

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS**  
**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL**  
**TUESDAY, APRIL 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014**  
**CHAIRMAN MARVIN PERRILLOUX**  
**VICE CHAIR MICHAEL WRIGHT**

The Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session in the Joel McTopy Chambers, LaPlace, Louisiana on Tuesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014, at 6:30 PM.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

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

**ABSENT:** None

Councilman Wright led the Prayer. Councilman Snyder led the Pledge.

Legal Counsel Jeff Perilloux, Billy O'Regan, Tom Daley and Carl Butler were present.

**INTRODUCTION OF BUSINESSES**

**New Business - (Carry Over 3/25/14) Hollywood Cinemas in LaPlace - Mr. Vishu**

The above item will be carried over to the next agenda.

**Natalie Robottom - Presentation - (Carry Over 3/25/14) Riverside Academy Boys Basketball Team Class 2A State Champions**

The Riverside Academy Boy Basketball Team was presented along with coaches Timmy Byrd and Kevin Branch. The team was recognized for their Team Class 2A State Championship. The entire council congratulated the team on a job well done.

**Marvin Perrilloux/Rodney Nicholas - Introduction - Summer Job Programs**

Rev. Rodney Nicholas gave a brief introduction of the summer job program that the parish EDC department is sponsoring for kids between the ages of 16 and 20 in need of a summer job. More information can be found on the parish website.

**Natalie Robottom/Vince Lucia - Presentation - Louisiana Worker's Compensation Corporation Presentation of Dividend Checks**

Vince Lucia was presented with a check in relation to the Louisiana Worker's Compensation Corporation from Mr. V.J. Rollo. The check was near \$300,000.00.

**Natalie Robottom - Presentation - Pastor Neil Bernard - Long Term Recovery Group**

Pastor Neil Bernard was presented with the administrators from the Long Term Recovery Group and gave a brief presentation on what shape the parish is in since the hurricane almost two years ago. Everyone was thanked for their kindness and generosity in a time of need.

**Natalie Robottom - Presentation - Port of South Louisiana**

The above item will be carried over.

**Natalie Robottom - Proclamation - April Fair Housing Month**

Natalie Robottom read the proclamation for April Fair Housing Month.

**Consent Agenda**

**Items:** Approval of Minutes - March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014, Regular Meeting; Resolutions - Annual Sewer Plant Audits (R14-09 through R14-15); Permit Approval - SJA Fair Run - 4/26/14 beginning at 8:30 AM; Permit Approval - Benefit Motorcycle Run - 4/27/14 - beginning at 9:00 AM; Permit Approval - Williamsburg block party - 4/20/14

Councilwoman Millet stated, *"My question is concerning these resolutions for the annual sewer plant audit. I am looking for attachments that are not here that the parish council is taking on all of these items to correct the problems. I don't see the attachments in here. My only concern is and if you are okay with it that is okay but I am not doing this administration is but I am not."*

**MOTION:** Councilman Smith moved and Councilman Gauff seconded the motion to approve the amended consent agenda consisting of Approval of Minutes - March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014, Regular Meeting; Resolutions - Annual Sewer Plant Audits (R14-09 through R14-15); Permit Approval - SJA Fair Run - 4/26/14 beginning at 8:30 AM; Permit Approval - Benefit Motorcycle Run - 4/27/14 - beginning at 9:00 AM; Permit Approval - Williamsburg block party - 4/20/14. The motion passed with 8 yeas and 1 against (Millet).

**PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:**

**14-06** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance to amend Chapter 14 of the St. John the Baptist Parish Code of Ordinances as follows: By amending Section 14-26(1) as follows: By deleting "12" and replacing with "10" as stated therein. (J. Hotard)

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Snyder seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 14-06. The motion passed unanimously.

**14-07** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance to amend Chapter 26 of the St. John the Baptist Parish Code of Ordinances as follows: By adding Article III. Graffiti Abatement. (L. Snyder)

**MOTION:** Councilman Snyder moved and Councilwoman Millet seconded the motion to table Ordinance 14-07. The motion passed unanimously.

**14-08** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance granting approval to Re-zone

Lot 8A, Square Y, LaPlace Park Unit No. One per a re-subdivision dated January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014, by Steven P. Flynn, P.L.S. creating Lot 8A to show the change in zoning from the current zone of C-3 to I-1, situated in Section 19, T-11-S, R-7-E, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (PZR-14-1027) (N. Robottom)

Angelic Sutherland, Director of Planning and Zoning, stated, "This rezoning was unanimously approved by the Planning Commission to I-1 instead of the requested I-3. The I-1 zoning allows for the proposed use as an auto repair shop and wrecker service, but it does not allow for "junk yards" (storage of 1 or more immovable vehicles). Administration supports this decision, but cautions the council that other uses are allowed in I-1 that will lead to a residential area."

Councilman Snyder asked, "What are some of the other things that can be used in that area?"

Angelic Sutherland stated, "No workshop, contract or storage yard, cellular and communication towers, transportation terminals, outdoor storage yard."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "I just have a quick question you mentioned that the administration is recommending approval but you are cautioning the council. Can you elaborate on that?"

Angelic Sutherland stated, "Because the council actually approves the rezoning so just be aware that there are other uses that are allowed so you are not just rezoning it for that particular purpose of auto shop even though that is the intended use at this time."

**MOTION:** Councilman Wilson moved and Councilman Snyder seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 14-08. The motion passed unanimously.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Councilman Snyder stated, "I would like to ask for a motion on my behalf to accept the recommendations of the finance committee."

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

**DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:**

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "This afternoon we received a list of the projects under the bond issue and I just wanted to ask a question there were a couple of roads that I had submitted that I believe Councilman Wright had submitted also that were not on this list. Is that a final list of the roads that we are repairing? More specifically Indigo, Palmetto and Carrollwood Drive I didn't see on the list."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Indigo is not on there. Palmetto is the list is based on the funds available and I think the first paragraph suggests that it is the recommended list of projects based on the allocations and there is still funding in some of the areas."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "So Indigo is not and Carrollwood is not?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "If it is not on the list that you were sent. Indigo Parkway is that the boulevard? I think our PW director went out and reviewed that one but Palmetto and the street that enters the subdivision that are included which were the ones that were requested."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "So is this just a list that you guys put together as a recommendation to the council?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "That is a list that we are recommending for repairs in the regular road program which they are distinguished you can see next to them it says bond issue and PW budget and we are moving forward with the PW budget and the rest of the list covers some of the funds but there are still funds available even in the road project. So if there are other roads that you all elect to put in there that is fine but these roads have come from many of you and maybe all of the roads in your division are not covered but there are roads that are covered in each of your divisions."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Thank you. Councilman Perrilloux can you put this item on the next agenda?"

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Due to respect to the rest of the council I don't have that list in front of me. I know it came this evening so I have no questions on it because I haven't seen it yet."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I think that is the one that we had reviewed."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "I have the old one but Mrs. Millet told me it came late this evening which I didn't get it I can read it after the meeting and we can discuss it at another time."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Asphalt is probably in A because B has concrete roads most of those were asphalt contracts but of course there are other road projects that are concrete so those are being done in the division with concrete roads. Annually we have put aside money for asphalt and concrete so concrete repairs and panel replacements and those things will also be done in addition to the list that you have before you."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Can I get an update on the baseball fields?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "They look pretty good to me."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Are they ready to play on?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "They will be by the end of the month. We had a board meeting last night and that is what we are told. The contractor and the staff that are maintaining the fields are saying that they will be ready for the end of the month but while we are on that we need players. We don't have sufficient teams or coaches. So whoever is listening we need some players to play on these fields when they are done both on the East Bank and the West Bank and we actually talked about some ways to try to recruit there are less kids signed up this year than there has been previously. So any of you who know of kids that might want to play we need you to please help us get the kids

*registered and we also need coaches."*

*Councilman Gauff stated, "Mr. Madere and I were at the meeting last night and that was the same report we heard was that by the end of the month the fields would be ready. We are running behind but as far as the contractor he said they would be ready to play by the end of the month."*

**Lennix Madere - (Carry Over 3-11-14) Update on the Homer Joseph Center**

*Councilman Madere stated, "I need to hear from administration about the update on the Homer Joseph Center."*

*Natalie Robottom stated, "As stated in the report, the renovations are complete, furniture, computers, and internet connections have been made and programs and scheduling are being finalized. The center will be open next week for use of the computer lab for research, resume development and completion of homework and research papers. The exact schedule of programs will be posted on the website and the building. Mrs. Lemmons is actually working to bring in certain teachers for certain subjects and as that falls into place then we will advertise that as well and I will let her address that."*

*Rhonda Lemmons, Director of Health & Human Resources commented on the scheduled programs they do have some instructors that are being scheduled for life skill classes regarding things like financial, computer and employment education literacy and those are being planned. The individuals have been contacted it is just a matter of speeding up the dates that they are available. The lab will be open all day. The center is open on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. The lab will be open all day and assessable to the community during the homework assignment times as well as those times that are available to the public who wants to work on those things. From 5-6 we will have an instructor in the lab who will assist individuals as it relates to the computer program.*

*Councilman Madere stated, "I spoke to you about those programs before and I am very much supportive of those programs but I also have a couple of other questions. One directly to Mrs. Robottom concerning the repairs that I requested a few months ago are you planning on doing those repairs or are you saying this building is finished?"*

*Natalie Robottom stated, "It is finished. We consider it finished but if you would like to discuss it I think you were in the building you are welcome to come sit down we can have a conversation about our plans moving forward but as far as the building is concerned we have done what our intentions are. We are moving forward with the programs and if you would like to discuss it further please come by my office."*

*Councilman Madere stated, "Oh I will but also tonight I have Mr. Joseph I would like to come to the podium and explain a few things that we discussed at the last meeting and try to set the record straight on these things."*

*Whitney Joseph, Parish Assessor, stated, "At the request of Mr. Madere tonight and I am also here tonight because there was some misinformation that was given at the last meeting concerning that building and I don't think it was done purposely it was just some*

misinformation that was given. First of all that building was not assessed for \$10,000.00 that was the land only and the reason why I am saying that is because I got three phone calls from various council members that wanted to know if I had commercial buildings assessed for \$10,000.00 so I had my staff do some research. The building was sold three times between 1988 and 1994. The first time it was repossessed. The second time it was sold by a business man that lives in this community for \$5,000.00. The assessor at that time assessed the building for \$4,250.00 that was the assessed value on the piece of property. The building was not included and I am more than sure that the reason why the building wasn't included is because of the condition of the building. Later on that same building was sold to the parish for \$14,000.00 in 1995. When it was sold to the parish in 1995 it was immediately taken off of the tax roll because we do not assess properties that are owned by governmental agencies. A value of \$10,000.00 was placed on the land and it probably was done in a reassessment year but there were no tax dollars. We could have had it assessed for 5 million dollars it wouldn't have mattered because the parish wouldn't have paid on it anyway but every time the parish buys property it is taken immediately off of the tax roll. So I wanted to clear that up because I don't want to have people thinking that I have commercial buildings assessed for \$10,000.00 so I want to thank Mr. Madere for allowing me to do that. There was an appraisal of that building that was recently done and the value on that building based on that appraisal is \$60,000.00 which doesn't mean anything to my office because again I am saying we don't assess property like that. So I just wanted to clear that up and we are going to leave it at that. Now one other thing I had an opportunity to look at that building and it is much better than it was but there is some work that still needs to be done in that building. It is clean and painted nice but some of the walls are bumpy they have lumps in them and I think those should be corrected of course that isn't for me to say but having looked at the building I wouldn't want my house to look like that and I am not saying the building is in such deplorable condition that she can't have her programs but I do feel that the building should be repaired because I think our children deserve that."

Councilman Madere stated, "Thank you Mr. Joseph I have some other information also. I took it upon myself after that meeting to look into the history of this building and with the help of Mr. Joseph found out about the sale of the building and I took it upon myself to take the information and have the building appraised and it came out like he said to \$60,000.00 also the reason why is because of the location. If the same building with the same specs was located in LaPlace it would be \$160,000.00 and also to me that building is named after someone that did something good in this parish in that district. So if it is a building that belongs in this parish I have been on record before to say that over and over again. If it belongs to this parish it should look like it belongs to St. John the Baptist Parish and when you honor someone by putting their name on the side of the building and you walk inside that building you shouldn't see walls that need to be repaired and that is something that I requested before and if I have to go you asked me to come and meet with you I have met with you before but I will take you up on that offer and I will be back to meet with you but I just want it to be known in my district we are not or I am not going to settle for sufficient."

Councilman Snyder stated, "If I am not mistaken I think at our last meeting we did vote on spending some money on that building and it passed. Am I right? So Mrs. Robottom you are now saying we are not going to spend the money on that building?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "I think it is my understanding that legal council is planning to meet with you guys to discuss but what the council did was make a motion. They didn't find money and didn't place money there is no line item for the building so again in terms of how things are done there may be need to do that and also with regards to day to day operations. Again Mr. Madere and Mr. Joseph we want to thank him for coming but there wasn't any question about him or his office but the parish spent \$14,000.00 for a building and we repaired almost \$100,000.00 worth on a \$14,000.00 purchase. So that was the point in that there was no question in regards to the assessor's office it was just a matter of dollars and cents. The bottom line is that we renovated the building. It has been renovated at least 3 if not 4 times. The name went on the building under the previous administration when it was in deplorable conditions by the sister of the person who the building is named after. So we have only done better for the building and again for the purposes that we have set forth it is a safe clean building with access for the residents of the parish. We would like to get our program started to make sure that people are utilizing it. It has been open for some time now. It hasn't been used for over two years. The people who were using it were shooting pool it was not being accessed. So we want to make sure that there is a use for this building that people are actually coming and utilizing and accessing the services that we are providing and at this point we are very confident that the building is suited for that purpose."

Councilman Snyder stated, "So you are saying that the money that we appropriated the motion two weeks ago that you are not going to do it until we find out where to get the money from?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "I would advise that you meet with legal counsel."

Councilman Snyder asked, "But that is the reason why it isn't being done?"

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Let me interrupt you for a minute, my suggestion is that we are not going to solve this tonight. We made a motion last week to spend money to repair that building. My suggestion is Councilman Madere, Mrs. Robottom and someone from the DA office have a meeting on moving forward with this building and see if we can resolve it then because we are not going to resolve it at this public meeting tonight and I think that would be the best solution so that we don't go back and forth with this it has been dragging on forever and we have to come to an end. My suggestion is to meet with the attorney and let's move forward."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I just briefly spoke with legal counsel and it seems like I guess part of the problem is that even though we offered a motion to repair the building at this cost it is because administration doesn't want to do the repairs that they are putting this road block in front of the council. So I just think it is unfortunate that this has come to this junction in the road right now

to say we need to meet with attorneys and do all these other things. If it were the wishes of the administration to respect the vote of the council then none of that would be necessary."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I think I cleared that up. I think I responded to that but in addition to you are right it is the wishes that we feel the building is ready to move forward however there was a recommendation that we do have a meeting with legal counsel to address it. So I am not putting a road block. I elected in my daily responsibility as chief executive of this parish not to proceed with those repairs that were made inappropriately at a meeting and we are moving forward with the programs. Additionally if there are other concerns about the money and how that should be done I am requesting that a meeting be held with legal counsel. We have already discussed it with ours who was supposed to meet with the council. So moving forward we are recommending that the meeting be held but in the meantime we are moving forward with the programs."

Councilman Madere stated, "This was never an attempt to hold up the program. I am in complete support of the program. It could have started last week it didn't bother me. My major concern is that I am no longer going to accept sufficient. There are repairs that need to be done in that building without a doubt anyone can go over there and take a look at what I am talking about please go see for yourself it is open to the public. My request is not outrageous but once again administration said at the last meeting on the report that the building had \$40,000.00 worth of repairs, now tonight I hear it is \$100,000.00."

**Cheryl Millet - (Carry Over 3-25-14) Atmos gas hook-up**

The above item will be carried over to the next agenda.

**Cheryl Millet/Art Smith/Lucien Gauff - NOLA.com Article concerning water violations**

Councilwoman Millet stated, "I put this on the agenda and it isn't because of any violations. I understand that we had a situation. I put this on the agenda because I read about it in the paper. I am a council member. I deserve the respect to know ahead of time. I don't need to hear about it in the newspaper when people start calling me. I don't understand why this administration does not keep this council informed and we have to read about it in the paper. I am tired of it. I don't know what our purpose is. We ask for things. If administration doesn't want us to get it we don't get it. We are elected officials. We are elected by the people in our districts. We deserve the respect of being notified. I don't care if it is midnight. We need to be notified and not by a phone call from a resident and that is why I put it on the agenda. Why my fellow council members joined me I will let them speak their piece. I have spoken mine."

Councilman Gauff stated, "I have the same concerns that this went on and I wasn't informed about it. We get communications on everything. This was one of those things that we did not get communication on and to even read by administration that it was a slip or an oversight that isn't good enough. I agree with you this time that we get communicated on everything but to hear or read about this that is just not right and that our residents shouldn't have known before I found out about it."

Councilman Smith stated, "I have to agree with you Lucien because it is a travesty to read about this thing and not knowing that your water supply might not be good and people are drinking this water every day. Just the fact that administration knew this and did not inform us it is terrible that we have to sit here and read about this thing in the newspaper and they have the information and not pass it on to us. It is just unacceptable Mrs. Robottom. I know you said it was an oversight but oversight's like this cannot happen. There are people's lives involved in this thing."

Natalie Robottom stated, "We understand and again I will apologize but I found out about it on the news that night because there was a conference call held in the middle of the day that I was not involved in with everybody working and running and doing everything that they needed to do I was not informed. So I heard about it on the news, got to work and again our communications director was out so she wasn't at the meeting who general sends you numerous messages so to say you don't get anything would not be true. This time you didn't get an item. I didn't get it either initially and as we were looking into what was happening with it because I was not made aware of it immediately either so all I can do is apologize to you but I know you get a number of things. There was no danger of the water to the residents it was very clear in the statements that I read from the secretary and of course we were trying to find out what exactly was happening. If you read the response initially when the bacteria was identified or whatever it is we were informed, we put our press releases, we told you, we were sampling more, we had chlorine burns, we warned people just to let their spouts run we were following the rule. We followed the rule on both sides of the river if you look at the response and we are contending it and we are getting a response our reading was .48 the criteria is .5 if you round it off it is .5 so we are contending that our water was not non-compliant and they are working with us on that and again even if the chlorine levels, which is a higher level than is typically required and it was a precaution even though it didn't reach that level at every end of the pipe we have continued to sample more than normal and to add chlorine to the water and we have submitted to DHH the continued plan to do that so we are doing everything that the rule requires and again I was surprised as well and I expect to know things to but in this case we had quite a few things going on. Our director was not here and was not involved in the initial conference call or meeting where it was discussed. So all I can do is apologize there is no need to keep anything from you. You have what it is. We are hoping to have it removed but we have continued to sample. We did a chlorine burn and we are going to continue to do that on both sides of the river and we are following all of the guidelines specified by DHH. So there is no deliberate attempt to keep information from you all as you know you get it constantly on things of less significance than this."

Councilman Madere stated, "I understand you said it was an oversight but we already had two oversights tonight."

Natalie Robottom interrupted, "Well that is life."

Councilman Madere continued, "This seems to be something that is a real problem. I remember Councilman Perrilloux asking about this months ago

when it was first detected in the water not necessarily in St. John Parish and I remember him asking that night are we doing everything to make sure that this doesn't happen to our water supply and on that night he was assured that we are. So I understood what you said right now that we are doing everything that the state requires well undoubtedly we probably wasn't doing everything because we had a bad reading and .48 or whatever we are not grading papers where you round it off to the next number either you hit it or you don't hit it and that is the bottom line. We don't have the authority to round it off and say we are good. We have to hit whatever the state requires and that is for anything and everything. The fact that we are doing it now is great but undoubtedly we slipped up a little bit."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I agree with what the council is saying that we want to have the information. When I received the call from a resident and read the newspaper article the administration was quoted in the article so when they called and said hey we have this violation from DHH at that time I think a notification would have been great so that we would have gotten it at the same time the Times Picayune made the call to the administration who was quoted in the article."

Virgil Rayneri, Director of Utilities, stated, "My main concern here is safety and the rules of the emergency route. Before the rule came into place and the amoeba was detected in St. Bernard Parish we initiated chlorine burns throughout the parish and additional samples without a request from the state. The state kept working on the emergency rule on the process of catching additional samples and meeting goals that were set up by them at a later date. So I heard some comments here like the water isn't safe let me correct that again. This water is safe, it has been safe and it will be safe because you cannot operate a treatment plant, the state will not allow you to do that if it is not safe. So our residents were at no risk and they will not be at a risk as long as we run this water treatment plant the way we were doing and according to Ms. Hotard's statement about the .48, the regulation is .5..."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I didn't say anything about .5."

Virgil Rayneri stated, "It wasn't you it was Mr. Madere."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I guess another oversight."

Virgil Rayneri stated, "The numbers .5 mg per liter and when you put one significant figure .48 rounds up to .5 on a significant figure on a mathematical point and that is the way that we are talking about it right now and some of those individuals at the state level tend to agree with us and we still will pursue it because I don't think we were in violation."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Don't we have a contract service that takes care of this?"

Virgil Rayneri stated, "No sir we catch our own samples. We catch 56 bacterial samples every month and every one of them is zero for bacteria."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Who runs those samples for us?"

Virgil Rayneri stated, "They get run by the state. They go to the state for report. The chlorine samples are run by us."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Then tell me this how come the state catches it before we catch it?"

Virgil Rayneri stated, "The state didn't catch it went sent the information to them."

Councilman Snyder asked, "So we told them we were not in compliance?"

Virgil Rayneri stated, "We told them what the number was and that we could have flushed more and this is something that we could have done better but are doing now because the rest of the samples were in compliance."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Isn't that the reason right there that we are not in compliance because we didn't flush?"

Virgil Rayneri stated, "Yes sir we caught five samples besides all of the samples and one sample was out and it was .48 and that is where we are at 20% non-compliance because we were 1 out of 5."

Councilman Snyder stated, "That is my point right there. I know when we have these issues especially with the drinking water like that if we had a contractor here that we could work with am I right don't we have a contractor. It seems to me if we have a contractor out there doing the same job we should have been able to be in compliance. So why weren't we in compliance were we just lazy?"

Virgil Rayneri stated, "No Mr. Snyder the contractor runs all other kind of samples. They do not run chlorine residuals. We run those and the bacteria can't be run by us because we can't check our own selves it has to be done by an individual which is the state to make sure that everything is in compliance."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay I understand we weren't in compliance. We don't lie. We turned ourselves in. So how are we going to prevent ourselves from having this problem again?"

Virgil Rayneri stated, "That is why we are doing the chlorine flushes sir."

Councilman Madere stated, "So we weren't aware of that before that we needed to do the chlorine burns?"

Virgil Rayneri stated, "That is how you monitor. You monitor different samples. We caught the samples throughout the system and that is the reason that we requested the chlorine burn 2.5 weeks before the meeting came about from the state. We were aware of the situation and we had requested through the state permission to do a chlorine burn. We did not receive that request until that meeting that Monday morning which was the webinar and I requested from the chief engineer why we hadn't receive the permission. He said he was going to take care of that and that evening we were approved."

Councilman Madere stated, "So we did everything. You see I am confused

because we turned ourselves in, asked for permission, they didn't give us permission and then we still received a violation from them?"

Virgil Rayneri stated, "Yes sir you are dealing with the state."

Councilman Madere asked, "So you said the water is safe to drink?"

Virgil Rayneri stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Madere stated, "I thought I read somewhere that it was safe to drink because the acid in your stomach would kill the bacteria."

Virgil Rayneri stated, "We had no bacteria. There was no bacteria in our system."

Councilman Madere stated, "I think the public was really interested to know and I am learning more here tonight. Hopefully we can make sure that the citizens are understanding."

Virgil Rayneri stated, "The thing to understand is that the water is safe to drink."

Councilman Gauff stated, "One of the big things that we had talked about was that you said that we needed to keep the system flushed and that we had some sections that may not have been circulating as well and that we needed to go from a different connections. I know you are limited on what you want to explain but you might want to say that we had some ends that were dead headed and we needed to circulate more and that may have been a cause."

Virgil Rayneri stated, "I am glad you mentioned that because we spoke and that was part of the proactive measures that we were taking and we knew that the cycling process of the chlorine residual levels the burn was one and the second one is to install some cross connections between the 6 and the 12 inch line on the West Bank because you might have some dead spots in the system and by putting this looping or the cross connection you can circulate some water through it and then you would be at a higher level."

Councilman Gauff stated, "Those are some of the things I think they were looking for solutions like what are we doing and you said we are being pro-active so thank you."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "All I wanted to say is Mr. Rayneri I know since we have learned we have gotten some preventive measures in place because I remember 9/16/13 is when I sent the letter after the incident in St. Bernard Parish and asked what are we doing to keep our system safe. I was disappointed when a resident from the West Bank called me I was in Metairie and they asked if I saw the article but I hadn't so I rushed home and saw it and I think I called you at 4 that evening and you returned my call at 9 that night and assured me that you were working on the situation and that the problem was being solved but I was just disappointed that I had to hear it from a newspaper article but I am hope full that we have preventative measures in place to protect the water of St. John Parish."

Virgil Rayneri stated, "Yes sir you are correct and you are not the

only one who was disappointed. It was very quick. We had a meeting at 10:30, the state said it was going on the website at 2:00 and by the time it went to the website the paper had it already so there was very little time to react and investigate."

Councilman Smith stated, "I guess my question is I am just having a hard time understanding that we didn't get a notice or anything from you guys about this violation until someone saw it in the paper. I know you explained it but I am still having a hard time with it."

Virgil Rayneri stated, "There isn't much I can do about the time frame sir. The only thing I can do is make sure that the water is safe and that is what we are doing."

Councilman Smith asked, "You are guaranteeing that the water is safe to drink?"

Virgil Rayneri stated, "Of course or we wouldn't be running."

#### **Ranney Wilson - Discussion regarding the Charter**

Councilman Wilson asked to carry this item over.

#### **Lennix Madere - Update on the road repair work parish wide**

Randy Vincent stated, "Barriere Construction is scheduled to begin asphalt road repairs Wednesday, April 9th. Concrete repairs will also begin Wednesday, starting with areas related to utility repairs in residential areas. Should the concrete contractor not begin work tomorrow, Administration requests authorization to provide 30 day notice of termination of the contract for non-performance and a contract entered into with the second lowest bidder."

Councilman Madere asked, "Now the road repairs that are going to start on the 9<sup>th</sup> is that from the list we had compiled?"

Randy Vincent stated, "That is off of the list that we have scheduled."

Councilman Madere asked, "Is there any particular area that they are starting in first?"

Randy Vincent stated, "Brian Nunes is not with us tonight he would have more information on where exactly it will start but we will be starting with the list that is already in place."

Councilman Wright stated, "I just want to make a comment for public record I did just send an email a little while ago just to the administration to make sure that we add Indigo and Peavine to the road repair list. They were on the original list that I had sent a few weeks ago and they weren't on the new one so if we can just make sure that those get in for this year."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "Also can I please get a copy of the list of repairs not the bond issue or the asphalt I am more concerned about the concrete. I want a list of the repairs where the concrete work is being done."

### **Lennix Madere - District III infiltration issues**

Gerald Babin, PEC, stated, "The point repair was finished although the parish found some other extra things in other lines that we didn't have in the project that we may add but that is just lining not point repairs. We have finished that. The contractor is in finals to sign the contract with the paving company I spoke with him today and his goal is to start the patches on the roadway next week. We have 68 patches of asphalt and three concrete today and I suspect that will take them 2-3 weeks to accomplish once he gets there."

Councilman Madere stated, "Like I said I have been knowing you since I have been on the council and I think you do a good job but and I hope you don't take this the wrong way I am not trying to come down on you or anything but I am getting very frustrated with this project along with the residents in my district especially the parts that you have to go back to the areas that weren't repaired. I remember months ago in the contract on a Friday they were supposed to go back and fill those holes. I think because they are so far behind or they just think that we are not going to remember this those holes on 30<sup>th</sup> Street all the way down through my district are extremely bad in fact they are big holes now. If we tried to put black top on those repairs that black top is going to sink because we don't have a flat solid surface anymore. We have 4-5 holes at each one of those point repairs. So if that had been kept up like they said then I would have confidence that when you start repairing these roads that these patches are not going to collapse but every single road that those repairs were made on have 4-5 deep holes for each one of those repairs. So basically we are back to square one in terms of packing these holes to put blacktop on it to have a solid foundation and every time it rains the cars go back and forth down the road the holes get deeper and deeper and I am going to try not to say it but I was extremely upset. I am getting phone calls and people are flagging me down on the street complaining about the holes and I think the residents have been really patient. I have been patient and I am not trying to take it out on you but I am feeling the frustration and I know they are feeling it because this was supposed to be finished on December 4<sup>th</sup> and this is months behind we are getting ready to go into the month of May. It will not be finished we will make May. I was told it was going to be done in January, then February, then March, then April and now it is May and you can understand what I am talking about everyday these residents are getting madder and madder about what is happening. Also another thing was at the last meeting I spoke about the sand that they put down and instead of them removing the sand it is still there in fact it is not on the side of the road anymore our ditch down Milsap Street is basically topped off with the sand so no water can flow down that particular area and I mentioned that two weeks ago. They also still have a plastic bag over a manhole that the man has in his yard that is completely covered with sand and that they tore this man's yard up and was supposed to repair it. They promised him they were going to replace it and on Milsap the edge of the road it now collapsing so this is a big concern to the residents and myself and to see that some of the simple things that I asked for them to do there is no response to it so I don't have any confidence right now that those road repairs are going to last."

Gerald Babin stated, "I understand your concerns we have been in contact with them on almost a daily basis where we contact them to go

out there to patch the streets. It is their responsibility to maintain the roadway. The patches are going to have to have limestone in there and since he has pulled off his point repair guy there is no one everyday there on the job to look after and make sure that the patches are even and smooth so they have developed potholes. Like I said we are on him all the time to maintain those roadways and knowing that he is getting a paving crew ready we figured he would be out here though he should have been out here already to tell you the truth. I understand that they will be out here next week. Now as far as the hole that you have he has to dig out 4 inches of rock and replace it with 4 inches of asphalt and it may have a little bit more of 4 inches and he will replace those. I think he needs to add more limestone and make sure that it is packing down in those holes. We talked about the sand and I know I drove on Melius and they have significant road repairs and they basically go from one side of the street to the other and most of them are in the middle of the roadway he did use sand on the slope and to back fill but the sand will be removed and replaced with something more stable to get it restored that will happen when we do our final punch list and he will not get out of here with any money until everything is fixed to the way we want if fixed. I understand your concerns. This contract should no way be out there 125 days after the contract end date but he is. I sent a letter to the bonding company and they know about it and hopefully this will all be taken care of."

Councilman Madere stated, "When you do those repairs with the asphalt and say 4 months later they start to collapse. What do we do then?"

Gerald Babin stated, "There is a year warranty on the contract and the paving contractor I think is going to do a good job."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "Mr. Babin I hear what you are saying and we are waiting on the paving contractor to come through and we have been waiting. What recourse does the parish have concerning this to get this done? Do we do it ourselves or do we just keep waiting?"

Gerald Babin stated, "We have liquidated damages of course which are \$300.00 a day and they are at I think around \$40,000.00 he realizes that I think the contractor has a lot of work."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "He isn't worried about this."

Gerald Babin stated, "Some of his sub-contractor's that were doing the point repair he had in mind to finish up with those guys and after our discussion and it got to where it is we urged him to get a paving contractor not just rely on his point repair contractor to make those patches I think we will have better results with a paving contractor."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "Do you have a deadline because I know two weeks ago you said they would be starting and now?"

Gerald Babin stated, "But if we kick him off of the project then we have to finish it ourselves and get the bonding company involved in all of that so we are trying to get him to finish it up. He knows the penalties but I think we are close to finishing."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "My point is if in two weeks we come back and are in the same position do we wait two more weeks?"

Gerald Babin stated, "I think if we come back in two weeks he will be here. I am constantly in contact with him and I will relay the message that we need to not only get the contractor out here but make sure that we take of the patches that we have that may not be patched for a couple of weeks. It will still take three weeks to pave everything. I will make sure that he knows that we are watching and are making sure it all gets accomplished. The next step is getting involved legally with the bonding company if he doesn't come through."

Councilman Wright asked, "Mr. Babin who is the contractor?"

Gerald Babin stated, "Suncoast."

#### **Marvin Perrilloux - Update on the televising/pictures of the well**

Councilman Perrilloux commented that he met with Mr. Rayneri and is in possession of the DVD. It will be left in the office for everyone to view.

#### **Art Smith - Update on the renovations or rebuilding of the West St. John Senior Citizen Building**

Natalie Robottom stated, "This is one of the projects that we requested to use the LGAP funding for. The application has been submitted and is awaiting signature by the governor for approval and then design and work will begin on that building as a parish building however during that time period we discussed and some of the residents requested possibly a new facility for the seniors on the West Bank and the bond issue recommendation you received actually included \$500,000.00 for a facility on the West Bank."

Councilman Smith asked, "Is there any way we can form a committee of the West Bank residents to get together and help plan this thing because I don't want the people to get something that they don't want or something that was just built to satisfy them at the moment."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I think that is typically how it is done. When the facility was built on the East Bank I think it involved commissioners from the senior citizen board and residents so at this point we have not made any decisions what so ever about what that facility will be it is a recommendation to the council that you consider a new facility but in the meantime we are going to move forward with repairs because funding is available through the bond issue and any design would include members from the board that actually manages the program and that involves residents as well."

Councilman Smith stated, "What I am looking for is some commitment from administration that we are not just going to be stuck in the same small building and that we are going to get a new building preferably in the park where we have a lot of land."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Mr. Smith I am committed. I made the recommendation and put the money on the bond issue sheet so my commitment is there."

Councilman Gauff stated, "Just to add to that Mr. Smith that was a

recommendation that I made a while ago. Fellow council members had went to the Council on Aging building Mr. Perrilloux, Mr. Madere and Mr. Snyder but that is something that we spoke about knowing that we needed. We had also taken it to administration asking that this could be put into the bond issue so that we could see about getting a new building. The renovation of the old building was something that we wanted to do so that in the future we would have another building on the West Bank that we could utilize for other means and other uses. So it was never lets renovate the old and get back into it for the Council on Aging. It was always to get a new building and have this in addition to and I know that is what we discussed. So it is great to have administration on board hopefully when this comes to fruition I know the plans are to have it at the West Bank complex so that the area flourish and we can strive there and even have more in that complex so that is the plan."

Councilman Smith stated, "I just wanted to have it on record that we were moving forward. Just something concrete that we can always go back and say we did discuss this on a certain night and this was part of the record."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "I assure you Mr. Smith I met with Mrs. Robottom on this issue and we will build a senior citizen complex on the West Bank. I also met with the current director and assured them that we are looking to maybe replicate what we have on the East Bank but we are going to form a committee and see what we need in that facility. I assure you that will happen. We all went over there and toured the existing one and was not satisfied so I can tell you something will be done."

Councilman Gauff stated, "Just for informational purposes I had gotten with Chuck our engineer and that is where the ball park figure came in at \$500,000.00 we thought we could do the design, drawing and building for something considerable and the \$500,000.00 is one we came up with so that is where that came from."

#### **Art Smith - West Bank Welcome Center**

Councilman Smith asked, "Where are we on this?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "The CDBG application included welcome centers for both the East and the West Bank. We have submitted the original application and are working with OCD to refine it to make sure that it is approved. The feedback we received is that they think it is something that could work but we have to very much tie it to Economic Development both on the East and the West Bank. We are continuing to work with the office of community development to make sure that it is a strong application. I think we applied for \$700,000.00 for both. In our recent meeting with a representative from OCD I guess we were talking about the farmer's market and she suggested that possibly partnering those two projects would even boost economic development more on the West Bank with having people constantly stopping at the farmer's market as they are picking up brochures to draw business to both as a result so there is a meeting I think scheduled this week to look at what the possibilities are since we have a USDA Grant which is federal, we have a CDBG grant which is federal to see how that works together as well as based on the economic development yesterday we would like to pull the

*stakeholders back together to reassess the farmer's market and that plan as we move forward with some temporary opportunities to go ahead and get started but I think at this point we are all following off of a project that started without the stakeholders and the folks who are here now and they need to take a look at the project itself and see if it is the direction we want to go in. We know we want a farmer's market. We know we want a welcome center. We are looking at additional dollars to put with the grant dollars and the parish dollars so we need to really look at the project and get it moving."*

*Councilman Smith stated, "I know Mr. Soraparu wanted to donate his parent's home as a welcome center. So that is money that we can save instead of having to build a welcome center we already have property and everything there that we can use."*

*Natalie Robottom stated, "I have spoken with one of them Mr. Conrad Soraparu about the donation but I understand that he has spoken with other council members and there is a little bit more to it. Again no place has been decided. This was again a recommendation from the people who would be approving the grant to consider it because it has to be an economic driver in order to qualify for the grant. Again I think Torri is going to contact you and some of the members on the economic development board to sit down and discuss what those options might be. No decisions have been made about either site. We are actually applying for the grant with the option of having centers on both sides of the river. They weren't totally support of building anything new they wanted us to look at properties that may have been damaged through the storm so there are a lot of variables out there that we have to address and we want to continue to move this forward. We think it is a good application and we have gotten good feedback and we think it is something that would do well for both sides of the river."*

*Councilman Smith stated, "This project is something that the people on the West Bank need. We need that influx of business and we need people coming across the river so that we can start to rebuild our side of the river and the welcome center is just the beginning."*

*Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "You don't have to convince me Mr. Smith we submitted the application. We are on board. We are pressing for it. We are working every angle to get it approved. We are convinced."*

*Councilman Smith stated, "I guess I am just wondering why we are not using the Soraparu home."*

*Natalie Robottom stated, "First of all we didn't get approval for the grant. So our first order of business is to get the money to do welcome centers to get approval then we need to get some type of proposal from any site and move forward and of course that decision will be made by this council. The council votes on that."*

*Councilman Smith stated, "With the Soraparu house we don't have to build anything everything is there. The house and the land are there. We have people on staff that can do that work. We can get that done."*

*Natalie Robottom stated, "Mr. Smith as I have said I have spoken with Mr. Conrad Soraparu and suggested that he schedule a meeting and submit*

*a proposal. I have not received anything. I have heard conversations from council members and from you about what their proposal is but we have not received anything."*

Councilman Smith stated, "Okay I will try to set up a meeting with myself, you and Mr. Soraparu and get this project moving."

Natalie Robottom stated, "We need to get the application approved. That is step one which is where the funding comes from and that is what we are working hard on getting the application approved."

#### **Art Smith - West Bank bike path**

Councilman Smith asked, "Where are we with this bike path?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Mr. Smith we had a meeting across the river several times. We had this discussion. In the last meeting I think Mr. Jasmine who is a member of the Lafourche Basin Levee District has said he will work with us as a member of that commission to try to secure funds to help with a bike path. At this point DOTD has not created a project for the West Bank they are working on finishing the East Bank bike path. Phase III is 90% complete in design and the East Bank was awarded a design contract for Phase IV to St. James Parish line. At the time we went to several of your meetings. We discussed the other option of working with the levee district for a bike path on the other hand we have looked at and assessed and worked through DOTD and think we can do something with the sidewalks out of bond funding. So again I am proposing that we use, we got some really good pricing on concrete, that we utilize some of those dollars to do some of the sidewalks on the West Bank especially in the areas that our residents live. We have asked our public works department to go and wheel those so we can determine how much we can do for the amount of funding we have and we would at least like to start there so people aren't having to walk in the roads and not having a safe place on the side of the road. That is my proposal and we are going to continue to pursue the bike path at this point through the levee district and as DOTD finishes up on the East Bank we will pursue a bike path for the West Bank."

Councilman Gauff stated, "I think this handout is one that was passed out about an application and could be helpful in trying to get an application that the members of the West Bank community were working on. This would maybe help us to generate some funds to get the bike trail maybe even started or at least a mile or two of it done and I know they are working on this."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Mr. Smith I had a meeting about the bike path on the West Bank with Mr. Soraparu, Mr. Bailey and Mr. Watson which was called by you but you didn't show up. It was to move forward on what we needed to do with the West Bank bike path. I also scheduled another one with Mr. Gauff and you and Mr. Madere so that we could pursue if we have any other funding for the bike path. I explained all this two weeks ago and now we are back at it again but that is the path forward we were looking at getting the funding for it and I am hoping the meeting transpires in the next few days so that we can see where we can go with that and that is where it is right now."

### **Art Smith - Update on the West Bank Farmer's Market**

Councilman Smith commented that Natalie had already touched on this earlier.

Councilman Snyder asked, "About how much longer will it be before we will see a tent come up over there?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Actually we have started working with facilities to get tents. As you recall we actually proposed doing this a while back and the answer was no. I think the fear was that if we put tents that it would be the permanent structure but that was never our intent it was just temporarily. So we are thinking we are going to have to provide water to the site there is a water line that runs across the front in addition to the tents but we are looking for tents that they typically use at other farmer's markets they are going to have to put some gravel. So that meeting was held. We don't want to block where the actual market is going to go so we have to get a lay out on the property so that we don't interfere with that but the reason we want the meeting is because it was all about getting a grant and nobody really understood the stipulations associated with that USDA grant and there are quite a few with regards to ADA compliance, handicap accessibility, what it can be used for, how long it has to be used for that and for the project that is being implemented it is very costly to do all of those things with the money that they have given. So we really want to step back and take a look at what is the best use for the dollars in the project, can we pair them with some other dollars to make it a good project. It is a nice piece of property in a perfect location there is access right off of the bridge and we just have to find the best project. As I said earlier we all kind of inherited it. We got it first then you guys it wasn't our project. We tried to make it a good project changing it as we have gone and we need to step back and take a look at what makes the best project which is why we think we need a meeting."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "I did talk with Mrs. Buckles about that on Friday and a couple of residents on the West Bank. I am not for a tent as a permanent fix and I told Mrs. Buckles to call you Mr. Smith and discuss that with you. It is going to be temporary because I am committed to putting a building over there. We are going to put a building but we just put the cart before the horse."

Councilman Smith stated, "Mrs. Buckles did call me and we did have some discussions."

### **Art Smith - West Bank boat launch**

Natalie Robottom stated, "Well another problem but our legal counsel is doing an abstract on the property. There is some question about who actually owns the property, canal and boat launch and until that is clearly determined we cannot move forward with any addition to that property."

Councilman Smith stated, "There is another piece of property that I would like the administration to look into. It is owned by the Caire family."

Natalie Robottom asked, "Can we finish the abstract on this one?"

Councilman Smith stated, "It is becoming a problem with the Rousseve family on this piece of property and just in case we don't get what we need I would just like the administration to look into another piece of property."

Natalie Robottom stated, "If you can identify that and get that to Daron but we are going to finish with this one."

Councilman Gauff stated, "I agree that we should be pursuing another piece of property for this boat launch if this one seems like it is going to bog down or it is owned by more families or it is more private than public then maybe that is something that we can start looking for and not to say that administration has to do it but at least we can look for it. I am not the fisherman so I would need input from the residents of the West Bank community to give us input on a good piece of property that we think we can use as a boat launch then make that suggestion so that is less time than we would have to spend trying to find property but at least we can do the work afterwards to see if it is private and can be used for a boat launch. So please West Bank help us out."

#### **Art Smith - West Bank Recycle Facility**

Councilman Smith stated, "I know the administration said that they have no response to this but this is not the same facility we were talking about. This is an oil recycling facility that we had spoken about. I will just have to educate the administration on this before moving forward on this. I would like to carry it over."

Natalie Robottom stated, "We did try to contact you. I think Mr. Vincent did talk to you about what this item was. If it is not about the facility that we have been talking about then we are not prepared to discuss it."

#### **Michael Wright - Canal Spraying**

Councilman Wright stated, "I put this on the agenda. I had sent an email to the administration on March 31<sup>st</sup> to be exact regarding canal spraying to see where we are at because I know we are in the process of cleaning out all the major canals but I know it is also spring time approaching and we are getting into the need for preventative maintenance on those canals so I wanted to see where we were at on that. I never received a response on my email so I wanted to know what are our plans for preventative maintenance and are we starting?"

Randy Vincent stated, "Canal spraying has been successful in managing overgrowth in canals and will continue. Then next round of spraying will begin next week. An in-house spraying schedule is being established for all canals not currently on a schedule for spraying."

Councilman Wright asked, "Do we have any plans to enter into a preventative maintenance contract with either Roussel's or any of the other vendors that were responsible for spraying the canals that we issued purchase orders to. I think maybe just the issue of a yearly preventative maintenance contract then we wouldn't have to go through

*this process every year issuing purchase orders and we can already have something on the books."*

Randy Vincent stated, "That is something that we can discuss and take a look at but we are scheduled to start next week."

#### **Larry Snyder - Civic Center Usage**

Councilman Snyder stated, "According to this information it looks like we are getting some use out of our civic center. Is that true?"

Torri Buckles, EDC director, stated, "We did provide a list of all of the events or special activities that have been held in the civic center since the beginning of the new contract at the end of last year. Basically it is inquiries from film as well as private events, location request for scouting."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I have a vision. I see this thing being used by our people. From what I understand about most civic centers they are for the people of the area. There are some other things that use the facility but I am not satisfied that we see that. We see it as for someone else and not for us. My understanding was that the building was put there and because of some prices and stuff and we have to get our money back so we charge all this money to rent that building. Now there is not another civic center within 50 miles of us that charges that. Now my vision is setting that thing up with bleachers, tables and chairs, setting it up for volleyball and basketball for girls and boys and lowering that rental fee so that our people can afford it and we can attract many different activities car shows, bike shows or jewelry shows. That is my vision and it is not going to happen if before I walk in the door it is \$15,000.00. I don't think that is going to happen. Now a few of us visited St. Charles. They have an immaculate place over there it dwarfs ours and they don't charge but \$1,600.00 that is for the public to use and they also allow each of the schools to use it four times a year free all these are facts but if we want to use our building it will cost me \$15,000.00. I think that is wrong for the people who paid for it. It should be almost paid for by now if it isn't paid for. I think it is wrong for the public. What I am planning on doing is getting a resolution from this council and let's get reports on what it would take to do the things I just mentioned. Now I am not going to ask the council for that tonight but it is in my heart and I have talked to a few of you about it but that is my vision for this place. If we are not going to do anything with it then something needs to be done with it. That was my intention tonight but I see we have some things going on there now so I am just going to leave that there and be satisfied with what I have written down and I will talk more with the council about it."

Torri Buckles stated, "Also as a follow up the council did request a few months ago that the tourist commission present a marketing plan. We have received it. We will go over it and discuss it and then after we have made recommendations we will be happy to give that information to the council as well. So I think some of the things that you mentioned this evening will be addressed in this marketing plan."

### Larry Snyder - Budget format

Councilman Snyder stated, "I see there was no response so maybe you didn't realize where I was coming from but I think the council has the prerogative to dictate how we want the budget presented to us as far as format is concerned and I have a couple of issues with the way it is presented to us. First of all and I know Mrs. Robottom told us one time what she would like to do but first of all I would like to see that a department or a fund or any expenses that come out of the budget. Is it possible to get a separate line item because if I have money over there I can do something with my budget and put it over here. So we could do some things with the budget to move money around that way we can be a little bit more hands on with someone working in the utilities department getting paid out of another fund. I don't know how it is done but that is one thing I would like to see so that when we look at the budget for each department we know everything that department is spending and we don't have to worry about what is coming out of someone else's budget. The other thing I ask is that line items be line items. I need numbers by the line items and details on some line items whereas if I go to page 3 line 30 I can see that you know exactly where I am going. I know you started putting numbers on the bottom of the page that is fine but we still have many things on the pages that we need to identify to move it along a little bit. So what I would like to see is this is that line items, miscellaneous I would like to see some details. If you have miscellaneous for our building I want to see what that was. If it says salaries I want to see who the salary individually for. If there is furniture I want to see what we bought. If we have a receipt for it we can put it on a piece of paper. If it is there that means somebody has a receipt for it. I need these items and I want details of the some of the main line items if not all of them."

Natalie Robottom commented that there are a number of things that are required by charter but it does call for standard accounting practices and for as much as what has been done historically with this budget and with other budgets clearly this is a standard accounting practice. The council often request details in certain budgets and these are provided but to put all that you are asking for in the parishes budget is not standard accounting practices but we did hear some of the concerns and will work with our audit firm to better position people in the departments that they belong. Historically the problem has been that we didn't have funding for them so we placed them in budgets that were not restricted that could afford to carry them for example when recreation had no budget their employees were in public works and you could not have seen that anywhere else because recreation had no budget because they had no funding source. Animal control had no budget because they had no money so historically things were placed in budgets where there were funds that were discretionary enough to be able to pay these individuals. What we are working on now is an amendment that will place a lot of the employees who may have been positioned in other budgets in general fund and will allocate their time accordingly and will be transferring money in now that may confuse you even more because they will have more transfers coming in. We place money in the general fund and allocate monies to where the people are working from for example we have mechanics that come out of all of the budgets. Again this is a meeting that we will have with you we will welcome the CPA but it is not plausible or possible to list everything that we pay for line item by line item in a budget now anytime you guys request it your office

has access to laserfische and everything that we purchase. Miscellaneous is what you questioned well it is just that the things that you don't have a line item for so it can change this year it may be additional supplies for one area or cost associated with a program but next year it may be something different because that is what we needed that year so as much as we want you to fully understand the budget we also have jobs to do and what you are requesting is just not possible but we will be happy to provide any line item that you request.

Councilman Snyder asked, "So you are telling me that we can't do any of that the way I just explained it to you but we could do some of it?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "We can do some of it."

Councilman Snyder asked, "And all we have to do is explain to you what we want done it might be one or two line items in each fund?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes we can."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Okay that is what I need. I will just want one or two items and if we need to talk about this some other time that would be fine. Please have Mr. Lucia give me a call and we can set up a time."

#### **Larry Snyder - Illegal sign at Cambridge and Airline Hwy.**

Councilman Snyder stated, "I see this is being handled by Code Enforcement. Where are we at right now?"

Angelic Sutherland stated, "This item is being addressed through Code Enforcement and the administration cautions against public discussion being that it is in the process and we anticipate possible litigation. The status of it is in the report that I gave you before the meeting."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Okay that will work thank you."

#### **Larry Snyder - Concrete repair, in house and contractor**

Randy Vincent commented concrete repairs are scheduled to begin on Wednesday, April 9th. Parish employees are utilized daily for minor repair work to curbs and catch basins.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

#### **Ranney Wilson/Lennix Madere - Drainage and Drainage equipment**

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

There was no new business.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

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

Lennix Madere - 205 E. 30<sup>th</sup> Street

Parish Buildings - Security

Abandoned Vehicles

Code Enforcement - Personnel matters

Water bill issues

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

St. John the Baptist Parish vs. Roussel Welding and Metal Works, Inc., et al. Case No. 64187 Div. B

Any and all pending legal matters

Councilwoman Hotard excused herself from the meeting at 9:30 PM.

#### **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES**

**14-09** An ordinance to amend Chapters 113 and 14 of the St. John the Baptist Parish Code of Ordinances as follows: Temporary sign Ordinance (J. Hotard and L. Snyder)

**14-10** An ordinance granting approval for a Family Re-subdivision as per St. John the Baptist Parish Ordinance dated February 8, 1982 of Lot 5 & Lot 6 of the Cambre Partition into Lots herein designated as Lots 5A-1, Lot 5A-2, Lot 5A-3 & Lot 5A-4 of the Cambre Partition, situated in Section 32, T-11-S, R-6-E, Reserve, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (PZS-14-1082) (N. Robottom)

#### **PRESIDENT'S REMARKS**

There were no presidential remarks.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE/COUNCIL BRIEFS**

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

At 9:48 PM, Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

/s/Marvin Perrilloux  
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche  
Council Secretary