSSTALK]"

Councilman Becnel stated, "And could that be to low occupancy they don't have that many people living there anymore?"

Trina Henderson stated, "One of the things HUD, when they're looking...rating for instance, we're talking about tax credits and that's the gap funding that's needed to redevelop. You're rated on your applications, so one of the things they're looking at the schools, they're looking at businesses, they're looking at you know community stakeholders, and all of that is ranked. So, if you don't have a strong enough application to support redevelopment, the likely hood that's someone's going to rebuild affordable housing in that community under those guidelines, I'm going to say is questionable"

Councilman Becnel stated, "Well on that note, I'd like to close with saying if you tear down any more units, please, and I'm stressing to you cuz the residents they call it the 'Loop', that's what they nicknamed and we pride ourselves on that, we're a tight knit community and we close pay attention to everything. I guarantee you when you tear down another unit, make sure that unit is moved in a timely manner."

Trina Henderson stated, "Absolutely."

Councilman Becnel stated, "Please, that's what we want. Cuz people getting nervous, like I told you with asbestos and stuff like that and it was there a long time Ms. Sanders, and when Councilman Perrilloux can vouch, he came and visit with me and its ironic when we got there we had made a few phone calls and here come the trucks pulling them out. But anyway, please in a timely manner, get these things out when you can."

Trina Henderson stated, "Absolutely."

Councilman Becnel stated, "Alright, thank you."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes I just want to make a couple of things get a couple of things clear. Like the Housing Authority Complex in Reserve, we call it Reserve Project. Okay, plans are to tear all those units down in all those different areas in the Parish?"

Trina Henderson stated, "Absolutely."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay and then you mentioned the fact that maybe some Developer might want to buy that property, that footprint and put houses there? Okay that's what you mean another Developer like may come by and build houses like they have, like say on Martin Luther King Boulevard? Not necessarily that many back there, but somebody would buy that property and make like a subdivision out of it. That's what you meant?"

Trina Henderson stated, "It's a possibility."

Councilman Madere asked, "But the Federal Government may have no intention to rebuild in those units like that on that particular area?"

Trina Henderson stated, "Absolutely not."

Councilman Madere asked, "Right. Now they, if they have money they will build similar units somewhere in the Parish like you have in Garyville?"

Trina Henderson stated, "Correct."

Councilman Madere asked, "If money become available?"

Trina Henderson stated, "Right and once again, thanks to the support of the Council and the Parish Administration. That's what led to this success of us being able to redevelop that Garyville, but they're looking at of course, I understand the Garyville the newly Garyville Project, if you notice it's built far away enough from the Railroads. The Railroads are concerned, if you ride out there, it has to be built, parking all of that has to be looked at. If you look at the other Reserve, as well as LaPlace. Railroads, that's an issue for a lot of companies that's looking to redevelop. So, there's a lot of things that go into play when you're talking about redevelopment. To some of us oh, its prime land its prime land, it may not be prime land for the type of multi-family housing that basically HUD is you know or seeking or redevelopers are looking for."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay one other question. If the Federal Government, if no one buy or develop those that area, the Federal Government is still going to maintain that property?"

Trina Henderson stated, "Well that, that's where we're going to have to come back to the table with you all and try to see how the city and the federal government can work together to maintain that."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right because we don't want that to turn into a problem here. Okay."

Trina Henderson stated, "Absolutely not."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Thank you Ms. Sander, just really quick kind of touching on what Kurt said. So, if the buildings were demolished, wouldn't the removal of the debris be part of the demolition contract?"

Trina Henderson stated, "It is and I'm not quite sure. When I spoke with the contractor, because when you're talking about asbestos and mold and whatnot. All of that has to be contained, so they were under guidelines where once it was removed it had to be immediately carried off. So, I'm not sure what the residents were referring to, but when they're addressing that and removing that, cuz basically the asbestos was in the floor tiles. So once that was removed, that was carried away. Now there may have been some other debris that was left behind and that was the concern. But as far as the hazardous material, that was carried off."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Okay, thank you for clearing that up."

Councilman Malik stated, "Thank you."

Trina Henderson stated, "Thank you all."

Natalie Robottom/Sheriff Mike Tregre - Recognition - Miles Bourgeois, Byron Gilcrease, Vince LeJeune and Jeremy Zeringue (Garyville Rescue)

Please see the complete video of the meeting on our website at www.sjbparish.com.

Natalie Robottom - Recognition - 2019 Retiree - Tanya Johnson (Finance) - 31 years

Natalie Robottom, Parish President, presented 2019 Retiree - Tanya Johnson (Finance) - 31 years, a plaque for her years of service with St. John the Baptist Parish.

Natalie Robottom - Proclamation - April as Animal Abuse Prevention Month

Natalie Robottom, Parish President, read the proclamation for April as Animal Abuse Prevention Month.

Natalie Robottom - Proclamation - April as Fair Housing Month

Natalie Robottom, Parish President, read the proclamation for April as Fair Housing Month.

Thomas Malik - Presentation - "Walk a Mile in Their Shoes" - Robin Bailey, Executive Administrative Assistant, St. John the Baptist Parish District Attorney Office

Darlinta Garrison, St. John Attorney's Office stated, "I'm the Victim assistant for Division A. And I am here to give you information on the victim, well National Crimes Victims Right's Week, to give you a little information: The 2019 National Crimes Victims Right's Week. Every April Office for Victims of Crime leads victims throughout the country and their Annual Observance of the week. This year Office for Victims of Crime will commemorate the week of April 7th thru 13th. This year's theme 'Honoring our Past. Creating Hope for the Future', celebrates the progress made by those before us as we look to a future of Crime Victims Services that is even more inclusive, accessible, and trauma informed. And at the end of the week the District Attorney's Office will be hosting a Walk a Mile in Their Shoes Event, it is a One Mile Walk to Show Solidarity for Victims of Crime in St. John Parish. It will be held on Saturday, April 13th, at the Thomas Daley Memorial Park on Hwy. 51. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. (rain or shine), 8:30-9:30 will be Registration and Gift Pack Giveaway. Also 9:30-10:00, the welcome address; 10:00 the walk begins, and healthy snacks and water will be provided after the walk. We're asking that you and any community members please join us as we support Crime Victims and remember survivors at our Victim's Rights Walk. A tent and seating will be available for all non-walkers. St. John the Baptist Parish, Bridget A. Dinvaut. I also wanted to note that; also, victims, are victim's family members whom may reside in other areas, well the victim's family members may reside here and the crime may have occurred in another area, they're still invited to attend as well. So, any questions?"

Councilman Malik stated, "No, we'll see you there!"

Darlinta Garrison stated, "Thank you."

CONSENT AGENDA:

ITEMS: Approval of Minutes - March 12th, 2019, Regular Meeting; Permit Approval - 6th Annual "Sings and Strings Festival" - Sunday, April 7th, 2019 beginning at 11:00 AM - Garyville Timbermill Association; Permit Approval - St. Joan of Arc Stations of the Cross Procession - Friday, April 19th, 2019 beginning at 5:00 PM at St. Joan of Arc Church - 529 W. 5th Street - LaPlace; Robert Figuero - Monthly Financial Report (February 2019)

MOTION: Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to approve consent agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes - March 12th, 2019, Regular Meeting; Permit Approval - 6th Annual "Sings and Strings Festival" - Sunday, April 7th, 2019 beginning at 11:00 AM - Garyville Timbermill Association; Permit Approval - St. Joan of Arc Stations of the Cross Procession - Friday, April 19th, 2019 beginning at 5:00 PM at St. Joan of Arc Church - 529 W.

5th Street - LaPlace; Robert Figuero - Monthly Financial Report (February 2019). The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:

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

MOTION: Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to remove Ordinance 19-07 from the TABLE. The motion passed with 8 Yeas and 1 Against (Snyder).

Robert Figuero stated, "These amendments reflect changes to estimated revenues and expenditures for 2019. The Professional Services line item in question at the last Council meeting includes departmental IT services, ADP (payroll), Backflow Prevention Services, BETA Testing, Legal Services, Parish Engineer, CES Testing, State Consulting Services, Digital Engineering, Background Verification, Security Services, Drug Screening, and Metro Service Group trash collection. The proposed amendment increases this line item to provide additional support from Stantec, Munis, Tyler Technology and Digital Engineering to manage and close out grant and loan funding for existing and new projects. Administration recommends approval."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Thank you. Last, I think last meeting we had, I asked to Table this cuz I wanted to get this information some information I wanted, and that was two (2) weeks ago I got the information today. Nah..."

Robert Figuero interrupting stated, "Councilman, you came to my office Friday."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Uh hold on! Hold on, hold on hold on. I know I came to your office last week. And we had discussions, and my point my point is, this is put down on a piece of paper here where all of these different things goes in to this line item. It sounds it looks like it's to me it's a smoke screen, we may be paying things out of this. The Parish Engineering, the Digital Engineering, Backflow Prevention. How much do we pay those people out of this fund? Because you know if we just look at this on the surface, it looks like we you know we got all these responsibilities here. But, we know we got a garbage collection, we know we got a fee we pay for garbage collection, we know that. And I pay that every month. So, you're saying that some of that money we pay for garbage collection also come out of the line item? For that area right there?"

Robert Figuero stated, "Yes for the different Wastewater Plants. For the different Wastewater Plants, correct."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Wastewater Plant. You see what I'm talking about here. This is what I want, this is the kind of dialogue I wanted. You understand that? To get this information so I know what kind of decision I need to make on this. Now we, but and if I got you and I talked, we had a long talk about a lot of things like that. But you know I got it here in front of me right now and I see exactly what's going on with this, and this satisfy me as far as what I was talking, but I'm still not understanding it because I don't know how much money that we got going into that thing that we need to put a hundred another hundred and twenty-three thousand dollars in for that Professional Service line item, and we got all these things coming out of it. How much we pay Digital Engineering right now?"

Robert Figuero stated, "I, Councilman, the week and half ago when you came into my office I gave you the itemized sheet with all the prices and all the cost for each one..."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Right! Now for Digital Engineering?"

Robert Figuero stated, "For that line item. For the particular line item, for the Professional Services line item. I just want to make sure that we're looking at the same document. Correct?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "No I'm looking at this document right here. I'm looking at this one, one I just got."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "The agenda."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Right, the agenda item."

Robert Figuero stated, "Right, but I gave you a list. Again, like you came to my office what about a week and a half ago, that past Friday and I gave you the list of all the itemized items in that line item, um..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "You know I looked and I looked at that but you know what the first thing hit my mind? We got all these things coming out of there, why some of these things on, have their own line item? You see where I'm coming from here? Because that an ambiguous line item, to me it's ambiguous, because you can put anything you want in there, and you can move, do it, anything cutting grass (Professional Service). And we want to put another hundred something thousand dollars in there and we got contracts that we don't have money to pay. And why do we want to put a hundred something thousand dollars in there? For the same reason we got this other one on the first page Tabled. For a new contract for Digital Engineering. As soon as this pass tonight, next week it's going to get off the Table, and I know that's a fact. Okay, because it's so sure that we are going pass this tonight. But that's fine that's fine, if we want to pass it, we want to pass it that's fine. But I'm telling you one thing, a lot of these items I see that in the amendments, I don't know who all read these amendments. I'm sure all these, our Council Members did their job and read all these amendments. And all of the amendments hey, it's the same thing that's on the original contract. Except you're expand on a few items/line items in there. But everything you expand on a few item line items, but it's just the same thing Digital Engineering got, we pay \$250,000 a year right now to do."

Robert Figuero asked, "Are we talking about the amendments of the actual budget or the amendments to Digital Engineering Contract?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "I'm talking about I'm talking about I'm talking about, now I'm talking about the amendments to their contract, that's what I'm talking about."

Robert Figuero stated, "The contract."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Because all of this come together I know that! I know that!"

Robert Figuero stated, "And I can sit here and say with a 100% certainty, that money is not all going towards Digital Engineering..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "I guess it's not!"

Robert Figuero stated, "There's several services that are required again as I've expressed in the past, there are several services that are going to be required to assist us with managing a lot of these projects that the former Utilities Director was assisting with. I specifically have three (3) separate projects on my table right now that I'm doing that Blake, or the former Utilities Director was assisting me with. Now that he is gone, I need additional assistance I need additional help. Two of those are coming from different Consultants, being one being Stantec and two being Tyler Technologies, to help me with two of those other projects. As far as Digital's expansion of their Scope, again when we had a Utilities Director here, their Scope is limited for the sake of giving an example: on Project A; they were schedule to work about 15 hours on that project, doing the things they were doing. When we lost the Utilities Director their Scope's going to expand, so now they're going from 15 hours possibly to 20, 25, 30, 45 hours. Again, that's just an example. But because their scope is expanding, so therefore the contract has to expand because unfortunately they're not going to do it for free, so that is the reason why we're looking to extend that contract as well. But as far as the Professional Services line item and as far as the budget goes, if you look at all the services that are in the Professional Services line item, we could literally create 15 to 20 separate line items, and now you're talking about an additional 20 line items for every single fund that we have with those similar Professional Services in it, and it gets very cumbersome. The Auditors don't like to have multiple line items at all say Professional Services, they for the sake of clarity and transparency, they try to keep it small and tight. It's a large budget, I'm not saying it's impossible by any stretch obviously it's very doable, but it takes a lot more to manage that because it's a lot more accounts that you have to manage, a lot more accounts in the system, a lot more GL's that people have to code things to, it's just gets cumbersome. And that's usually why you have one or two Professional Services line item with some kind of distinction, in all the funds. And again, all this information is readily available."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I know it is I know it is, it's available. And that's you know after doing a little reading, and I looked at these contracts and I looked at the amendments, and it's you know pretty much say the same thing. We expand on a few of them sure we did, if anybody read these things we saw where some of those general things we're supposed to be doing we expand them on a little bit. But it's all in their first contract to me, what they're were supposed to be doing. We just going pay them another \$150,000, to do to bounce this off them or bounce that off of them you know. And you're saying in the first contract they had that they're responsible for assisting us with Grants and Administration of Grants. That's is the first contract, you did the same thing in the second contract. You just expand on some of the things that's already down there..."

Robert Figuero interrupting stated, "Yes sir, because if..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "If you read these things you'd see what I'm talking about."

Robert Figuero stated, "Understood, understood!"

Councilman Snyder asked, "So why, why, why, we can't just if we need them to do something, then we do it under a purchase order. If we need them to do something, and if we need to put more money in there later on to do something that day we

get an explanation on what they're doing at the time they're doing it."

Robert Figuero stated, "Well Public Bid Law and..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "Bid Law!"

Robert Figuero stated, "Purchase and Procurement Policies prevent us from issuing purchase orders over a certain amount. So again, if we not only know that we're going to issue \$100,000 in purchase orders in the next year, well we need to go out and properly procure it, come to the Council get a contract for it, therefore, not by passing the rules and regulations that are in place."

Councilman Snyder asked, "So the money that's in that fund already, all that's accounted for?"

Robert Figuero stated, "Yes sir. The majority..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "Five hundred something thousand dollars?"

Robert Figuero stated, "The majority of it yes sir. There are some ancillary fees that do pop up for example: we have you've got a Curtis Environmental, they do a lot of testing, so depending on if we got a lot of issues with some of the plants, they may do more testing. You've got background checks, you've got drug urinalysis, so depending on if there's an accident so you may have more of those..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "Yeah I'm looking at all that they got written down there."

Robert Figuero stated, "So there is a little bit of play to move on each side of each side of the fence or each side of the line to try and participate the additional cost that do come up. But again, 90-95% of everything that's in the line item is accounted for. And usually the other 5% as history tells us, will be utilized as well because again, looking at the last 4 or 5 years, the actually budget we spent more than the 520 that's currently in there throughout the last 4 or 5 years. So again, we did reduce that budge this year as well, trying to cut back on some of the services. But again, history tells us that, yes we're going to spend upwards of \$500/\$520,000 for Professional Services for Wastewater."

Councilman Snyder stated, "You know we got a contract we're waiting to do something with right now, why can't we use that money for that? And then if this money run out, where we need Digital to do this or do that? Then we just got to find some money someplace and put it in that fund."

Robert Figuero asked, "What contract are you alluding to Councilman?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "I'm alluding to clean this building right here. We can't find \$40,000. We can't find \$90,000, but we can find a \$120,000 over here to give to expand the contract these people already got a contract to do the same thing that they supposed to be doing on the original contract. We done expand that thing got how many how many amendments to that contract they got, six! There's six amendments to that contract."

Robert Figuero stated, "And again, they're paid hourly they're paid hourly Councilman. So, as they exceed their budget when we put \$50,000 in for their first contract, once their hourly fees equal \$50,000, then we need to expand some

more so they can continue to do additional work. So, it's not necessarily for a specific task, it's an hourly contract...

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "I know it's an hourly contract."

Robert Figuero stated, "As for the other contract that you're talking about, we cannot legally move money out of Wastewater and put it into the General Fund."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Can you move it out of the Sales Tax Fund?"

Robert Figuero stated, "No sir we cannot."

Councilman Snyder asked, "And put it..."

Robert Figuero stated, "Sales Tax District we cannot put money from the Sales Tax District directly into the General Fund."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Okay. Where can we put it at? You see that's what I wanted that's what I'm talking about. That's what we need to know up here, where can we move money around, and that can help us in some other areas also."

Robert Figuero stated, "Well the Sales Tax Districts' funds Utilities and Public Works primarily, or not primarily. It funds Public Works and Utilities. So again, the Ordinance, the way that when it was passed the tax on the Sales Tax District was passed, was again, you can fund Utilities and Public Works and Wastewater Departments from the Sales Tax District."

Councilman Snyder asked, "So what else is there? What else is there? That's where we spend 90% of our money on Utilities and Public Works. What does this building come under? I mean a Miscellaneous? The cleaning of this building? You know it's a hundred something thousand dollars a year to clean this building. "

Robert Figuero stated, "Right, it's out the General Fund. There's a Janitorial Services line item in the General Fund for this building."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Okay, I know how I feel about this and I know and I can see the camouflage writing we're putting with all these different objects down here, cuz this could have been sent to us earlier. Cuz I asked for it two (2) weeks ago. Everybody should've had a list of this. I came to..."

Robert Figuero interrupting stated, "Councilman you did receive this a week and a half ago."

Councilman Snyder stated, "That's what I'm saying, everybody else got it too?"

Robert Figuero stated, "No sir."

Councilman Snyder stated, "They got it that's fine. But I asked for it."

Robert Figuero stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes my question is. I understand where Mr. Snyder is coming from with this. I think it was two (2) meetings ago when we had a big discussion and a workshop concerning Digital Engineering and Mr. Savoie (that's the Parish Engineer). And at that time, I think we made it clear at the meeting and also at the workshop, that I think you was supposed to have a meeting with

Mr. Savoie to decide how much of what you had for Digital Engineering that they would be able to do. Because at that time, Digital Engineer, I think it was what \$150,000 we were putting in there for them? Okay so we felt as though they didn't need that amount of money cuz we already had had a Parish Engineer that could do a lot of the work that we were putting on Digital Engineer and paying them extra money. Okay, that's and we didn't get any feedback from that. Okay and that was two (2) meetings ago, plus a workshop. And we didn't hear anything about the meeting we didn't hear what yawl what type of agreement yawl came to or what Mr. Savoie is going to do and what Digital Engineering is going to do. All we have back in front of us is this proposal to put money into this line item. Okay so not knowing exactly what they're going to get out of it. What Digital Engineering is going to get out of it, cuz we made it perfectly clear we don't want to pay them extra money to do something that we already have someone under contract that can do some of the same work. It's almost like duplication of funds, when you say CDBG, duplication of work. Okay and were paying someone extra money to do the same type of work that we already have someone on staff that can do it. And I think that's what Mr. Snyder is looking at, that's what he thinks is happening right here, and it seem as though that's exactly what's happening because we never got any feedback from the previous two meetings and the workshop that we had. Okay and that's what it seems as though it's going move forward or attempting to move forward, and disregard what the Council requested or tried to get accomplished with this. And that's what he's saying, and I know we can't talk about this next item that's coming up with the Janitorial cuz we're not on it yet, okay but I have some comments about that in terms of moving money around. Okay, we can move money around Administration is doing it right now. Or we can move money around from Directors, okay where that's what we did. Some of this money came from Directors salaries we have not you now put in place. So, there are money available, and this is not the only amount of money they have left available, okay I'm pretty sure before the years out Administration will be coming back to us again to move money around if they have a shortfall. So, there is money available and there is money to move around. But I think what this Council and myself, what we had to workshop was for we don't want to pay someone extra money for something that can be done by someone we already have under contract. And I think that's what everyone was concerned about."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes, I apologize for you guys not getting this, but it was my understanding that Robert and Mr. Snyder met on it. What they're referencing is the budget in the Procurement/Professional Services item and although we made a list of what's paid for. The actual document that was provided to Mr. Snyder, actually details the exact amount of money that's allocated in the Professional Services line item to ACT, to ADP, to Backflow, so it approaches \$465,000, which is budgeted which we know we may exceed that, which is why Robert has a little extra money. But that document is printed out of our new Financial System. When we create a line item, we don't just throw a number in there, we look at a history and we know what contracts are paid for out of that line item, and that is what is generated out of our Finance System the exact amount that's paid to those companies so we can get that to all of you. With regard to the discussion Mr. Madere you're referencing, the reason the item remains TABLED, is because Mr. Dalaune is out of town. We did meet with him to go over the items that we originally proposed and based on our workshop, we amended some of those items. We also met with Mr. Savoie and Joseph, to look at that items they were currently working on, we pulled their reports that you guys get on a regular basis, and some of the items that Digital is managing, which all of the items that we showed you are either Grant, Loan, Funded, that Digital secured for us. Now we fully understand what you're saying, it's some of the same items. But they're responsible for seeing the project through to completion. So, until that

project whether it's a Grant or Loan is completed, they're going to continue to have to spend hours on it. They do the billing, they get our reimbursements, and the final phase of any of those Grants or Loans is a close-out process. So, until all those projects are finished, and the Grants or Loans are closed out, it's going to be Digital's responsibility to continue working on those projects in closing them out to make sure that we get either reimbursements or the projects are paid for out of the Grants or the Loans. So, although you see some of the same items, the projects remain open so until they're finished, they're going to continue to spend hours on them. The reasons the projects were separated and there was no controversy in our meetings with our Parish Engineers, they do not manage those Grants and Loan funded projects. As our Parish Engineer though, they write reports, they are our set of eyes over those documents. So, you get reports from them that says, I've reviewed this plan it meets our specs, or they make recommendations. So, they're eyes are on some of those projects. But, they're not managing the funding, the grant, the loan or reviewing the specs and design and sending them off to the funding entity that is what Digital is doing. So, there's nothing that's in Digital's contract, even though we amended it and took out, you know we had this long discussion, when Blake left he knew there was some items that we needed help with. We attempted to assign those to our Parish Engineer and they refused, so we put them in the Digital contract. Since that time, we had a meeting and some of those things they felt they could do, and we went through what we originally proposing and there wasn't really any discrepancy. As we talked through them they were comfortable with doing some of those items because they were already reviewing some of them. So there really wasn't a duplication of efforts, they're very separate, the reason we haven't brought them back was because we didn't finalize their document. I think there were only two things in that document that were troubling to Mr. Savoie. One was the reference to the Council assigning work, and the other was them being paid mileage or paid hourly to come back and forth. The rest of the items on there, they didn't have any problems with those projects cuz they were already kind of overseeing some of those projects. Now are there some others, we think we need some help with some of the work at Lions, but we've not finalized those discussions with Savoie which is why we didn't come back, that's why the item is TABLED, we did take some of the items off of Digital's contract and we think those are some things that Savoie can help us with. So that's why it's still on there we didn't move it forward we haven't discussed it with Rob, he's out of town. However, what we do know is, we're going to have to pay for that and the way to pay for any type of additional services as Rob indicated, we know we're going to need help from Munis, we know we're going to need additional help from Stantec, those are the things that Blake was doing. We know we're going to need additional help with Tyler Technology, so moving some of the money into Professional Services is going to allow us to pay for that. We're not duplicating services, each one of them, it's the same thing. Mr. Savoie has the same items on his contract. And each year he has the same items, but it's for different projects, that's just the nature of what Engineers do they do the same thing but it could be for different projects. So, he going to review design but it might be a different project, he's going to review the specs, he's going to review the plans, but it may be for different projects. Every year they do the same thing. They're going to review, they're going to go out and do site visits and access things and write reports. That is what they do every year, but it may be for a different problem. And so again, the two discrepancies in what we were asking them to do, because they already are doing some oversight on these projects, you get them in your reports. They also are getting ready to do our road work, they're working on some canal estimates for us. They're reviewing projects and writing reports for you all, they're working on Planning & Zoning. These are things they've been doing all along, we do think in order to upgrade part of our water system we're going to need some

additional help from them. And we just haven't been able to finalize that portion of their contract, but if you know I thought it was a good meeting, there wasn't any question about some of the things they were doing and we were asking, they did not say they were doing what Digital was doing, because they're not. They're not managing those grants they didn't get those grants, they're not securing reimbursements, they're not submitting the paperwork to show the works done, they're not reviewing the bid and turning it in the EPA, they didn't apply for the loan, none of that work is being done by our Parish Engineer. It's being done by Digital Engineering and they need to finish those projects and see them to closure in order for us to get all of the money that we're entitled to, and that's why we're asking them to continue working on those projects which is going to require some additional hours, because some of the projects are just going to construction, some of them are still in design, and you know they're not finished. So, until the projects are finished, we need the Engineer of record to continue to work on those projects."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Isn't that what it states in the original contract?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "It is sir."

Councilman Snyder asked, "All of that what you just said..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "It is."

Councilman Snyder asked, "The whole 15 minute of dialogue you just said?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Absolutely."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Was in their contract?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "And until the project is finished they're going to continue to work on it."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well why do we need to give them a new contract to do that, and they're already under contract?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Because their hours have run out Mr. Snyder. You know they get paid a certain amount of money for a number of hours. Once you've worked all of your hours, you're not going to continue to work hours without being paid. So, you know they've been working on these projects, and we've actually granted, it's on an hourly basis, you get 50 hours, you know so they've finished that. They've been working on this for 6 years, so they finished the number of hours they were allocated because we're assigning them some additional work, they need additional hours and they're paid hourly. So that's how the rate of pay is determined, you know it's going to be an amount of money in there, you're only going to be paid for what you worked. You're not going to get the whole contract if you worked 75 hours, you're going to be paid for 75 hours. But basically, they're obligated to closeout these loans, these grants, and again we cash flow a lot of projects and we need our money back. And they're firm that actually sends for the reimbursements they turn in the documents and we get reimbursed putting that money back into our system, and that's what their firm does for us. And they do a good job, they've closed out project, many of the grants and loans, until you close one out, you can't access the rest of your money. Like the L-GAP, they have to close those grants out in order for us to get the next year's money that is what they do for us."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Another question, this Cooperate Resolution that they signed I don't quite understand it. I looked at the, you know the meeting with the Board of Directors met with Digital Engineering, and they'll assign someone to be able to look at all of the, sign their contracts. And I was looking at the one we got with/for December the 8th, December the 6th, 2018. And they got this one guy name on in two positions, I want to know you know explain that to me, maybe legal can explain that to me and actually what it said is that; Being resolved that Mr. Thomas P. Hickey, hereby authorizes submit proposals. And he got the he's saying this person can do that. He's the President of the Cooperation. And then at the bottom down there, it says that Mr. Thomas P. Hickey, hereby certify that I am Secretary of Digital Engineering. I/when I saw that it kind of it kind of say well; how can this guy be the President and maybe he might be the Secretary on the Board for one of the President's. But he is the one authorizing it then he's the one on the/he's the Secretary also. Is that how's it's supposed to be? Because I saw in the original Resolution where Mr. Hickey was the President of the Cooperation, and they had someone else as the Secretary that was able to write Grants or something like that I can't remember exactly what it was. But when you get a chance if you could look at it, and give me an explanation on that?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "We'll be happy to do that. Because it was TABLED Mr. Snyder, I didn't necessarily bring that information. But I'm almost sure the District Attorney's Office has reviewed those documents and deemed them to be legally sufficient. The reason we TABLED it, we were revising the Scope. But the actual document itself was approved, but in conversations with Savoie and Digital, we wanted to make sure that you know there wasn't a duplication of the Scope, and that was the only section that we were attempting to amend to make sure it wasn't conflictual. But I'll be happy to take a look at that for you, but since that's not the item I didn't come prepared to discuss that."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Can we get that can we get the, that copy that Mr. Robert gave me. I know I mentioned to you that I might give it to the rest of the Council. But I thought there might have been a conflict with a Sunshine Law, so I didn't do that."

Natalie Robottom stated, "So the actual items..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting asked, "Could you send it to all the Council so they could look at it and see what you and I discussed?"

Robert Figuero stated, "Absolutely."

Natalie Robottom asked, "You're talking about the Finance Report that list all the itemized spending Mr. Snyder?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yes ma'am."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Ok."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Yes I just want to make a comment, Robert you mentioned about since we didn't have a Utility Director, all this is falling on Engineering Group so, Blake is not here to defend his self. But if Blake was doing all of this, who was running the Utility Department? If he was closing out loans, grants and running Munis like you're doing right now, how did he run the Department?"

Robert Figuero stated, "I can't speak for him on his behalf. As far as grants and closing out the loans, and the grants and so forth, that's Digital Engineering. He was doing more of the Project Management. You know the hands-on the administrative aspect of the projects. Where Digital Engineering was doing mostly grants and grant administration. This is why again, we're trying to expand that somewhat, because now we're asking them to take on more Project Management as Blake was doing. So again, Digital will continue to do all the grant administration of it, which again is closing out the loans, securing the refunds, etc. But again, Blake was doing more of the Project Management, the hands-on, the Administrative Project Management aspects of it. So that where Digital that's where we need to expand someone to help us out with is on the Project Administration aspect of it."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "So my next question is; what is the dollar amount that dumped into this pile right now? The line item Mr. Snyder spoke about? How much additional money that we're talking about?"

Robert Figuero stated, "All we were doing is looking to move the current salary of the Utilities Director, so we're trying to move..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "That's \$123,000 there I think that and the Transportation Fund."

Robert Figuero stated, "So on Page 16 of the Budget Amendments, line item 106, there was approximately \$98,345 for the salary of the Utilities Director, as well as the \$4800.00 of the salaries, I'm sorry of the Car Allowance of the Utilities Director. So, we're moving those two items into the Professional Services line item and zeroing out the other line items."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "Okay so, there are no additional monies are going to be needed to finish these projects for the rest of the year?"

Robert Figuero stated, "I would to say no, but I'd be naive from a financial perspective to commit to that cuz again you just never know. The intent is not, again when we create this budget obviously we create the budget with the intent of finishing all these projects within budget, within scope of what our budget says. But again, to sit here and guarantee that, I'd be naive to attempt that. But again, that's the intent when you create the budget, absolutely."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Correct, thank you."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Mr. Sorapuru that contract that we got TABLED, isn't there a number in that? How much the Administration asking for?"

Robert Figuero stated, "I believe that \$150,000 if I'm not mistaken?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Exactly \$150,000! That's the number you just asked about it Mr. Sorapuru."

Natalie Robottom stated, "But it's not for one year."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well, but its \$150,000. He asked how much we were moving in to it. He asked how much we were moving in to it."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Ninety-eight and Four Thousand, is what we're moving in to that line item."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Right!"

Natalie Robottom stated, "But that, the money that we're requesting is not for through the end of this year, it's for a certain number of hours. So, we could use some of it through 2019, and we can have to carry some over in 2020. But we're just moving the money that's already in the Utilities Budget. We're just asking to use money that's already there, because we're not spending it on a Director in travel, we're asking to put it in Professional Services because we're going to use that to pay people to help us. It's not just Digital it's Munis, it's Tech/Tyler, and it's Stantec, it's all of the contracts that you guys have actually approved, but now without Blake being there to run those projects, we're going to need those people who are over Stantec, and Munis and to do more work for us, we're also going to need more work from Digital. So, it's not just about Digital, it's about all the services that without having the Director helping us, we need more help from the company that's helping us design our Utilities System, that's helping us with our Financial System, that'll help us with our Utility Billing, that's doing the study to determine whether our cost is reasonable for our utilities. I think that was Stantec. We're also going to be working with South Central Planning on the Entergy issue, but we have to pay for that. You know they're not going to do that for free. So, all the money that's going into that Professional Services line item is going to go towards getting that kind of help in our Utilities System. So, we didn't want to take it out of Utilities cuz that's where we need the help. We'd like to leave it in Utilities to get the help we need to sure up some of these projects that are outstanding."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Where did that salary come from? Which fund it come out of?"

Robert Figuero asked, "Which one the Utilities Director?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yeah."

Robert Figuero stated, "Salaries and Wastewater."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I'm sorry."

Robert Figuero stated, "Salaries and Wastewater."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Okay."

Robert Figuero stated, "There's a transfer from Utilities to Wastewater as well to cover it. So, they're split evenly."

Councilman Snyder asked, "So it came out of the General Fund? Put in to there?"

Robert Figuero stated, "No sir."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Well which one it came out of? I mean we had to get the money from some place to put in there for his salary."

Robert Figuero stated, "It comes from the Revenue that Wastewater collects. And Utilities collects, water bills, permits, etc."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes, a couple of things. You mentioned the loans, and the grants that Digital Engineers secured for the Parish and you said it's their responsibility and obligation to make sure these things are done all the way to

completion."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right. My question is and you say in their contract they have a certain number of hours, okay that they supposed to perform this?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes."

Councilman Madere asked, "Okay, so if they don't get it done in those certain number of hours, do they automatically get an extension?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "No sir."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay so..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "But in their contract, like you know their termination dates in their contracts, so you know about how long it's going to take. And many of these contracts extend over years, they're not simple year contracts as you know we work on projects that take many years to finish. So that's what they do at a basic hourly rate, and to be honest with you their one of the cheapest firms that works for us. In terms of the amount of work that they produce for what we pay them, we actually get a lot more from them than some of our others."

Councilman Madere stated, "I understand what you're just said and they might be the cheapest one, I don't know I trust you on that one. But what I'm saying is, they have the experience when they go out, they're not the only Parish, we not the only Parish that they work for? I'm pretty sure they work all over. So, whenever they go and get a grant and a loan, they know it's their responsibility and obligation to see these things through."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Right!"

Councilman Madere stated, "So why would they sign contracts that they know is going to run out and they know to come back? With the experience they have they should have okay, we're going give you a set price for 6 years or 7 years, cuz they know projects and stuff, especially outdoor activity and thing depends on the weather. So, I mean they should have the experience to know that a one-year contract or a two-year contract is not going to be able to get this thing done sufficiently and they are responsible and obligated. Okay cuz the word responsible and obligated to me means different than I'm responsible enough, I'm obligated okay, but I ran out of time you got to pay me more per year..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "No we determine that Mr. Madere. Mr. Madere we're setting those limits on them..."

Councilman Madere interrupting asked, "What limits we're setting? The terms of their contract?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes sir. We determine like this is what we'd like to pay you for this number of hours..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "The amount."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes sir. And the number of hours assigned."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay but, but in the length

Natalie Robottom stated, "And the length to. That's something that we work with. Now of course, you know we've added projects for example; like the water meter- that wasn't part of the original agreement. We've added projects like during year six, the projects that they started within year one, some of them are closed. And some new ones have been added so you add hours for newer projects.

Councilman Madere stated, "So let me ask you this. You said since Blake left, okay the work load increased on everyone that's listed on this paper right here that you're trying to get additional money for, right?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay the work load had increased, okay and we were paying Blake \$98,000 a year, okay plus \$4,000 for car allowance, right? Okay so it seems as though it would have been cheaper to just get another Director of Utilities and to try and go or to move forward without a Director and cost us additional money, more money. It was, cuz you say when Blake left the responsibility fell on all these people to do extra work."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Right."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay so we already had the money in place for a Director, it's like it would have been cheaper to get a Director and let him assume the job that Blake had."

Natalie Robottom stated, "It might have been cheaper, but it wouldn't have been efficient. The reason that Digital is continuing to do the work is they're familiar with the project."

Councilman Madere stated, "Let me ask you something. Digital is familiar with the project, and whoever we hire is going to be a qualified individual and I don't think it would have taken them that long to be brought up to speed. Okay I'm pretty sure you're not going to just get somebody off the street, you're going to get somebody that's definitely qualified. It wouldn't take them that long to pick up on what's going on. And Digital along with them working with them is going to help them along the way. So, it would've been cheaper to just find another qualified Director and put in that position."

Natalie Robottom stated, "It's not necessarily cheaper Mr. Madere, cuz we're using the same amount of money. So, whether we hire somebody or move it..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "So you're telling me if we fill..."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yeah, except we're not starting from scratch. We're allowing the people who one, who started the project whose managed the project, who's familiar with the project, to continue the project and finish it rather than starting from scratch with somebody new with the same amount of money but having to bring them up to speed, with projects, process, people, as well as trying to run the department. So again, this is not something we just made up, you know we've been working on these things for years and we know who does what they're supposed to, we know who does it timely, they have a firm that's has enough people to assign to do this work for us, and they do it well. So again, to try and bring on somebody who's not familiar with any of this with these with the amount of time we have left and pay them, we're not changing the amount of money.

You know we're not increasing the amount of money you know we're using the same money, we're using it in a way that we think is wiser by letting the people who know what they're doing, who are familiar with the projects, who've brought them this far who have closed out projects, have gotten our reimbursements have gotten us loans, grants, and money we would have never had access to without their help. So again, you know working with these people on a daily basis, we know who delivers and who doesn't."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay so let me ask you this. The projects that you have listed that you're talking about that they're doing; all those projects are going to be done in the next 9 months?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Probably not. Because there's some right now that..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "Right so what I'm saying is they're not going to get done in the next 9 months. So, when the next Administration come in, they're going to have to hire a Director, they're going to have to be brought up to speed by Digital and everybody else. So, if we're going to do it 9 months from now we could do it now. That's all I'm saying, because whoever take over as Parish President is going to hire another Utilities Director and Digital and everyone else that's involved now, will have to bring them up to speed."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Right."

Councilman Madere stated, "So why we can't hire a Director that's qualified and let them do it now?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Because I've chosen not to."

Councilman Madere stated, "Well that's right! That's a decision that you made."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Right, that's correct."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay that's what I was getting at okay!"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Madere stated, "It's a decision, it's not the fact that..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "This is the most efficient and advantageous way..."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right in your opinion because you're the Parish President and your opinion yeah, and I respect that..."

Councilman Malik interrupting stated, "Hang on please [CROSSTALK]"

Councilman Madere stated, "And I respect that, but what I'm saying is it's still the same process. Either if we do it now or 9 months later cuz those projects are not going to be done in 9 months."

Councilman Madere stated, "Some of them may but they probably won't all be. Yeah that's correct."

Natalie Robottom asked, "So are we under Budget Amendment or Digital's contract?"

Councilman Madere stated, "All of it."

Councilman Malik stated, "We're still n 19-07."

Robert Figuero stated, "Just for the sake of reference, we paid Digital \$60,000 a year over the last 5 years. So again, we're not assuming that we're going to pay them \$150,000 within the next 7 months. Again, over the last 5 years, they've earned about \$60,000 a year on average. That's the hourly work they did per year. I just wanted to put that out there that there's no misunderstanding that the intent is to try and give them X amount of dollars."

Councilman Malik stated, "Thank you. You know I think the intent of this dialogue is really to show that we're not overspending and that the monies were being transferred to one office that has been vacated and its being spread out between four different other companies."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Malik stated, "So at the end of the day, so essentially what you've been discussing is cooperate knowledge. They obtained the cooperate knowledge for the project."

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 19-07. The motion passed with 7 Yeas and 2 Nays (Madere & Snyder).

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

MOTION: Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to discuss Ordinance 19-09. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Let me just clarify for the response. This Ordinance was drafted by Council asked to draft this Ordinance about three years ago. And I talked to Mr. Malik and he was not sure what the Ordinance was but I discussed it with him. All it is to, we're doing house cleaning. This Ordinance is sitting on the shelf and I put it on here to see what the Council want to do with it, whether they want to remove it or adopt it for 2020. That's why the Ordinance was on the agenda."

Natalie Robottom stated, "And I'll just address your comment and I think you did have some discussion with some of our staff and explained that to them. Basically, all the current unclassified employees were hired under the Paid Time-Off Policy for Administrative Staff approved under the Hubbard Administration in 2008 which reduced the amount of comp time that could be earned and paid. The policy states that unused comp time up to 125 hours per calendar year, shall be paid to the employee upon termination at the regular hourly rate. In addition to forgoing comp time above 125 hours, employees hired after 2010 do not accrue comp time for meetings required of their position, such as Council meetings and Board/Commission meetings and work completed at home. However, employees accrue comp time for working weekends, attending outside meetings after hours, and work on holidays. Thus, they already forgo a large amount of comp time, and it is

unlikely that they will be able to use their comp time before the end of the year because of the amount of work to be done. Based on information from the Parish's labor attorney, the comp time is a wage that has been earned at this point no different from vacation. An earned wage is payable upon termination. He advised that refusal to pay puts Parish at risk for termination pay lawsuit(s), with remedies of 90 days wages plus attorney's fees; and violates LA RS 23:631. Adoption of this ordinance not only conflicts with the terms under which unclassified employees were hired, it unfairly penalizes employees for working significantly beyond their scheduled work week. It is especially unfair to those who have stayed on the job and plan to stay through the end of term, all of whom have assumed additional duties to compensate for department head vacancies and the increased amount of work in this last year. Yet, their colleagues who elected to leave before the end of the term were paid for their comp time in accordance with the policy in place when they were hired. Administration opposes this ordinance for employees hired under the existing policy but suggest implementing the change for the next Administration before distribution of benefit packages for unclassified employees."

Please see the complete video of the meeting on our website at www.sjbparish.com.

MOTION: Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to REMOVE Ordinance 19-09 from the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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

MOTION: Councilman Becnel moved and Councilwoman Hotard seconded the motion to accept the minutes of the finance meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION: Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Snyder seconded the motion to suspend the rules to move Thomas Malik/Butch Perrilloux - Discussion regarding occupancy of the Parish President's Office in the Percy Hebert Building up on the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Thomas Malik/Butch Perrilloux - Discussion regarding occupancy of the Parish President's Office in the Percy Hebert Building

Natalie Robottom stated, "Following a review of the building layout, specifically portions of the building included with the EOC, such as the Parish President's Office and the Parish President's Conference Room, the Sheriff's office was granted access to the entire building with exception of the Parish President's Office. A total of 26 offices and 9 workstations were offered to the Sheriff's Office to move his detective's bureau to the Percy Hebert Building. This was done despite having Parish Utilities staff cramped in a building offsite and in a trailer. The space included: Registrar of Voters Office, the Assessor's Office, the Finance Offices, the Economic Development Office in the hallway, the Council Chambers and the Administrative Offices down the hallway. As a courtesy, the Parish President granted access to her Administrative Receptionist area, copy area and conference room (which is part of the EOC) during non-emergencies and

when the EOC is not activated. Both the Parish President's Office and Conference Room were constructed with funding from Waterford 3 (The Louisiana Power and Light Company) and the Parish receives funding on an annual basis to insure the Parish's ability to operate during a Nuclear crisis and other emergencies. Additionally, all files and Emergency Operations SOPs are stored in this space as one of the offices in the EOC is being eliminated to allow access to the Safe Room under construction for use by all first responders and Parish staff. As the Chief Elected Official of the Parish with sole authority to declare and manage Parish emergencies, this space is critical to emergency operations. This is consistent with other Parishes and Parish Presidents with offices in one or more EOCs throughout their Parish. There is no requirement to provide the Sheriff's Office or any other governmental entity space at the detriment of Parish government, its staff and Parish operations. The amount of space offered is more than enough to house the detective's bureau and is sufficient to house the Utilities staff in the Administrative hallway with closer and safer access to the rest of the administrative and emergency staff. This was the original plan for the building."

MOTION: Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to TABLE the item Thomas Malik/Butch Perrilloux - Discussion regarding occupancy of the Parish President's Office in the Percy Herbert Building. The motion passed unanimously.

Please see the complete video of the meeting on our website at www.sjbparish.com.

Larry Sorapuru - Request to cancel the Andouille Festival (Action needed)

MOTION: Councilman Sorapuru moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to TABLE the item - Larry Sorapuru - Request to cancel the Andouille Festival (Action needed). The motion passed with 7 Yeas, 1 Nay, and Councilman Becnel absent.

Larry Snyder - Request the administration to restrict public access to secured areas of the New Government Complex (Action needed)

Please see the complete video of the meeting on our website at www.sjbparish.com.

DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:

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

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Snyder seconded the motion to remove Lennix Madere - Update on status of contract negotiations with Star Maintenance Janitorial Services, LLC from the TABLE. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Remondet, Councilman Perrilloux and Wright absent.

Robert Figuero stated, "The approved budget included \$120,000 for janitorial services for the Government Complex and \$79,396 remains through the end of the year. The contract amount approved by the Council exceeds the available funding through the remainder of the year. A draft contract and accompanying corporate resolution were submitted to Legal Counsel for review and it was deemed legally sufficient. Following a meeting with the owners of Star Maintenance Janitorial Services, a copy of the draft contract at the existing budget level was provided for consideration. The final terms and amount remain unresolved."

Please see the complete video of the meeting on our website at www.sjbparish.com.

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

"A comprehensive review was conducted of the case in question and a synopsis of all activities was provided to Councilman Madere. If further discussions are required, a meeting will be scheduled, but there will be no further public discussion of this case due to liability issues."

Please see the complete video of the meeting on our website at www.sjbparish.com.

Councilman Perrilloux excused himself from the meeting at 10:23 PM.

Larry Snyder - Discussion regarding possible Charter changes

Councilman Snyder stated, "Thank you, I've stated my thoughts on this and I would the Chairman to consider calling a Special Meeting so we could discuss it in the public, and we can get that looked at anyhow. Some of the things that we might want to do with the Charter and see what from there we can make some decisions whether we want a Consultant in, if we want whole sale changes or just some small changes. You know I think we can do that then, but we need to have a Special Meeting."

Councilman Malik stated, "And the question that (hold on a second) you know you're overriding. The question the thought I had was more of a Workshop."

Councilman Snyder stated, "That's fine."

Councilman Malik stated, "But I think certainly a Public Meeting, you know should be held."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Right."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Have a Workshop scheduled on the West Bank, as well as on the East Bank in the Library."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Thank you, and we can also have our Council Staff research that. I believe, I mean I know it has to go to the public to vote, but I'm not sure if a Commission, a Charter Commission is required. I don't believe it's a requirement, not that's it's not a good idea. Just so that we can know, we can have Jackie and Donna thoroughly research it. I believe I know there have been Charter changes since the Charter was originally adopted. One thing you know we can point out to is, we'll have an obviously have an election this year, and a bunch of things on the ballot sometimes Charter changes get lost in you know, in the Governor's race and this you know kind of thing, so it's just something to be you know conscious of. But I think it's a good idea to start talking about it, a lot of things are outdated, just as with our State Constitution and our U.S. Constitution, obviously our Parish Constitution is a living document as well. But I don't believe it's a requirement for the, a Charter Commission. But not that it's not a good idea, and we have Public Workshops, it'll be a, it'll almost be a better opportunity instead of just having the Commission, it'll be the Community as a whole will be allowed to you know, get input and give input you know all at the same time. So, I think that's a good idea."

Lennix Madere - Update on drainage District III

The above item will be carried over to the April 9th, 2019 agenda.

Lennix Madere/Larry Snyder - Update on Utilities, operational and safety issues at all Waste Water plants

The above item will be carried over to the April 9th, 2019 agenda.

Rene Pastorek - Belle Terre Complete Streets Proposal

MOTION: Councilman Snyder moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to TABLE the item - Rene Pastorek - Belle Terre Complete Streets Proposal. The motion passed with Councilman Perrilloux absent.

Lennix Madere - Update on road repair list and possible start date

Councilman Madere stated, "We're not going to TABLE this, but it's going to be quick, fast and in a hurry. Ten (10) seconds, I don't think you have to come up here. What I'm saying is, the question I want to ask you; remember okay what I want to do is, remind Administration and Ms. LaVerne when I submitted three (3) streets names at the end of the year, and we attempted to do them but we didn't have the money? I want to make sure to remind you of those three (3) streets if you don't remember the name, I will be glad to..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "We have all the streets we've put them on the list, Mr. Savoie has them, he is looking at cost estimates and he's, we weren't sure of the numbers we had included engineering and construction. So, he's making sure to have that, we know what our budget is and we're awaiting that, before we move forward we'll make sure to get that to you all, but the list that you provided that we didn't finish last year, quite a few of those roads..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "Right, we just want to make sure that those three (3) cuz we sort of made a promise to those three (3) individuals, three (3) individual streets. Okay so that's all I wanted to say on that one."

Lennix Madere - Update on sidewalk issues on W. 5th Street - area going towards the River Road

The above item will be carried over to the April 9th, 2019 agenda.

Larry Snyder - Update/status on home lifting and home repair in District VI (Riverlands and Cambridge Subdivision)

The above item will be carried over to the April 9th, 2019 agenda.

Larry Snyder - Update on Reverse Osmosis testing at the Reserve Water Plant

The above item will be carried over to the April 9th, 2019 agenda.

Larry Snyder - Update on electrical supply lifting at the LaPlace Water Supply Station (Ruddock) Waste water tanks rehab project

The above item will be carried over to the April 9th, 2019 agenda.

Larry Snyder - Discussion regarding the Parish's focus on drainage ditches and sub-surface draining, in neighborhoods (besides the Main Canals)

The above item will be carried over to the April 9th, 2019 agenda.

There was no executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Parish Buildings - Security

Any and all pending legal matters

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

19-10 An ordinance approving the rezoning of Lot SJ-1A, Reine Subdivision, located in the area generally bounded by Kimball Drive, Jaubert Lane, the St. John the Baptist/St. Charles Parish line, and East Airline Highway from the Residential District One (R-1) to the Industrial District One (I-1) zoning districts, as shown in Exhibit 1 attached (PZR-18-1124) (N. Robottom)

19-11 An ordinance approving the re-subdivision of Lot 9-A, J.B. Audiffred Subdivision into Lots 9-A-1 and 9-A-2, J.B. Audiffred Subdivision, located in the area generally bounded by East 15th St., East 17th St., the Y&MV Railroad, and Hwy. 44, Reserve, LA, as shown in a survey prepared by Stephen P. Flynn, P.L.S. on January 4, 2019 (PZS-19-1209) (N. Robottom)

PRESIDENT REPORT:

Natalie Robottom stated, "Spring is officially here, and we are excited but very busy. This Friday, March 29th at 10:00 a.m., the public is invited to attend a presentation on the proposed Multi-Modal Transportation Center along Main Street that would tie into the Baton Rouge to New Orleans passenger rail system. The consulting firm, AECOM and Planning & Zoning team will unveil the finished plan which includes a train station, commercial/residential units, retail space, and flexible space for meetings, rentals and other uses in this area. Everyone is invited to join us for the presentation and learn more about the plan. The event will be held at the Edmond "Skipper" Songy Service Center or Planning & Zoning Building. On Sunday, April 7th, the Garyville Timbermill Association will hold the Annual "Sings and Strings Festival" from 11:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. in the Garyville Historic District along Museum St. and Historic Front Street. Great music unplugged, along with crafts and a cook-off will be featured. The event raises money for the restoration of the Garyville Timbermill Museum. Thoughts Before Actions Organization will host Save our Youth Day on Saturday, April 6th, 2019, from 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. at the New Wine Christian Fellowship Gym. Youth ages 12 and up and parents are welcome to attend this free event which will include discussion and speakers on the topics of bullying, mental health, teen pregnancy and more. For more information, please call Denarold Anderson at 504-559-7908. Save the date, the Easter events will be held on April 13th. This year, we are teaming with Celebration Church on the East Bank so that we aren't hosting two events at the same time and the Westbank Civic Association on the West Bank. The events will be held at Celebration Church in LaPlace and at the West Bank Complex in Edgard from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on April 13th. Children ages 2-12 are invited to an Easter Egg Hunt, a visit with the Easter bunny and for refreshments and prizes. The River Parishes District of the Southeast Louisiana Boy Scouts Council which serves and supports youth initiatives in the River Parishes are hosting a scouting fundraising luncheon on Thursday, April 18th, 2019, at 12 noon at Petra Restaurant. The organization brings character building programs to our community including Cub Scouts, Sea Scouts, Soccer and Scouting, and Career exploring. Anyone interesting in donating or attending can contact Matt Miller at matthew.miller@scouting.org. The local chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority is offering scholarships to seniors actively involved in community

service and those enrolling in college by August of 2019. The application deadline is April 26th, 2019, and can be downloaded at www.rpacdst.com. Judges arrived today to evaluate the Parish for the Louisiana Garden Club Federation's Cleanest City Contest. The Parish has participated in this contest for a few years now, and we hope that it promotes beautification and anti-littering efforts in our community. Congratulations to Coach Frank Monica of St. Charles Catholic High School on recently being selected for the Louisiana High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame. Coach Monica has coached for more than 45 years and although his reputation and record speak for itself. This is a true accomplishment and we want to wish him congratulations, well deserved. We receive a lot of calls regarding disposing of waste and other hazardous items at our office so we also want residents to save the date for the Annual Household Hazardous Waste Day which will be on May 4th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the New Wine Ministries Parking Lot. This is your chance to safely dispose and recycle unwanted waste, paint, solvents, appliances and more. Visit hhmcd.com for a complete list of what is accepted. Baseball Registration has been extended until March 31st. This is a great way for our Parish youth to stay busy this summer. Visit the Recreation office at REGALA Gym or call 652-9569 to register. Applications are also being accepted for lifeguards and can be accessed at the office or online at sjbparish.com. The Recreation Department is also offering modernized line dancing classes at no cost on Tuesday and Thursdays beginning April 9th, 2019. The classes will be held from 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. at REGALA GYM and the department can be contacted for more information. We would like to again remind the public of restrictions regarding the Mississippi River levees in relation to the ongoing high-water conditions. During this flood fight, no digging activity and/or subsurface work of any kind is allowed within 1,500 feet of the levee centerline. This includes, but is not limited to pile driving, excavation and trenching. Driving and soliciting on the river levees is prohibited. There will be zero tolerance for unauthorized parking and driving on the levees. Thank You."

ADJOURNMENT :

At 11:03 PM, Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilman Perrilloux and Councilwoman Hotard absent.

/s/Thomas Malik
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
COUNCIL SECRETARY