

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, APRIL 28TH, 2015
CHAIRMAN MICHAEL WRIGHT
VICE CHAIR MARVIN PERRILLOUX

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 28th, 2015, at 6:30 PM.

CALL TO ORDER:

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

ABSENT: None

Councilman Snyder led the Prayer. Councilman Madere led the Pledge.

Legal Counsel Jeff Perilloux and Keith Green, Jr. were present.

Natalie Robottom - Proclamation - Relay for Life

Natalie Robottom read the proclamation for Relay for Life.

Natalie Robottom - Proclamation - April as Fair Housing Month

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

Natalie Robottom - Proclamation - April as Child Abuse Prevention Month

Natalie Robottom read the Proclamation for April as Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Consent Agenda

Items: Approval of Minutes - April 14th, 2015, Regular Meeting; Permit Approval - Relay for Life Festival - Saturday, May 2nd, 2015 from 2:00 PM until 12 Midnight; Permit Approval - Block Party - Saturday, May 2nd, 2015 from 10:00 AM until 6:00 PM

MOTION: Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes - April 14th, 2015, Regular Meeting; Permit Approval - Relay for Life Festival - 5-2-15 from 2:00 PM - Midnight; Permit Approval - Block Party - 5-2-15 from 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:

15-13 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance to grant a subdivision modification under Section 111-29 of the St. John the Baptist Parish

Code of Ordinances as follows: Subdivision Modification Za Road,
Reserve (L. Gauff)

Angelica Keller stated, "Administration recommends approval of this ordinance."

MOTION: Councilman Gauff moved and Councilwoman Hotard seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 15-13. The motion passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilwoman Millet stated, "I would like to make a motion to accept the recommendations of the finance committee."

MOTION: Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to accept the recommendations of the finance committee. The motion passed unanimously.

DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:

Jobe' Boucvalt stated, "Over the last several days severe weather events have resulted in flash flooding, hail, tornadic conditions and power outages throughout the state these events produced up to 3 inches of rain fall in a short period of time and strong winds. Residents are encouraged to familiarize themselves with terminology issued by the national weather service including flash flood watches/warnings and tornado watches/warnings these alerts are sent out without a minute to react and should be taken very seriously. During weather events SJBP activates the weather protocol team to monitor the weather and prepare for weather events and respond to any issues or damage that may occur. Residents are reminded to call 911 to report street flooding and hazards to allow crews to be dispatched immediately and to make a record of all the calls. Emergency alerts are also sent parish wide and we encourage everyone to register for these alerts at sjbparish.com dangerous storms can pop up at any time so please stay alert. That brings me to the national weather service, if you go to their website they give you a good definition of and we will take flood warning - flood watch is issued when conditions are favorable for flooding. That does not mean flooding will occur but is possible. A flood warning is issued when flooding is eminent or occurs and what we need the residents to stay focused on is the flood warning watch because when there is a warning there is a good chance of us getting 3-4 inches of rain in one location and I am going to take two different events we just had - yesterday we had an event that was mostly wind we received about $\frac{3}{4}$ inch of rain in 35 minutes the water came up fast like on Belle Terre Blvd but then it went down real fast because the rest of the day we got another $\frac{3}{4}$ inch so 1 inch for the day, we had a lot of trees down on power lines so we had a lot of things taking place parish wide and we really didn't have that big flood event. Now let's take about a week ago, we had a flood warning, an event with a lot of rain and the people in the parish have to remember that when we get a large amount of rain in a short period of time it may not be the flood warning for where the EOC is it actually was where North of the Airline is where a lot of Mrs. Millet's district is. When we went back and looked at the amount of rain that fell we recorded 1-2 inches at the EOC well over by you we grafted and the back end of LaPlace Park to St. Andrews back up to Ruddock we recorded 3-4 inches of rain. Again we would like the

residents to remember when natural rain flow from the levee to the lake, the levee is around 27 feet high protected from the 14 feet of water that is in the river right now. Along the levee people are about 14 feet but as you go all the way to the lake where we naturally drain then you get the sea level at the lake so all this water is going that way. We are not like St. Charles Parish who has a levee system and pump stations, they are pumping their water out. St. James Parish is natural flow they drain from the levee to the lake they don't have any pump stations. Now we do have some pump stations we have McReine Road which pulls it from the South of the Airline and pushes it to the lake. We don't have another pump station until we get to LaPlace Park and LaPlace Park has a levee so it is pumping out of that and over the levee out now 3-4 inches of rain in LaPlace Park those pumps can't keep up with an inch or rain in 35 minutes they are going to struggle so LaPlace Park that event about a week ago they struggled because the pumps were both running wide open but when you get 3-4 inches of rain in that area they are not going to keep up so you are going to get that water backing up until those pumps can catch up. We do have a major pump station by the Reserve Canal for Homewood and that is basically doing the same thing pulling it from under the Airline and getting it out of here. The reason we wanted to go over this again tonight is because it is important for your residents to understand if they live in LaPlace Park or on 51 Hwy. 51 is natural drainage don't call 911 to turn the pumps on there are no pumps there. If any of your constituents would like me to go I can give them the elevation of their street, I can tell them if they are in a pump station area or if it is natural flow and they really need to understand that because if they are going to get 3-4 inches of rain in LaPlace Park those pumps are going to be running and that water is going to come up until the pumps can catch up so you have to get the cars out of the street. In River Forest all the way in the back some of those streets had 4 feet so if you are getting 3-4 inches of rain back there and you know you are close to the lake and the lake is running about 1.5 feet all that water everything is draining you are going to get water in the road. I would get my car out of the street that goes for anywhere in the parish if you are under a flood warning get your car out of the street and understand whether you are within the levee district like LaPlace Park or if you are in another section with natural drainage. Now when you have a rain event we watched the lake gage on this last one we were dumping so much rain at the end the lake came up a little bit and when that lake comes up every drainage canal is going to drain a little bit slower so it backs up and it just takes a while for that water and that is what a lot of people and Mr. Wilson I know you have that problem in Garyville that Hope Canal if that lake is high the canal is going to get higher and everything is going to drain slower. You have to remember we just went through several rain events, the ground is saturated, the lake is running about 1.5 above sea level and we always gage it and if that lake is at 1.7 we are getting water on old Hwy. 51 and some of us have been around a good while and we understand this but we have a lot of new residents and we just wanted to take the tonight and the opportunity to just go over it one more time but please have your residents give me a call, I will go to their house and I will explain it to them. They should know what the elevation of their house is and the elevation on the street. This was basically for me to give an update to the council. I appreciate your time and I also have Travis Perrilloux who is going to be giving an update on the sirens for Waterford."

Travis Perrilloux, Assistant Public Safety, stated, "Entergy officials in coordination with the EOC will sound three outdoor warning sirens in St. John tomorrow between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. to test recent upgrades to the Parish siren system. The following locations will be tested (in order) between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm: Siren 63 located near Marathon Recreation Facility, Garyville, Siren 52 located on LA 643 next to the Anchon Inn, Pleasure Bend, Siren 46 located on LA 18 near Johnson's Curve, Wallace. The sirens may be sounded three to four times throughout the day while testing takes place. Each test will not run longer than one minute. Residents hearing these short tests should disregard them. In the event of an actual emergency during testing, the siren will be activated for five minutes. Please immediately tune into the government access channel 15 (UVERSE 99) or radio station WWL 870 a.m. to receive information if this occurs. Funded by Entergy, outdoor sirens in St. John the Baptist Parish are used **ONLY** if there is a nuclear emergency at the Waterford 3 Nuclear Plant in Killona. For more information on Waterford 3 or a nuclear emergency, please read the Waterford Nuclear 3 Safety Information brochure that was recently mailed to residents or download it from the Parish website."

Kerry Watkins, Recreation Director, stated, "Registration is currently open for the St. John the Baptist Parish Summer Camp for youth ages 4 through 12. The camp is held [Monday through Thursday](#), from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., beginning [June 8, 2015](#) and ending [July 16, 2015](#). Daily activities include arts and crafts, team sports, swimming, academic enrichment, games, field trips and more. Registration forms are available at the Parks & Recreation office (gym) at [200 REGALA Park Rd.](#), Reserve, LA and can be downloaded from the parish website at [sjbparish.com](#). The registration deadline is [May 16](#). Lunch will be provided through the St. John Parish Summer Feeding Program. The Recreation Department is also accepting applications for summer employment for camp counselors and certified lifeguards. Assistance with lifeguard certification will be provided, if needed. Apply through the parish website or the Parks & Recreation Office."

Councilman Madere asked, "I went across on the West Bank during the time we had this weather episode last week and this week and it may not be your department you may have to contact someone from the state. The barricades that were placed by the ferry on the West Bank the week before when we had that bad wind episode those barricades are basically almost in the Highway on the edge of each one of those ramps they have been down and I just couldn't understand several people passing there and seeing that and it not being reported or someone to stop and pick them up so that could be a safety hazard."

Jobe' Boucvalt stated, "We will look into it and take care of it."

Councilman Madere stated, "Also by the Whitney plantation there is a wire that is almost hanging in the ditch it is the bottom wire and it has been like that over a month and I don't know who that wire belongs to but it is almost touching the ground by the Whitney plantation and I just noticed that by passing there."

Jobe' Boucvalt stated, "If it is the lower line that probably is either

going to be phone or cable and I will get it taken care of."

Laverne Saulny stated, "St. John Parish is hosting its HUDD capacity building grant writing workshop that begins tomorrow and Thursday that will teach participants how to secure grant funding. There are approximately 130 participants across the region please refer to the copy of the agenda that you have and it will give you an idea of the topics that the participants will learn in the next two days. I would also like to say that the parish is extremely fortunate to have this workshop. These types of workshops are given across the country and to have this free and informative workshop is truly a wonderful opportunity for the residents not only in St. John Parish but again across the region. The office of Economic Development will be hosting its second 8 hour quik books class that is scheduled for Wednesday, May 13th and Wednesday May 20th, 2015 at the St. John Baptist Parish training center located in our local community center. Each of you have a copy of the flyer for your review. If anyone is interested in attending this workshop they can contact the office of Economic Development at 985-652-9569 ext. 1114. I had the opportunity not too long ago to address the Rotary Club and a number of the business owners there expressed training for their employees. I met with a representative from the Louisiana Workforce Commission and was informed of training dollars to help employers expand their workforce. You have a copy of that flyer with the details of the training. Again if any employers are interested in learning more about this training or attending they can reach the office of Economic Development at 985-652-9569 ext. 1114. In a couple of weeks the office of Economic Development will be publishing a guide to doing business in St. John Parish. The guide will be on the Economic Development website as well as the River Parishes Chamber of Commerce and also will be distributed to the appropriate staff within the parish and finally St. John Parish EDC will be recognized along with the South Central Louisiana Technical River Parishes, Louisiana South SBDC for their innovative partnership as well as being recognized as the best practice. The Louisiana Economic Development is extremely supportive of this partnership and as well would like to implement the parish small business program across the state."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I just have more of a comment. I have looked over all of the flyers here and I think it is a lot of good information especially quik books I have used it before and probably if I had a workshop I would still use it now it can be a little tricky but it is a valuable tool especially for small business which we have a lot of small businesses here in St. John. So I am glad to see that and also I just briefly read over this for assistance with hiring new positions small businesses and employers who have at least 2 full time employees can get financial benefits for hiring new people and assistance with training so I think that is a wonderful opportunity like you said so I just want to applaud all of your efforts and I want to thank you for all that you are doing especially for small businesses. I understand very intimately the struggles of a small business."

Rhonda Lemons, Health & Human Services, stated, "As the director I felt it necessary to come before you tonight and address you and the community as it relates to what SJBP is doing regarding not only HIV and AIDS but STD's being that it is a sensitive subject for some that is why you have the packet and it is not necessary to read right now as it relates to what I am presenting but the backup information and

details to what I am presenting is in your folders. I would like to also acknowledge our partners Debra Montgomery, RN and supervisor at the Health Unit and Dr. Riggins, Medical Director for office of public health region 3 and we work very closely together. They are here to so support. The items that are in your packet address preventive services and advertisement. The Department of H&H website has SJPB House Unit information in it. All of the services that are provided. The website not only provides information regarding the information but also the types of services, the dates and times that the services are being rendered. Region 3 STD stats and updated information are also provided on the state website. Now our intention is to have these links added to the SJPB Health Unit link for increased advertisement. As it relates to education we have met with the entities of woman and ethnic studies this is a very organized group of professionals from grant writers, case managers and we met with them they are interested in providing sexual education to the parish. We invited individuals from the school district, blessed to be a blessing as well as the 40th Judicial Court for juveniles because I felt that those were all of the people who could put input as it relates to the necessity of bringing them to the parish. It went very well. We are still courting them. We have their background information. They have the funding all they need are the participants which we are willing to give them. We also have the program information as it relates to the Woman of Ethnic Studies you also will find that included in that packet are evidenced intervention teacher models that the organization has been very successful in using in New Orleans Parish. Now following that document is the Department of Health and Hospitals quarterly invoice where we pay the state currently \$70,000.00 a year to provide services, prevention and advertisement. It is out there. We are doing it and we are also compensating someone currently for services relative to HIV/AIDS and STD's. Next is the Right Choice project proposing expenditure budget the total of that budget for the duplication of services that we are offering already is \$346,265.80 in closing an email dated April 24th, 2015 was sent out to Mr. Gauff and Mr. Smith to schedule a follow up meeting and information session regarding what you have been presented with tonight. I am available for questions."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "It is a lot of information and I will be able to look into it more a little later there are some things highlighted in this information is there any attention drawn to that?"

Rhonda Lemons stated, "Yes those are my highlights."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Okay well thank you very much I can tell that a lot of effort went into putting this together so I appreciate your time."

Rhonda Lemons stated, "You are welcome and I would just like to say that working with Mrs. Montgomery has been she does such a good job and it very interested in our parish and if there are any needs as it relates to what she is currently doing I would welcome that and she and I will talk about that and we will all brain storm in that meeting if you all wish to be present. We want to make sure that we do the better good for our parish as it relate to these issues. Also before I take my seat I would just like to say that the volunteer income tax program ended April 14th and we had committed to United Way to do 100 tax returns we did 150."

Councilman Gauff stated, "Thank you very much I know we talked and met and went over a lot of these organizations and the information you told me you were going to put something together and I think you have exceeded what I expected especially this packet that you put together. Thank you very much job well done."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Thank you I think you did a fantastic job with this and I need to ask you because I think a few weeks ago we had a group that came here talking about the same thing. Are we partnered with them?"

Rhonda Lemons stated, "No those individuals are from a different group. Mrs. Montgomery and Dr. Riggins is our Chief Physician."

Dr. Chip Riggins, New Regional Medical Director for the Office of Public Health Region 3, stated, "My headquarters are in Thibodaux but I cover the 7 parish area here now for about the last month. I am very proud to be here. Proud of our partnership that Mrs. Lemons referred too. This has been going on for a long time. Our staff obviously know the community and care very deeply about it. Not only the services that you have listed there but Mrs. Montgomery can also link parish residents to a number of services that we offer from our regional headquarters in Thibodaux as well as innumerable programs that we have available at the Office of Public Health in Baton Rouge and New Orleans. So she has reached back. She understands your community and we are trying to tailor those and we appreciate your input and partnership. Thank you."

Councilman Wright stated, "Thank you and Mrs. Lemons I do appreciate you putting this information together for us and I encourage the council members to digest it all and reach out to you and your department."

Larry Snyder - (Carry Over 10-13-14) Discussion Lions Water Plant Phase VIII design

Councilman Snyder stated, "I know we had that meeting at REGALA bringing the information to the public and where are we with that because I know it involves this particular subject here. Are we planning on holding something else? Are you planning on making a recommendation to this council or what?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Actually the meeting I think went very well a couple of councilmen came Mr. Wilson stayed for some of the questions that were asked and we were compiling those. I think what we are attempting to do is record the presentation because it really wasn't very well attended and we think it is a significant issue and expenditure so we would like to make an effort to make sure that more people receive it. We have not come back together or the water infrastructure team has not come back together to finalize the recommendation. There are options they are exploring some additional funding opportunities as was stated in the original report. There were some that we knew about and some we needed to look into and some things we were getting appraisals for some of the property and then we will come back together with a recommendation for you. We have also just recently gone through a lot of the bond funds and funding that we have

to try to come up with the amount that is necessary to do the items that are prioritized. We have some of the funding. We do not have all but we are working through getting the rest of that to do some of the things that we definitely need started at Lions."

Councilman Snyder asked, "This project at Lions with the new filters that was a project that has been on the books for a long time and I think it was just a matter of us deciding what we were going to do with it or if we were going to move forward with it and I don't know how it plays in the scheme of things but it kind of looks like we are leaning towards something in LaPlace and something to help our Reserve too because they are at their limits and that is why I kept this on the agenda for such a long time. I think we need to make some decisions on it as a council on what we are going to do with that Lions Water Plant."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I think you are correct. The filter is one of the first items as was covered in the presentation there are several other projects that are ongoing as well. I think what we found out from the study is that two new filters alone would not do what we thought. There are some other things that are necessary in order for those two filters to accomplish what we want them to do which is why we are trying to accumulate some additional funding. Now the bond issue has about has about 4.5 million dollars set aside for filters. I think we have about 2 million remaining in the low interest loans. We are looking at some additional dollars to put with that some of the items are already paid for but again we have a history of completing projects that don't work and to invest 4.5 million dollars and not have the system work would be a problem for us as well as our residents so we are trying to put together the best project. It does need two filters but it also needs some additional piping and there needs to be some clear wells and valve adjustments that aren't working properly. So there are a lot of things that need to be done on that plant that we would like to get done so that when the filters are completed unlike the last time that it is working properly."

Councilman Snyder asked, "So we need to do all of that before we get the filters?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "No we don't. We just need to make sure that we have the money because doing the filters will not do anything if we don't have the other items completed as well."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Which is understandable but where are we with that part of it as far as getting those other things together?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "We actually have some opportunities for funding and I encourage all of you possibly in a separate meeting to meet to discuss some ideas that you may have we have come up with some but we are going to need the council's action as well to generate the full amount of money necessary to make it a good project. So we welcome either individually or small groups or however you all want to do it just to sit down and maybe get some ideas from you all on where you see the additional funding coming from. We can share with you, I think we met yesterday, on trying to quantify and qualify all the dollars that we have in certain areas or pockets that we can put towards these projects but we are a little short so we are going to have to come up

with some creative measures to ensure that we have the right amount of money to do the project correctly we have done that before and short changed some of the projects and in the end they haven't worked properly and that is not the best use of the dollars that we have right now."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well if you expect us to do that then we need to know what you have so far it doesn't make any sense reinventing the wheel more than once. Maybe you can give us a report or something on what you are looking at as far as raising money or another bond issue or whatever."

Natalie Robottom stated, "We can't do another bond issue but we have some dollars between the loans and the recent bond issue as a matter of fact it is actually going to be part of the 2015 bond issue and those dollars will not be in hand until June or July and we also are looking at CWERP Grant as well we can't count on just yet the billion dollars resiliency grant because that information won't be coming in until October but there are some other opportunities that we think that we have to generate the necessary funds to get these projects started. So we can schedule a meeting Mr. Snyder."

Councilman Wilson stated, "I was very upset with the turn out being it is water and the past problems that we have with the water situation. Administration had almost as many people there as they had people in attendance. They did a very good presentation and it was very informational and it covered a lot of the stuff that you asked about but everybody was given a sheet of paper to write questions and all questions were answered for those who did turn them in but I hope that if we put this on again that we get a lot more participation from the public so that they will know what is going on. Again Mrs. Robottom your staff did a very good job."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Thank you Mr. Wilson and the questions were really good some of them we had before and others we did not so we are going to be compiling a list of the responses to those questions and there was also a survey so we can have an idea of where the folks were from who actually attended the meeting but we do need to focus primarily on funding of the plant. I feel very confident in the plan that will create a comprehensive water system for our entire parish. I do think it is important to know what the entire plan is before piecemealing it so we know in stages or phases that we are trying to get somewhere and not just adding a project every so many years but I think it is important to know and to decide what is the best use of the limited dollars that we have. There are some things that we have to do first and we have to move on that but there are others that we need to make some decisions on with regards to the long term production of water for the parish."

Ranney Wilson - (Carry Over 04-14-15) Parish GPS System

Councilman Wilson asked that this item be removed from the agenda.

Ranney Wilson - Drainage issues - W.8th, W.9th, W.4th, E.12th, N.W.4th and Toni

Councilman Wilson stated, "Yes some of these issues have been addressed

by administration but W. 8th Street and 9th Street were totally underwater last week and from what I understand on Marmillion Loop they had some people that had water in their homes. This has been an ongoing problem for many years. There are some possible help solutions if a big culvert is placed behind parallel to the school property where it meets W. 10th Street when they put that street and drainage in that would help a lot but you have the church there that is all asphalted, the bank in the front and that other building behind it and we had a lot of rain and the streets had to be closed off."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I think Mr. Nunes is here but for informational purposes and we did get some calls on W. 8th as well we have phase II of the Reserve Drainage Project that is underway we have a meeting scheduled with CN that is actually holding up our ability to bid this project it has been designed. We have the funding from it through a grant as well as some of the funds the parish previously used towards the match. The streets involved are Terrance, W. 2nd, W. 4th, W. 8th, Marmillion and Toni Loop it is a culvert alignment project similar to phase I but we are having trouble again with the railroad CN we will have to pull in our representation again we do have a meeting scheduled in two weeks we need them to help us bore under the railroad to get new culverts in because it doesn't make sense for us to fix the drainage coming up to the railroad and then it not be able to go under. So whether or not they will be participating or the cost of what that will be will add to the cost of the project we have had some preliminary discussions with them about assisting specifically with that and we have a follow up meeting scheduled with them but at this point we are going to have to make some decisions and move on. The project is about a 3.3 million dollar project and it is time to get started."

Councilman Wilson stated, "There are some other issues what you are speaking of gets the water to the railroad track but once it gets there the next problem is where is it going to go from there and from there to Highway 61 they have the old Hot Water Canal from Godchaux that needs to be dug and cleaned."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Okay can we - there are a number of streets on here obviously some of them are covered we would love to sit with you Mr. Wilson it appears you have some ideas on some things that we may not be covering so we will schedule a meeting with you to go over that."

Councilman Wilson stated, "Alright N.W. 4th Street and W. 4th Street also have very bad drainage problems. E. 12th Street is a very long street to the railroad track people down that street cannot flush their toilets in the rain."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Okay all the streets except E. 12th and N.W. 4th are covered so that may be something different but we will schedule a meeting with you and share what the plans are and see what other things may be necessary in that area."

Councilman Wilson stated, "There is one other that I want to mention at Star Terrace coming out of Star Terrace the water was up to the bottom of the door of my truck. I have asked from Star Terrace to the railroad track to get cleaned those drains have got to be at least 90% or more clogged some of them I don't think even work at all but these people

can only get in and out going all the way around. I want to thank you for the attention to the streets in the subdivision but we need help getting it cleaned to the railroad track."

Natalie Robottom stated, "That is obviously a problem you can see how the concrete is actually diminishing because of the standing water that is there we think that might be a little larger project and be a project in itself so we definitely need to take a look at that but as I said we will schedule a meeting to make sure that all of the items that you are discussing are included in what needs to be addressed."

Councilman Madere stated, "Mr. Nunes can answer my question concerning this. This is concerning E. 12th Street one of the streets that Mr. Wilson had on the agenda which is also my street we share that street he is on the left side and I am on the right side. I made the Public Works Department, yourself imparticular, aware of the blockage down E. 12th Street by the railroad on both sides and that has not been removed. I passed there the other day when it was raining and the reason why it was flooding up the front part of E. 12th Street was because the water couldn't get through the railroad track to get out to the canal. I took a picture of that a few weeks ago. I mentioned it to you at the last meeting and both sides of the railroad are still plugged today because when it rains it is a fact that I am in my vehicle riding through my district and I check each and every spot and that thing is still plugged on both sides solid which means there was no water draining out of E. 12th Street and that goes to the pump and it is probably still plugged. I keep saying and I am going to have to stop saying we going to have to take action and get a drainage department because just saying and saying is not doing anything. If we had a drainage department those things would not be plugged for 1-2 months and if we get a rain episode like this and we heard Mr. Boucvalt say how much rain came down in a short period of time those things being plugged actually increase the amount of water that is on the residents. So I would appreciate it if someone would get there tomorrow and unplug those two areas on E. 12th Street."

Brian Nunes stated, "We will go out there tomorrow but what I do want to add that canal particularly we go out normally every Monday and there is trash there often. It is a common dumping area for fences and tires and even 55 gallon drums so we spend a lot of time cleaning that canal between the railroad tracks, north of the Homewood Pump it fills up with trash regularly."

Councilman Madere stated, "Mr. Nunes I don't want to sound crazy but if you say you go out there every Monday there is no way possible that that particular area could have been plugged for a month. We don't have Ray Charles working for us. I can see that. So if someone is going there every Monday than someone should have seen that."

Brian Nunes stated, "We might have missed one thing that you said I am not saying it is every single Monday but most of the times on a Monday morning we do it. There are a lot of times when it is raining like this past Monday it was raining and we didn't go out there but normally once a week we are there and we are cleaning stuff out."

Councilman Madere stated, "Well I can tell you whoever you sent down there for the last 5-6 weeks you need to adjust that and send someone

else because I have pictures in my phone right now of that thing that I took a picture of over 6 weeks ago and it is still plugged and that same item, I can show you the picture, is still located in that ditch. It is a speaker someone had in their house and it is in there and it has been in there for 6 weeks and it is visible and easy to see. So if someone is going down E. 12th Street they need to make sure that they get those areas. I am not denying that they are not going but I definitely know that both of those two sides are still plugged."

Brian Nunes stated, "Okay I will look for the speaker but we do clean that regularly."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay I will check it Thursday morning."

Councilman Wright stated, "Thank you Mr. Madere and Mr. Nunes and maybe we can also get with the Sheriff's office to increase patrol for the littering because we don't want to consistently spend our tax payer dollars cleaning up after our residents who can clean up after themselves."

Larry Snyder - Trash on Woodland Drive

Councilman Snyder stated, "I see what is written down here but I wrote a work order to get some trash picked up over there I think it was a bed and someone had the front seat of a car and then I went back there a couple of weeks later and it is still there and to me that just doesn't make sense because our people have to pass there to get to work that is how we get to the waste plant back there but if we see it there I think we should just cooperate with one another and call and say hey they have this back here somebody come and pick it up but that was out there for about a month and that is on Woodland Drive which is one of our main throughway in our area. So if we can do a better job of picking those big things up because I make my trips back there and I see some concrete back there things like that need to be picked up and we have people pass by it every day why can't we just get it done."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "You know these two items y'all are just addressing these are our residents doing this and I know we need to probably increase patrols in the area. Mr. Nunes where you are having a lot of dumping done get with the Sheriff's Office because you know tax dollars don't need to be spent cleaning up after somebody who is dirtying our parish intentionally. This is not what we are here to do. We are here to spend money to encourage the beautification of our parish definitely not to pick up after someone because they don't put it where it needs to be. We pick up on the side of the road at your house all you have to do is call it in there is no need for you to dump it in the canal when we will physically pick it up in front of your residence. Work with us and make our parish a better place to be because all you are doing instead of our public works department being able to work on something that needs to be done they are spending time picking up after people who have dumped wrongfully. We have signs posted \$500.00 fine. Everyone knows it is a \$500.00 fine for dumping. If you see someone dumping call the Sheriff's office and let them know."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Just a reminder and Mrs. Millet you brought up some good points there we do pick up extra on the second pick up but

there is also a yard in the rear of this building so that you can bring those type of things. Keep in mind that we all pay for it when we pick it up. Typically residents or businesses pay for that service that collects at their house or on their driveway when we are picking up things not near neighbors we have to pay to have that disposed of. We don't really have a mechanism for doing that but we have a system in place or we are attempting to make sure our systems are in place to assist our residents with that. So again we encourage you all as much as we are struggling with drainage it is not helpful to have things like tires and sofas and mattresses and all these things in the drainage canals those things cannot go through a culvert. You could have put it near the road and then it fell into the canal but a lot of times these same items that we are complaining about right now interfere with our ability to have good drainage. For example Mr. Madere you indicated a speaker, I am thinking trash that comes with the water but a speaker those are the kinds of things that hurt all of us when those kinds of things are dumped in our drainage system and we cannot overcome that on an ongoing basis. As it was said on Monday we were busy fighting with what we had so we weren't just doing routine checks of the ditches but we are asking our residents, we continue to do cleanup efforts, we just had an industrial cleanup effort where you could drop off the things that you couldn't dispose of. We are asking you to work with us to try and keep our streets clean, our ditches clean so that it doesn't cause some of the problems that we are experiencing right now."

Councilman Madere stated, "I agree with everything that was said but there is a twist to all of that. I said when I got on this council my biggest thing was always drainage and I made it perfectly clear that it is not just the parishes responsibility it is the resident's and the land owner's responsibility this is a three headed monster and we can't put the blame on just one. We can't put the blame just on the parish, the citizens or the railroad but each one of us has to do our part to make it better. Now if someone decides to throw a speaker in the canal I was back there when an entire fence came through one of the pipes. I helped pull it out. It had been back there maybe ten years because it was falling apart. I can't account for those who outright disobey our trash ordinance or grass ordinance or abandoned vehicles that is on them but my concern is what we can do to help the residents that are not violating and by just turning our back on it and saying that we can use public funds on picking these things up someone has to pick it up because that is going to benefit the ones who are trying. There are a lot of people in my district that take care of the canals and ditches in front of their homes. So they are supposed to suffer because we decide if someone else is throwing trash we are not going to pick it up. We just have to pick it up. Like I said before we are in the grass cutting business because we cut grass for people who don't cut their grass, we are in the trash picking business when we have to pick up trash for the people that don't pick it up. We are totally in the people service business water, garbage, grass you name it we got it. So we have to do our best and maybe we have to carry a bigger load as far as cleaning these canals but we have to do it because we have a lot of other people depending on us to do it that is why I get these calls, that is why you get these call and that is why the people are here in the audience because they are looking for answers from us. We can't just throw our hands up in the air and say well we are not responsible for somebody throwing a speaker in the ditch. Yes we are. We are

supposed to get out there and pick it up. Yes we are responsible. We may have a bigger responsibility than any individual citizen but we are the parish government so we have the responsibility, we have the problem that is why we are here and to do the best we can to clean it up so that these people can get water away from their homes I don't care if it is two feet if the drainage department is going to push that water ten feet back from someone's home then money well spent. So we have to do our part."

Councilman Wright stated, "Thank you Mr. Madere I just want to maybe clarify I don't think the sentiments of the council was throwing our hands up in the air and saying it wasn't our responsibility but more so to encourage the residents to take control of their own property and the parishes property."

Councilman Madere stated, "I understand that but to the average citizen listening to it would just figure well that is it."

Councilman Wright stated, "And that is certainly not the case so thank you for bringing that to our attention."

Councilman Gauff stated, "I will add to what Mr. Madere said because we do have a responsibility. I think what happens sometimes is that residents aren't sure what will be picked up by the garbage services that we have or what days they are going to be picked up so if you do put some things out there and they are hoping the garbage man picks it up and the next thing you know it becomes debris in a drainage ditch because it has been sitting there for 2-3 weeks. So we all, as has been said by everybody, we all have a certain responsibility to help pick up and clean our neighborhoods and communities. I think one point that is missing is that when construction or projects go on it is up to your contractor to remove some of this debris and I think sometimes some of that ends up in the yard waiting for someone to pick it up from the parish. That is not our responsibility it is your responsibility to have a dumpster or something to put this in or your contractors to remove it but some of the other objects I have seen gas cans floating in the ditch and it is our responsibility to secure some of these objects because just as Mr. Madere said sometimes you are riding down and you wonder how did some of these objects or why would someone throw away their gas can that obviously they would need for their boat or lawnmower but sometimes some of this debris blows away or flies away and it ends up in our drainage canals or ditches. So it is our responsibility. It is the resident's and all of our responsibility and we do have to take the time to see what we can do to help but that is each and every one of us has that responsibility as the governing body yes it does fall on us to come up with a way to help with a lot of these situations especially with the drainage situations to come up with ideas to rectify these problems."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I didn't mean to start all of this. I just wanted a car seat picked up on Woodland Drive and if we can get it done that is all I want to get done but what Mr. Madere said is true regardless I know there are some people that just don't care and they do it and Woodland Drive happens to be one of those lonely streets and there is nothing going on at night and people want to get rid of something they just dump it there. I see them do it on the new road in Reserve they have more tires in the ditch on 22nd Street right now I

pass there every day but there are people that are going to do those things and it is our responsibility if we can or if you catch them get a license plate number and turn it in that is what I would do but regardless and like Mr. Madere said there are some people that want to take care of their property, have it beautiful and keep the parish nice and we have to serve those too. It is just like when a man dies he dies for all of us not just the good looking."

Larry Snyder - Street and sidewalk needed repairs survey for Council District VI

Councilman Snyder stated, "The list that you have is the list that was turned in by work orders but a while back I had asked if we could get an audit and you told me that you drive around and you pick up things and that is what I was looking at the repairs for those things because there are many streets I know in concrete right now this is the year that we do concrete streets that need to be done. I mean they are severe and in bad shape. There are not many but they have some and some just little spots on the main highway I know like on Cambridge Drive for sure there are some bad spots that can be cut out and redone and that would help. There are some sidewalks that trees have torn up and that is one of our main problems but there are a couple of sidewalks that I pass by that have 4 square feet of cement just rocking and you know kids pass there they can trip or get hurt on their bike not knowing that is there and those are the kind of things that I am looking for if we can get some type of audit done and just walk down those side streets not just the main street, those people did a good job on the main street as far as shaving down the higher entrance and I think that helps us out big time but we need to get to those side streets especially where we have a lot of water to the North/East part of Cambridge Drive and on Frisco over there where they have plenty of water that hangs out when it rains so those are the streets that are really getting in bad shape. So that is what I was looking for some kind of audit that we can do over a couple of weeks in time and see if we can find something like this somebody just can ride around."

Brian Nunes stated, "I can address all of that right now. With the sidewalk shaving we are not done in Cambridge yet we have done the main thoroughfare but I have another purchase order I think to go down Yorktowne next and what I asked from that contractor is while he is out there removing those trip hazards they are going to be walking basically the entire street. So I do ask that if you see something bad to call me but that is what they are doing they are letting us know hey you have a bad panel here you might want to replace that because we can't fix it so we kind of take a note on our list and the same thing with the panels I rode Cambridge about 3 weeks ago and took what our list was and then made some notes of my own there were some repairs on Yorktowne that had to be done and I think there was one on English Colony so I have done that around the area. I haven't finished the entire parish because I just can't do that all day but I have been taking it upon myself when I have some down time to ride through these areas and just make notes on what needs to be done."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well that is all I was looking for. If we can get something like that done because we know the rainy season is coming and some of these are small jobs especially the sidewalks we have people in house that can do that."

Brian Nunes stated, "Right the sidewalks especially."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Thank you Councilman Snyder for putting this on the agenda. So Brian we still have money in that fund to add more because I do have a couple that I would like to add concrete panels and some I have a couple of request to change the corners to handicap assessable can I send those in, will those contractors be able to do that as well?"

Brian Nunes stated, "There is some money in the concrete left right now and yes if you have some that need to be done."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Yes I have a lady that has a child who is wheelchair bound and she brings her to the park and that would help. I will you those and then there were a couple of pieces that I did see in Cambridge and it may be some of the ones that you wrote down as well but I will email those I just wanted to make sure that we had funds left in the budget and I did see that they started on Bellevue so thank you."

Larry Snyder - Old Bowling Alley - eye sore issue

Councilman Snyder stated, "The Planning and Zoning department has started working on that and not only that I passed there this week and they have been doing some work on the ceiling on the roof so it looks like they are trying to do something with the building so I am satisfied with that."

Larry Snyder - Update on 18-Wheelers in neighborhood

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well that is another thing that I think P&Z and the Sheriff's Office has gotten on. So I haven't seen any this week because they were parking in the back and parking up front and before you know it they were going to have a hotel running over there but that looks like it is being handled and I appreciate that thank you very much."

Larry Snyder - Update on permit for canal Sonar and cleaning in District VI

Councilman Snyder asked, "Where is our sonar Mr. Nunes?"

Brian Nunes stated, "Actually we signed the purchase order for this company to do the sonar they were supposed to start Monday and they couldn't so they said probably today I didn't follow up with them I didn't get a chance to it was all weather depending but the weather seemed pretty good today so I don't see why they wouldn't have started. I expect them to finish I think they said about 4 days of survey time and then there is processing time in their office I should have some output in a deliverable next week and then I will put that with the permits send it to DNR and see if we are good to go."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Mr. C. J. Savoie those permits that we got for cleaning canals did that include those permits there? Wasn't it the same Vicknair Canal I thought that was being done in house and we didn't need a permit for that some project that you were working on and you reported to us every month or something like that on canal cleaning

throughout the parish."

C.J. Savoie stated, "I am trying to recall what as far as canal cleaning I don't remember having one in my project updates."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well you sent us an update."

C.J. Savoie stated, "I still send you an update but for individual projects."

Councilman Snyder stated, "No not for this particular project what I am trying to get it is do we need those type of permits from DEQ or EPA to dig the canals in our neighborhoods?"

C.J. Savoie stated, "Usually to dig inside the parish you know where you are not getting into the wetlands and so forth for just maintenance cleaning you shouldn't and I don't know that you need a permit but maybe Brian knows something."

Councilman Snyder stated, "That is what I thought you were mentioning when you said those canals would be done in house because they were inside neighborhoods because we clean ditches all the time in neighborhoods."

C.J. Savoie stated, "Right you can clean your ditches and you can clean your canals and do maintenance work as long as you are not getting into wetlands and so forth or you are not doing a major dredging but I am kind of hearing part of the conversation and I don't know exactly.."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well I mean clean the ditches."

C.J. Savoie asked, "Are you talking about canal dredging or going in there with a back hoe and cleaning out a canal?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Going in there with a back hoe and cleaning the canal do you mean just getting the debris out of it?"

C.J. Savoie stated, "Well yes and you can get sediment out."

Councilman Snyder stated, "That is what I am talking about."

C.J. Savoie stated, "Yes you can go ahead and do some.."

Councilman Snyder stated, "That is what I am talking about that is one of the main problems why we flood because that canal has gotten so high and we don't get much water in it and we flood quickly. I have seen water back out of the canal into the streets on the North East side of Cambridge. I have seen it come out of the drains because we have pumps up front that flood that canal out pushing all that water to the back. Well you know what I am talking about but anyhow that is why we need to get that thing cleaned and that could be some of the reason why we are having problems over here in Riverlands because there is so much sediment in there it is blocking up the inland pipe to it. You need to go out there and see what I am talking about."

C.J. Savoie stated, "I can check into it and get back to you."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Check that for me please because I know you had something in there about those canals could be done in house."

C.J. Savoie stated, "Let me go back and review my project update reports and see what you are referencing."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Alright thank you."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Brian the sonar do you have a length of time it says here that it will start this week pending weather conditions once obtained how long is it going to take to do this?"

Brian Nunes stated, "We are only doing about a 1,000 foot section just to make sure it is what DNR will accept and I think in the proposal they gave us it was either 3 or 4 days with the boat. I don't remember off the top of my head but it is less than a week."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "And where are we starting? Where are they doing the sonar?"

Brian Nunes stated, "From the Woodland Bridge 1,000 feet back to the South."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "So if they can see that the depth of the ditch was at one point a foot deeper than what it is not than we have a case to say okay we need to dig it back to its original depth."

Brian Nunes stated, "Right that is what I am going for."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Okay will you know once you get the sonar information back if that is what took place before you go to DNR I mean can you let at least us know hey this sonar information does show that some of the depth of the canal is caused by sediment settling in so at least we know we have some type of claim not a claim but you know grounds to stand on."

Brian Nunes stated, "As soon as they forward me the results I will send them to you and let you know hey we have 2 feet of sediment in there or whatever."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Because I would agree and everybody else here can probably agree when the rain is coming down now the ditches and canals are filling up a lot quicker than they used to so then the streets are filling up quicker than they used to so everything is being exasperated by that. Okay so if it is okay with you Mr. Larry if we can leave this item on the agenda to get an update in two weeks if that is okay with you."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Sure that is fine."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Brian my next two items really relate to what Mr. Snyder was talking about with the sonar and digging these canals because I know Vicknair, Haydel and all of those canals are not at the proper depth and that is why the water as Ms. Hotard said is still in the street and I didn't think we needed a permit to go in there with a back hoe and get the sediment out of there and put it on the side. I didn't think we needed to do that. Now if we were setting

up like I'm just going to use Reserve Canal barge and dredging it out we would need a permit for that but just going in with a back hoe why do we need a permit to dig it out to its normal depth?"

Brian Nunes stated, "We have to prove that it is at its normal depth to get the permit they won't just I had DNR here on site and we walked them all and they said we can't just let you dig a water bottom we have to prove to them that it used to be a lot lower and that it has built up with whatever is in there so this is the best way we know how to do it we figure maybe a sonar would work."

Councilman Perrilloux asked, "So that sonar will be determined for that one canal or all canals?"

Brian Nunes stated, "Well the reason we are doing it this way we had them come through and give us proposals and by the way when I say these permits they will only let us do them in residential areas which would include Haydel Canal and Vicknair Canal. We didn't want to do them all right now because we didn't know if it is what they want. We don't know if DNR will accept it so why spend \$100,000.00 on a survey when I can spend \$5,000.00 on a little section to see if it works and if they say yes it works then we will do it on every canal that we can and get a permit for all of them."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Okay then I will wait because that was going to come into my next item but since they brought it up with the digging I will wait to they get to my item again."

Councilman Wilson asked, "How did we ever get them involved in this project because I don't remember in the past ever going to them. We dug and cleaned the canals. I don't ever remember going through this type of process and we just finished saying we are within our subdivisions and our communities and it isn't wetlands. So who started I mean how did they know that we were going to dig the canal?"

Brian Nunes stated, "I asked them if we could do it."

Councilman Wilson stated, "Well that you shouldn't have done and I hope you don't ever do that again because North of Airline Hwy. is one thing but on this side of the highway please don't ever do that again."

Councilman Madere stated, "Mr. Nunes the question that I have about these permits who is requiring these permits? Is it the state requiring these permits or someone else?"

Brian Nunes stated, "Yes it is the state department of natural resources."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay because the state right now is digging 3179 out so I guess they don't permit themselves they just decide to go dig out the canals? Now I am hearing we have to get a permit to do anything and like Mr. Wilson said I'm not telling I'm digging you catch me you catch me then you can tell me I can't do it or explain why but I'm doing it. How did the state just decide to start digging on 3179?"

Brian Nunes stated, "I'm trying not to break the law Mr. Madere."

Councilman Madere stated, "I'm not telling you to break a law what I am saying is well let me straighten that out I will stand by what I said yes I said it let them come pick me up. What I am saying is that the railroad and everybody else we need to stop just letting them walk all over us. The railroad needs to clean out their culverts. I have said it more than once and we need to put a lawsuit on them someone needs to get the attention in Washington that what has been going on is not acceptable. These ditches and canals have to be at the proper level so that they can get the right amount of water out because if they are not the higher they get when it rains the higher the water gets on our residents. So we have to put it at the right level everywhere and that would give us a fighting chance. All we want is a fighting chance okay. Clean these canals and getting these ditches at the right level is like taking the flu shot it isn't going to be as bad if you get the flu so we have to keep these ditches at the right level so that if we get a big rain storm it isn't as bad because if we don't we are going to be facing some serious consequences with water and everything in people's homes and everything else. So if we have to have a permit in certain areas yes but in other areas like they say down the streets and along the railroad track we need to just go ahead and start doing it."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Brian the permit that you are saying is required now is it only for those major canals or is it any ditch in the parish even a ditch in front of someone's house?"

Brian Nunes stated, "Just the major canals the ditches we can still do."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "So the ones behind the houses is this something new that is in place from DNR?"

Brian Nunes stated, "I think it is relatively new maybe within the last 5-10 years I would guess. I mean 20 years ago you could do whatever you wanted but they changed the rules and I don't know exactly when but I think it is relatively new."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "What is the penalty for cleaning them out without a permit?"

Brian Nunes stated, "I didn't get that far when I was talking to them."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I was just curious. Thank you."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "I do know that we are talking about all of these canals and the Ridgefield one is one we have discussed quite a number of times and I know that you did at one time try to get some of the bottom out of it and it wasn't very much that they ended up pulling out I don't know if we had a permit or we didn't have a permit but I remember we discussed it many times that it was enough dirt to make a garden because that is how much dirt they had pulled out so I don't know if we did that with or without a permit but we never did go back and finish what we started with what we were supposed to do so was that with a permit or without a permit?"

Brian Nunes stated, "I would have to look that was done probably 2.5 years ago. I'm not sure. I remember what you are talking about. I think we had a permit at the time for that one and I just need to look at the

permit itself."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "Why didn't we get enough if we had the permit and didn't go ahead with what we needed to do? Then the permit went away."

Councilman Wilson stated, "We didn't have a permit they just did it and please don't go ask anymore because if it is just maintenance you know that canal has been a problem for 30 years and I mean it is going to happen silt builds up constantly it doesn't stop that is why you have to maintain things but legal do you have anything on regular maintenance should we be going over there an asking them?"

Councilman Wright stated, "Let me just interject. Can we have this discussion off line Mr. Nunes with Mrs. Millet and Mr. Wilson on this issue I would like to not discuss this further in an open forum?"

Marvin Perrilloux - Resident's concerns about recent flooding/high water in neighborhood (LaPlace Park)

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Yes and I have some residents here so that they can come up and express their concerns too. The last rain episode that we had about a week and a half ago I went into LaPlace Park and on Camelia where the residents flooded. I went into their house they had to pull all the tiles up and brand new wooden floors they had put in but I saw some culverts that were plugged and another issue is and like you said we talk about the canals that canal has to be maintained. It builds up a lot of silt and we have to maintain that canal but it is just this entire agenda is all drainage items and we have this constantly drainage items that we have to address and we have to do something and that is why I brought some of the residents here they have been lifelong residents in LaPlace Park they can tell us better about what is going on even me but I went back there to resource them and I can tell you the water was like Isaac in the 400 block that was Isaac water that was scary. I mean residents were leaving work calling me and coming to their house at Noon. So I went back there to see about the pumps and the pumps were running, they were running in manual but they were pumping as much water as they can out. Another problem is they are pumping it out but it is coming right back around on the Haydel Canal so the pump will never get ahead that is why the next one with the levee we have to expedite that they do some type of levee protection back there for the residents of LaPlace Park because the pumps will run but they are not going to get ahead it might take 24-36 hours before they get ahead because it is going over the levee but it is coming right back around and it is not catching up and with all the rain we are having it will never catch up. It is just going to continue to run. So we have to do something. We have to dig that canal. We have to put that Haydel Canal crossing and I am waiting to see Rick the engineer on the project. We have to give the residents of LaPlace Park some type of protection and I will let them speak."

Wayne Naquin stated, "I have been in LaPlace Park for 30 years. Mr. Wilson and Mr. Perrilloux know me very well. The Haydel Canal used to be 8-10 feet deep on the drag strip side you had a 6 foot flat area off of the levee, that 6 foot levee flat part is now about 1.5 feet wide when they cut the grass they have to run on top of the levee to cut the grass about 15 years ago when Mr. Wilson was there they put dye test in

it by the pump station and the water went around and the dyed water came back up again. It is the same thing that Mr. Perrilloux said and the other day we had that heavy rain it to 1.5 hours before the back hoes got there to clean the debris away from the pumps before the pumps could start pumping. So you had 1.5 hours of heavy rain building up which builds the water up once they took all of the debris out of the pumping stations, which should have been done before the weather came everyone knew that the weather was coming. It should have been cleaned before that and it wasn't. Once they did that the water went down it took a while but the water went down. When it went down and came back down the canal again and came back up and come back on Camelia through the canal on the levee there is no side no levee on that part in the front. There is a levee behind me that stops about 300 feet behind me where the levee stops on the LaPlace Park side it goes around hits the street and comes back down the street again right back down one big endless circle. That canal used to be deep we never had that problem. Now it is the same thing over and over again. Mr. Wilson knows I used to call him constantly about the same thing as a matter of fact they have some culverts on Gardenia Street that have been down for 30 years they are 8 inch culverts because the houses were built 30 years ago and that area was supposed to have according to the parish 18-20 inch culverts. All the new houses have 18-20 inch culverts those four houses have 8 inch culverts and the water blocks up there. On Falcon Street every time it rains floods out completely. It is completely under water. The parish property is right next to it with 1-1.5 feet of water all the time. Those culverts have to be cleaned out. For some reason the parish cleaned all the culverts on Camelia and Magnolia years ago I forgot when but they took all the old culverts out and put all new ones in they didn't do that on Gardenia. Everybody thinks that they only have two streets in LaPlace Park but they have three streets Gardenia is in the back and nobody has done anything to Gardenia but they do the other streets. They need to get the culverts cleaned. For 10 years I tried to get the culverts on Falcon changed Mr. Perrilloux finally got them changed they had 10 inch culverts under Falcon Street blocking the water up finally Mr. Perrilloux and Mr. Wilson had tried to get it done because we had 4-5 engineers looking at it saying oh it needs to be changed finally Mr. Perrilloux got it changed that helps the water flow but the 6-8 inch culverts at the old houses are still blocking the water up and the water cannot get back to the pumps fast enough it is causing the area to flood up."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "And that is another problem like I said I rode back there and I rode all three streets and I watched the water just flowing in the streets and I was watching the culverts all plugged we are going to have to go down each street and just blow the culverts out. It definitely needs to be blown out. Yes some of them are under sized yes they are they are undersized but if we keep them clean by blowing them out I think some of the water would have been flowing out there because I can tell you it was about half way up the rim of my truck and I was in my truck and some people I think two houses flooded one the man invited me in to come see and when I tell you he had immaculate floors he spent some money on this and now he has to pull all of this up this is getting to be ridiculous back there."

Wayne Naquin stated, "They have grass growing in the canal that long (motioning with hand about a foot) flowing because it is only two feet deep we never had grass growing in that canal the canal was deep and

the water flowed out now it has grass growing you have frogs all over the place all you see is long rows of grass 6-8 feet long clumps of grass all that does is plug things up and at the end of the canal where it goes into the woods it has never been cleaned in over 5 years all your trash blocks up by the woods and stops it that flows into the lake but when it hits the woods it stops and it back the water up. Years ago they had culverts across Falcon Street when they built the pumping station back there they hauled all the pumps and everything from the drag strip across those culverts down the levee which sunk the levee by at least 2 feet lower than it was before and you have some spots lower than that towards the back the other day with the heavy rain some of the water was coming over the levee and going into the streets because they hauled all that equipment down the levee from the drag strip carrying all those heavy pipes and big pumps because they couldn't come through the subdivision that is where they hauled it and it flattened the levee out at least 2 feet. So that levee has to be raised and you need to put culverts and block the water from coming back in from the lake and they got to clean out at the very end where all those trees are and all the debris piles up sometimes they have trash back there 20-30 feet deep just piles of debris and all that does is make the water back up again it won't let the water get out."

Councilman Wilson stated, "That canal drains from the projects in LaPlace and we put the levee higher once before."

Wayne Naquin stated, "It is like the Mississippi River you go by Airline Highway you can step across it you go to the back it is 30-40 feet wide but the river is deep that is only 2-3 feet deep it doesn't hold the volume of water it needs to be deep like it used to be to hold the volume of water to let the water get out."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Just really quickly Brian I know and I read the comments here about the status of the Haydel Canal crossing which it seems like there are some legal issues. Is there anything that we can do to remedy that recirculation even if it is a temporary fix until we have this done because that is the major problem the recirculation and we are almost just pumping for not because like Mr. Naquin said you pump it over and it comes back, we pump it over and it comes back and you can see it."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "I was going to have a suggestion my next item I was going to propose a suggestion that is why Mr. Shred is here because I propose we can start building a levee in the back and raise it up to 100 year protection and maybe start at the Falcon Street stop that recirculation and put that part of the levee to the Airline while we are trying to get the re-subdivision for the other land maybe we can put something there for protection and at least we would have 80% of the levee complete. We can do that and then put the cross by Falcon Street and put that gate in there where the water doesn't come back where the pumping station is that would keep the water out and that is what I was going to propose to Rick tonight I thought I saw him in here but he left well anyway that is what I was going to propose tonight let's start the project and give some protection back there."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Because it could be a little while before all of this land acquisition and re-subdivision happens with this Haydel Crossing project."

Brian Nunes stated, "Yes the legal portion is going to take a little bit of time I don't know how long but as far as a temporary fix that is something I am going to have to look into I cannot comment on it right now I don't have enough information but I can look into it and shoot you an email or give you a call about it."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Sure please."

Wayne Naquin stated, "The lots most of them are under the canal or under the levee and they have been there for 15 years. They have been covered by the levee or they are in the canal. The owners all live out of town they don't even know where the place is at all they know is they are paying taxes there is nothing you can do with the property the levee has been there for 15 years some of the lots the whole lot is in the canal."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "And I did address that with legal and I think Mr. Green, which he doesn't have anything on it yet, but he is supposed to get information on it from Mrs. Keller to move ahead with it but in the meantime I wanted to see if we could get a temp or at least start some of the levee and I am sorry Mr. Shread left and Brian you can talk with him and get some information and shoot Ms. Hotard and myself an email and let's see if we can start part of the levee and while we have a delay in it we can do something else we can still stop water with hesco baskets or sandbags but at least we would have most of the levee complete because I think it would be 80% complete."

Councilman Wilson stated, "Digging the canal would make a big difference."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "It would definitely make a big difference by digging the canal."

Aquana Brown, Gardenia Street, stated, "I have been there 10 years in 2008 we had Gustav and then right after we had Ike and on Gardenia Street where I live at I did not experience any flooding inside of my house then when it came to Isaac in 2012 I did have water in my house. I have lost anywhere from 2008 to today's date I have lost anywhere between 3-5 feet of my back yard into the canal and I noticed the next few rains that came after Isaac the canal would overflow every time from that point on. Now I had two major hurricanes come back to back and it wasn't overflowing into my yard. So the shifting of the land took place and the key to this is we know that water is going to sit in that canal until it is time to pump it to the lake so we need to be focusing on sitting water. We need to dig that canal deeper so that the water can sit there without being inside of people's homes until the pumps can be turned on. Now I used to not be able to see the bottom of it because it was low now you just see the top of the canal as soon as the canal is dry the dirt from people's property is eroding into the canal. The canal needs to be dug out and that is the first priority to be done because we know that a levee is going to take time. We know that it is going to take a lot of money and a lot of resources. So why make us suffer until then when all you have to do to give us some relief is dig that canal deeper to hold the inches that you say that is extra that falls back on us. Dig the canals deeper so that it will hold sitting water instead of our houses. You know it is heart breaking when

I had my mother had given me a hope chest that came from her mother that I was going to pass on to my daughter but the most hurt full thing was putting it out to the curb because I had to get rid of everything out of my house. Do you know how hard it is to dislocate, go somewhere else and live for months and months and then come back to the comfort of your home? We don't need to do that. We need to take action today because I am telling you the most heartbreaking thing is seeing your entire life on the corner for the trash man to pick up when all we have to do is stop arguing and bickering and go to one plan at a time. Stop trying to apply so many different plans and putting so many plans on the table right now we need a quick fix and the quick fix is digging out the canals and making them deeper to hold the sitting water instead of our homes and that is all we are asking for. You know a lot of people say you shouldn't have bought a home on a canal. Well when I purchased my home I never had problems with flooding. I could sit in my back yard and I enjoyed being on the canal but now it is a problem why is it a problem because we have ignored it for so many years and didn't correct it. So let's stop and put everything aside and let's just correct it."

Augustus Brown, 509 Gardenia, stated, "It has been expressed the things that need to be done my concern is that whenever it rains now to see the ditch before it would drain and now it is in the backyard you don't need a lot of rain and it is coming up higher and higher each time. It is not that far from my house now so if we don't do something and nothing is done and we do get a large, not a hurricane, just a large rain event we could have water in our house again and that is my concern. We need help and that is what we are asking for."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "You know we have been talking about this for quite some time and I just want to make a motion that we take care of getting these or trying to get these canals dug out to get some relief to our residents if someone could make a second I would appreciate it."

Councilman Madere stated, "I second."

Councilman Wright stated, "Okay we have a motion and a second can you clarify that one more time?"

Councilwoman Millet stated, "I'm asking that the parish take care of by whatever means necessary to get these canals dug so that we can go ahead and give relief to our residents and I am talking about in the neighborhoods if that is possible or whatever means necessary let's take advantage of it and try and get relief to our residents."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I would like to amend that motion to add that this be our number one priority because I have the same problem in Cambridge it is all over and that is what needs digging so let that be our number one priority as far as public works is concerned let's get our appointments together if we need them so that we can dig these canals. We just bought a street sweeper, a marsh buggy and an 18-Wheeler that is what they are for let's dig them canals out."

Councilman Wright stated, "Thank you Mr. Snyder we can actually add that to the motion."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Thank you and I think if you look at the agenda and all of the items on the agenda the majority of it is drainage. Drainage problems in LaPlace Park, in Cambridge, in Reserve and in Garyville that needs to be the focus you know the item on the agenda definitely for the sonar but Brian I would make that your priority because at the end of the day all of, not that the other things aren't important that we are doing but what residents care most about is that their homes don't flood, that garbage is going to get picked up, that they can flush their toilets all of the other things come secondary to that. You know if you don't have a house to live in because it is flooded because we didn't maintain something that is a bigger problem than anything so I am asking you to please make that a priority once we get this sonar information and even if we can do a piece on that ditch on Gardenia because I know from just being around it for so long it is almost not even a ditch anymore it is like a swell it isn't even a ditch anymore so that needs to be a priority it really needs to be a focus the one thing that we could actually do for our residents that provides an impact that could possibly save their property and that is a big deal. So again I am asking that you make it a priority obviously we are putting it in the form of a motion but all the motions in the world we have made them it is not going to do any good if you don't implement it okay."

Councilman Madere stated, "I am going to say this now so we don't have to go down the agenda because I have an item concerning Homewood and Hickory and it is all drainage too so it doesn't make any sense to not say what I have to say about those particular areas. They are very similar to what we are doing. Hickory is over a year we have been saying we were going to dig it out. I went there recently and we found out that the property behind the individual homes is privately owned. We knew who owned the property and we were supposed to contact these people to get permission to dig this out. How far have we gotten with that? Has anyone reached out to the homeowners that own that property behind these houses?"

Councilman Wright stated, "Mr. Madere I would prefer to deal with the motion and deal with the comments moving forward so that we can vote on it."

Councilman Madere stated, "We need to have these comments but we can vote."

Councilman Wright stated, "Well I would rather have comments first and then if we have questions after."

Councilman Madere stated, "We can vote because the comments are coming."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "When we have a motion on the floor and you get a second that is relative to drainage."

Jeff Perilloux, Legal Counsel, stated, "You can overrule the chair and continue discussion."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I will make a motion to overrule the chair to allow discussion as long as it stays on drainage which is what the motion was."

Councilman Wright asked, "So are we allowed to have questions when there is a motion on the table. We can have discussion but can we have questions?"

Jeff Perilloux stated, "If it remains to the topic yes unless someone calls for a question then all discussion stops."

MOTION: Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to overrule the chair and allow discussion to continue. The motion passed with 8 yeas and 1 abstaining (Wright).

Councilman Madere stated, "I understand Mrs. Millet made this motion and it is going to pass without a doubt but the main thing is that we need to take action immediately on these motions because just making the motions and voting on them looks good to the public but then a month or a year goes by and you haven't done anything that is what I am concerned about just like I said with Hickory Street it has been over a year we were supposed to go back there and dig that out. Okay the problem was private property, we found out who it belongs to and not one thing has been done to contact the individuals who own that property so that we could actually go out there and dig this thing out. The second problem I see is that we want this to happen immediately we don't have the resources. We don't have enough workers in public works to start doing these things. We need employees. That is why preventive maintenance is crucial we don't have enough individuals in this department to do preventative maintenance that is why we fall behind on so many things. We have LaPlace canals to dig, Homewood and Hickory Street we have all over the place to dig. Do we have enough manpower to actually get this thing done in a timely manner or do we have to get some more employees because this seems to me is going to be another motion another storm is going to pass and these people are going to be back here a year or 6 months from now doing the same thing. We need to stop spinning our wheels and get somebody actually doing these things. Now I am going to just say it again we have railroad plus clogged culverts plus ditches that are not dug plus preventative maintenance that is not happening that equals flood and to me that equals drainage department. Everything that we are talking about could be handled and done if you had a department that concentrated only on these things because we are going to be back here again in a few months talking about the same thing. You need employees. You need people actually out there doing it. I had a picture and it has been a month and it is still plugged, plugged. This is the biggest issue I would rather hit a pot hole than have water in my house. So this is the biggest problem in this parish and you don't have a department that addresses the biggest problem in the parish something is not right."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "Mr. Madere I appreciate everything that you are saying and we do talk about this every meeting but in every meeting that we have had we have never taken any action by this council we have just talked that is why I put a motion I want some action done and that is why I made that motion."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Just one final comment Mr. Nunes before we proceed to vote on the Haydel Canal can you get someone out there tomorrow to look at the end where all that trash builds up where nothing can flow through it it is all tree stumps and trash because if

we have the marsh buggy we can get back there now and see this and clean it out. Mr. Naquin can show you where it is."

Brian Nunes stated, "I made a note when he mentioned that to take a ride back there and check it out."

Councilman Wilson stated, "Since we are on drainage I am going to bring mine up. Mr. Coburn I brought you to Mr. Rome and Mr. Cashio's house to look at their drainage, I have also prior to that brought Mr. Kendrick there and it has been quite a while now and nothing has happened. It needs to happen especially after this big rain that we just had and I have the same problems everybody else has. The railroad needs to take responsibility Mr. Perrilloux I don't know if the federal government is subsidizing the railroads anymore if they are not I think that we can sue them because they need to take care of their responsibilities. You rode in my district to see the things that I had problems with and the problems are still there. Everybody has a pump in their district but me and I need it bad because that lake the canal in front of my house is the lake level and when that water is up in fact if you go to the sewer district right there the water is above the culverts and eating the driveway up it has lost at least a foot of driveway this past week but I need some help. We need a drainage system and something that works. Fifty years ago the people out here were using cane knives, shovels and rakes and side blades and they got more work done than we are getting done now and with twice the amount of people those people knew how to work back then they are not working and I have a lot more to say about this GPS system but I am not going to bring that up but we need to watch the people on this equipment a whole lot closer because if they are not doing what they are supposed to be doing we are never going to finish drainage and I am going to tell you something else all of you people here these districts are made up by population well it doesn't take that many streets for you to get your population I have all the way from St. James Parish line to E. 12th Street in Reserve. I have over 100 miles of streets and ditches and each one of the streets have two ditches one on each side but there is not 1/10 or 1/20 that has been maintained and you can dig the ditch to the railroad track all you want but if you don't continue to the next railroad track and from the next railroad track to Airline Highway you have done nothing at all and I need some help. They need to go back in here these are parish ditches the parish should be maintaining them I don't care about the property especially when you get in between these railroad tracks where there is nothing there but fields they need to get it done and get the water moving. I represent the people in that district and they are up to here with it because they have been having to live with that for many years and nothing is moving not in my district anyway."

Councilman Gauff stated, "Okay as a suggestion, it seems like we all have drainage issues I represent a lot of the area that has drainage issues and problems that have been for many years. We have set aside money and funding for a lot of things maybe we can contract some of our residents they own machines and equipment maybe as a suggestion one week out of the month or set up some program where we can contract with some of our residents to go and dig some of these ditches and get some help. Like you said you have 100 miles of ditches and there are another 100 in district I East and West Bank maybe we need more help in digging ditches. It is just a suggestion maybe we can set up something to contract some of our locals, some of the guys that have back hoes or

bobcats and trucks under your supervision and guidance like Mr. Wilson says we do one side of the track and we don't get the other one done well maybe this is an opportunity. Get a plan that maybe we can use some funds get with Mr. Vince Lucia and see where the funds can come from and sit down with administration and come up with a plan and we put some of our trucks and back hoes whoever has this equipment and maybe we can get some things done, map it out a little at a time and we would get more done use our money that way instead of some of these other projects that we have been working on or think that these projects will help us out maybe just getting out there and digging ditches just a suggestion."

Councilman Madere stated, "What Mr. Gauff says sounds really good but the thing is instead of getting residents involved and using their equipment or truck just create a drainage department and use our equipment and our trucks and Mr. Brian would still be supervising it and hire more people. We cannot rely on the residents to do it. We need to get a department and hire more people and we need it all the time not just once a month it is a 24/7 problem so we need a department that is working on the problem 24/7. So we need to get a drainage department and hire 20 people."

Councilman Wilson stated, "I agree with Mr. Gauff on this one you start hiring people you have a lot of money coming with it with insurance and all the other benefits. I don't have a problem with contracting out local businesses to do some of this sounds like a good idea if we have the funds to do it but I also want to make one more comments about pumps there is a pump in Reserve in my district but it does not drain one house it is for the industrial area not even the VA Home drains into that system."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "Brian I know we have talked about this over and over I mean we have equipment and guys who can do this do you have a crew that cleans out ditches and all of that on a preventative maintenance type of basis? Do you have that?"

Brian Nunes stated, "Absolutely we do we do it on a daily basis."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "Where are you digging this week?"

Brian Nunes stated, "Right now we are in Garyville we used to do every time we got a phone call we would go to say E. 12th then we would go back to Garyville then to LaPlace but we weren't making progress we were just putting Band-Aid's here and there so we wanted a comprehensive plan we started in Mt. Airy and we are working our way to the East. We are in Garyville right now but there are a lot of ditches. I have two machines that are dedicated to it every day unless I have something else come up."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Well it is behind but if you are on that type of preventative maintenance schedule and just continuously we won't have all of these issues but it has to be dedicated to just doing that now of course if you have an issue we know like one time I think at Peavine we had to do somethings and a house that is an unexpected circumstance but just generally and over all we need some preventative maintenance because a lot of these issues and I know a lot of it is before your time and my time but there wasn't preventative maintenance

and these problems have just become exasperated over time but we just need to start doing that and not letting this pile up on us but be conscious about it and okay this is where we are going to be and then we know we can look at some type of map or anything just like we have a road list and all these priority list we know okay they are going to get here at this time or here at this time."

Brian Nunes stated, "It would all be estimates because they do get pulled."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Well of course but at least we have a road map and can see the brick road and know that it is going to get done on a continuous basis."

Brian Nunes stated, "I can pull up a map and show you what we have done and where we are right now and maybe update it once a week or so but right now the overtone is kind of like we don't do any maintenance and I don't want that getting out because we do that every day."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "And maybe not on a weekly basis so that it is not something that you are doing too often but even every two weeks or a monthly basis to let us know what is going on as far as maintenance especially I know Mr. Wilson and Mr. Gauff come up with a lot more issues in Garyville where you have ditches all over the place just keep us updated and let us know so that we don't think that there isn't any preventative maintenance going on."

Councilman Gauff stated, "Call for the question."

MOTION: Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to direct administration to make it a priority and by all means necessary have all of the canals and ditches cleaned and dug throughout the parish. The motion passed unanimously.

Marvin Perrilloux - Status of Haydel Canal Crossing

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "I am satisfied right now but I want to leave it on the agenda since Mr. Shread left. Brian I want to set up a meeting with you and Mr. Shread and let's see if we can make a determination on this Haydel crossing if we can do portions of it until we can go to the rezoning because I know that is going to take some time so I am going to leave it on there until I can set up that meeting."

Lennix Madere - Anticipated start date of Homer Joseph Center repairs

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay I see the administrative response was not at this time and I have a problem with not at this time. The problem I have is that this administration and many departments come to this microphone and ask for change order after change order in fact tonight we were asked to approve a bill that was going to cost about \$89,000.00 extra money. This Homer Joseph Center money has been dedicated \$10,000.00 to repair the walls. We had a motion and an ordinance that were both passed unanimously by this council and according to the charter the administration is required to carry out the motion or ordinance that this building any money that is funded for it there should be a start day and not just not at this time. When this

council passes an ordinance or motion it is not up to administration to say not at this time. The council has spoken unanimously on this item through motion and ordinance and I did check with legal they are bound to carry out the ordinance to have a start date and immediately start work on this building because I will not vote for anything else that involves money, a change order or anything else asking me for my vote for \$89,000.00 when you can't take \$10,000.00 and fix something that is minor and is going to benefit the residents of the parish plus it is a public building and we are being asked to vote to have a tax passed for maintenance on buildings. This is a parish owned building. This is a building that these tax dollars can be spent on so there is no other explanation other than the fact that this administration is trying to play hard ball with a small, small ball. We need to go ahead and get this done. We are talking about \$10,000.00 and I will not vote for another dollar for anything else until this administration carries out the wishes of this council."

Councilman Wright stated, "Thank you Mr. Madere and I think also to you failed to mention that we also did budget money in the 2015 budget for this project. This council has on multiple occasions done its due diligence I would request the administration do theirs also."

Lennix Madere - Explanation and anticipated start date of drainage improvements in District III

Brian Nunes stated, "The Reserve Project Phase III is currently in the design phase, with an anticipated bid by the end of the year. Phase III includes culvert installation on East 22nd, East 24th, Melius, East 26th, and East 27th Streets."

Councilman Madere stated, "The question I have is you say installation of culverts does that mean we are going to be removing all of the wrong size and replacing them with the right size?"

Brian Nunes stated, "The plan is and I have the design engineer here as well but I can answer that similar to what we did around W. 1st and that area everything from about the cross street to the railroad we are going to pull it all out it is off sized and not aligned we are just going to put in a properly designed system that is laid at the correct grade to drain that area."

Councilman Madere stated, "That is a very good answer. I like that. I just wanted to know because it wouldn't make sense to pull out certain ones and not make sure all of them are the proper alignment and size because we would be creating a bottle neck so thank you."

Councilman Gauff asked, "Both sides of the street?"

Brian Nunes stated, "Yes there are two ditches right now and we are going to align it on both sides. Let me clarify that I think on E. 27th we might have an issue with the power poles on one side so we may have to do some cross drains into the other side but it is going to effectively drain both sides but we may have some issues with power poles. We just got the survey today and we don't even know if they are completely in the way it was just something I noticed on the ride through so I wanted to mention it and make sure I clarify it right now."

Lennix Madere - Homewood/Hickory Drainage/Pump problems

Councilman Madere stated, "Just one thing at the last meeting you said that I mentioned that the pumps weren't working and you told me that it was a hydraulic line or something on that pump. I went back over there to that pump in fact I visit it every time it rains just to make sure they are running and the other day I went and we had a hard rain and neither one of the pumps were on and the reservoir was high maybe we need to lower one of the levels a little bit because the water was pretty high in the reservoir but neither one of the pumps were on and the pump that you were working on the other day I noticed it was running but it wasn't at full capacity or pumping as much as the other pump so is there some type of issue with that other pump? It was running like a motor that was missing."

Brian Nunes stated, "We know both of them run and we think that there may be something but we are paying someone to take apart the hydraulic right now and look at it but we don't want to do it during a rain event or any situation right now so we kind of want to wait until we catch up and make sure that we have a few clear days before we can actually get this properly looked at."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right because I did notice that the pump isn't putting out as much as the other one. I also noticed that when we closed off the front end of Homewood from the Airline and put a blockade that was for no cars to go back in there and we also blocked off another section in Homewood. My concern is if I am returning home from work and I can't even get down my street what is the solution for that? We just blocked it off. I understand the water is high but if I am coming from work and my street is barricaded off what am I to do and Homewood you have kids getting off of the bus and boats are not funny and I don't think anyone that lives in Homewood would find it funny. If you think it is funny then move to Homewood and by yourself a boat because it isn't funny for the people that live back there. We are in the people business so we need to solve that problem, some kind of way and I don't think issuing out boats is the solution. So I need an answer what are we going to do when someone can't get down their street?"

Brian Nunes stated, "We put them out as a precaution. It is more of a warning to let people know there is high water in the area. We need to let them know what is going on down the street what they do with that information I don't know."

Councilman Madere stated, "Well I will tell you one thing I am not a lawyer but I know one thing once a problem has been identified the parish has a reasonable amount of time to come up with a solution and if we don't then this parish is responsible I do know that. When you are aware of a problem and you don't solve it then you become liable."

Councilman Gauff stated, "I was just going to comment that the pumps I passed out there and it sounds like the water had gotten so low that one of the pumps was caveating so it didn't cut off in a timely fashion and that was what I saw and the pump should have cut off I don't know if the float was stuck or something but both pumps it pumped everything down one pump because it is set lower kept a discharge pressure and the other one caveated because it was empty and starving for water so that

is something to look at I don't think it was a hydraulic issue I think the pump had cavedated."

Brian Nunes stated, *"I can look sometimes the floats get stuck I can't comment on it right now but I can look."*

Councilman Gauff stated, *"I am just saying it had pumped it down so that is why one of the pumps wasn't putting out as much and I don't know if I was there around the same time or not but it had pumped all the water out the level was low, one of the pumps was still pumping and had good discharge pressure but the other one was just sounding like it was starving for water and that was because the level was low."*

Councilman Madere stated, *"Mr. Nunes I want to make sure that you understand myself and I can probably speak for this council we are not jumping on you, you have a hard job and the biggest problem in this parish which is water and the comments that I make or the comments that the citizens are making is through frustration and it is not an indication that we think the workers are not working. You mentioned just now that you have two back hoes working in Garyville this is a big parish but by the time those two dig out all of the parish it will be 2017. We need more workers. We need more equipment. The job is big. We have one truck to blow out culverts. If I had a dollar for every culvert that we had in the parish I would be rich. You cannot have one truck. You cannot have two back hoes and think you are going to maintain this parish or solve this drainage problem. If you are going to solve this problem you have to invest money and time into it and two is not going to get it and that is not your fault. It is up to us to find money, equipment and manpower that is what is going to get it done. With two machines you may get to LaPlace by 2017."*

Lennix Madere - Update on abandoned properties in District III - E. 23rd and E. 30th

Councilman Madere asked that this item be removed.

Jaclyn Hotard - LaPlace Park - sewer and drainage

Councilwoman Hotard stated, *"We touched on the drainage issues I was in contact with Reed Alexander we have sewerage backflow yesterday around 5-6 on Falcon Street so I just wanted to address that with the administration. Blake that is your department I did make contact with Reed I asked the resident when it happens again to call 911 and if they don't feel comfortable calling 911 then 6338 so that we can have it logged. I am not sure what is going on. I sent Reed the pictures."*

Blake Fogleman stated, *"He did brief me on that again this is typically something that he knows. I am glad you did bring it up any after hour calls we address immediately. We ask that you use the 911 system as Ms. Hotard said so that we can get those calls. Actually once it comes through it goes directly to Reed and on the water side it goes directly to Warren so we address those. He didn't specify anything from what he said it looked like grainy pictures so I don't know if someone had sent them to you or you got them on site. I know Mr. Perrilloux had spoken to him and it may have been around the same time in similar areas but I know there were some issues where he personally went out there and viewed when he got the call and some of the stuff that he was seeing*

was not actually what was happening at that moment but I do agree that we need to get this through the system the proper way so that we can address them in a timely manner."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Right because Reed and I had a similar conversation because the pictures were sent to me that is why I let the resident know hey if you send them to me and I check it later I can't help with the problem."

Blake Fogleman stated, "We specifically have guys on standby to help people in the afternoons and at night."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "What about if you have any knowledge of that in front of Winn-Dixie this weekend I also got a call about some sewerage issues where Chili's is."

Blake Fogleman stated, "If you have been around during a rain that is a common problem in that area."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "Is there anything that we can do for that?"

Blake Fogleman stated, "You can solve some problems and create more. I think that we are looking and investigating other options but the immediate fix would put more hardship on the residents but that is an issue that we need to work on. We are trying to target that area."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Just quickly let me touch on the last item you said about Chili's because I have been talking about that for a few years now because when that sewerage overflows there it goes directly down Airline and goes into the Haydel Canal and smells up the whole neighborhood. Once before I had them to go back there and put some deodorizer to keep the odor down because they had kids playing in there. Yes I did talk to Reed and he went back there to see if they had any sewerage issues and I think it was because the wind was bad and we had a lot of rain but he did go back there and I want to thank him for doing that. Did you say we had some 911 calls on that issue?"

Blake Fogleman stated, "No sir I am just saying that would be the proper channel to receive those calls. In any storm event it does go through the EOC with Mr. Boucvalt on a normal day after 3:30 PM everything would be rolled to 911 and we do have standby crews including both of our managers that are on call for those emergencies."

OLD BUSINESS:

Ranney Wilson/Lennix Madere - Drainage and Drainage equipment

Councilman Wilson stated, "I just want to put this on record on W. 8th Street and Mermillion Loop on the South side of Mermillion Loop there is a big ditch that runs parallel to the school property and the school board office. I would like to see about getting something on that property get with the owners or the school board or whoever and make sure that we get this thing into that system on W. 10th Street when they are there. There is not much time and time passes quickly but I just want to make it known so that Mr. Nunes can get started on that project."

NEW BUSINESS:

Natalie Robottom - Resolution - R15-22 - A Resolution approving the contract renewal of Guidry Associates, LLC as the Legislative Liaison for the River Region Caucus under a two-year agreement

Natalie Robottom stated, "This item was approved at the River Region Caucus meeting held on April 8th by all members of the caucus. Administration requests authorization to continue the parish's participation in this agreement for consulting services. The Parish's cost share is \$1800.00 quarterly."

MOTION: Councilman Gauff moved and Councilman Smith seconded the motion to approve Resolution R15-22. A Resolution approving the contract renewal of Guidry Associates, LLC as the Legislative Liaison for the River Region Caucus under a two-year agreement. **WHEREAS**, on April 8, 2015, the members of the River Region Caucus voted, subject to Resolutions adopted by the Parish Councils of Ascension, St. Charles, St. James and St. John the Baptist, to approve a two-year contract renewal with Guidry Associates, LLC as the Legislative Liaison; and, **WHEREAS**, the Members of St. John the Baptist Council agree that the services received from a Legislative Liaison have benefited the Parish. **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the St. John the Baptist Parish Council do hereby approve the contract renewal with Guidry Associates, LLC as the Legislative Liaison for the River Region Caucus under a two-year agreement. The motion passed with 7 yeas and 2 absent (Millet & Madere).

There was no executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Legal Options regarding litigation against the Parish President for Charter violation and the hiring of special legal counsel

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

Larry Snyder - Hurricane Preparation plans

Ranney Wilson - Vincent Simon - Water bill issues

Larry Snyder - Building at Cambridge and Airline Hwy. graffiti removal

Water bill issues - 133 Beechgrove, Reserve, LA

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

Lennix Madere - Water bills - amoeba update

Water District #1 System issues/State DHH order

Any and all pending legal matters

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

15-14 An ordinance to add the nomenclature "Willi-Cecile Hall" to the existing South Elm Street in LaPlace, LA. (L. Gauff)

15-15 An ordinance granting approval of a re-subdivision of Lot 30, St. Martin Subdivision into lots herein designated as Lots 30A & 30B, St. Martin Subdivision, situated on land formerly batture in front of Section 20, T-11-S, R-7-E, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (PZS-15-1111) (N. Robottom)

PARISH PRESIDENT REPORT

Natalie Robottom stated, "Good evening - I am extremely pleased to announce that the EuroChem Group announced that they closed on the Goldmine property on the West Bank to build a fertilizer plant. This project involves an estimated \$1.5 billion investment, with approximately 200 direct jobs and over 1,000 indirect jobs. While a final investment decision remains subject to the EuroChem board, the purchase agreement for the property has been finalized and allows officials to move forward with the planning and the pre-construction phase of the project. Congratulations to the cities of Reserve, Garyville and Wallace for placing in the state competition for the 2015 Cleanest City Contest (CCC). This was the parish's first time participating in the contest, which raises public awareness about the need to have a clean and litter free community. Reserve placed second in District G, populations of 9500-14,499, Garyville placed fourth in District E, populations of 2,500 to 4,499, and Wallace placed third in District B, populations of 500 to 999. I want to applaud members of Administration, Economic Development, Public Works, and residents for their involvement in clean-up efforts. I'm extremely proud of our Cleanest City titles and applaud St. John for working toward a cleaner place to live and raise families. The Louisiana State Fireman's Association Competitive Drills were held this past Saturday at the Luling Fire Training Grounds and the St. John Office of Fire Services brought home first place for the second year in a row - beating competitors' times by over 10 minutes. The drills consisted of 6 different evaluations that demonstrated real life tasks that firefighters encounter on a fire scene. Congratulations to Chief Cain Dufrene and Firefighters Michael Phillipott, Travis Etie, Michael Moscona and William Parker for this tremendous honor and upholding the winning tradition. Thank you to the few residents and Council members who attended the Water Infrastructure Public meeting and provided input regarding the future of the LaPlace and Reserve Water Systems. Please continue to monitor our website for updates. Congratulations to owner Teresa Boudreaux and the Salon Experience staff for their recent ribbon cutting and grand opening. Salon Experience is the only Aveda salon in St. John Parish and offers a variety of services including haircuts, coloring, specialty makeup, airbrush makeup, and waxing services. They are located at 543 Belle Terre Blvd in LaPlace and can be contacted at 985-359-8080. The River Region Chamber of Commerce held a grand opening and ribbon cutting recently for their new office, located at 320 Belle Terre Blvd. The new spacious facility includes a business resource center, multi-media training room, conference room and meeting rooms. Beasmaw Café will be holding a Grand Opening open for the public on Saturday, May 9, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with a ribbon cutting to take place at 3:00 p.m. Free jambalaya and refreshments will be given out in addition to special deals on menu items Beasmaw Café is located

at 1400 W Airline Hwy in the Riverlands Shopping Center. Team St. John is gearing up for this year's Relay for Life event to be held on next Saturday, May 2 at East St. John's Joe Keller Stadium from 2 pm to midnight. We want to encourage residents and our employees to participate and help raise money for the American Cancer Society. If you are interested in joining Team St. John, please visit the CAO or Communications office this week. The Spring Clean Sweep and Park Dedication for Thomas F. Daley postponed to Saturday, May 9. To register your organization for this event, please contact Dana Milioto at 985-652-9569 or visit our website. If you have already registered, you do not need to register again. St. John Parish is again partnering with the 40th Judicial District Children & Youth Services Planning Board & Prevention Committee to host its annual Free Fishing Camp. The event is Saturday, May 16 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Bonnet Carre Spillway. Youth ages 8-15 are invited to attend. To register, volunteer or donate, please contact Bernell Charles at 504-570-4885. On May 2, voters will be asked to renew an important existing millage that provides funding for maintenance of the Percy Hebert Building, the Parish Courthouse in Edgard, and the jail. This is NOT a new tax or a tax increase - it is simply a renewal of an existing millage. This millage has been in place for almost 20 years and generates funding for operating and maintaining parish buildings. Please vote for this critical millage so that we continue to serve the people of St. John. I would like to close by wishing a Happy Mother's Day to all mothers and hope you have a wonderful weekend."

ADJOURNMENT:

At 9:20 PM, Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

/s/Michael Wright
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
Council Secretary