

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH
TUESDAY, MAY 10TH, 2016
CHAIRMAN MARVIN PERRILLOUX
VICE-CHAIR MICHAEL WRIGHT

The Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session in the Rudolph Sorapuru Chambers, Edgard, Louisiana on Tuesday, May 10th, 2016 at 6:30 PM.

CALL TO ORDER:

PRESENT AT ROLL CALL: Larry Sorapuru, Jr., Councilman-at-Large, Div. A, Kurt Becnel, Councilman District I, Julia Remondet, Councilwoman District II, Lennix Madere, Councilman District III, Marvin Perrilloux, Councilman District IV, Michael Wright, Councilman District V, Larry Snyder, Councilman District VI, Buddy Boe, Councilman District VII

ABSENT: Jaclyn Hotard

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

Legal Counsel Jeff Perrilloux and Geoffrey Michel were present.

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

There was no public comment at this time.

INTRODUCTION OF BUSINESSES:

Natalie Robottom/Buddy Boe - Proclamation - Parish President/Councilman for the day - Carter Chauvin

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

Michael Wright/John Walther - Presentation - CCA - Coastal Conservation Association

Councilman Wright stated, *"Thank you Mr. Chairman and also Ms. Robottom to on this item. We actually had a meeting earlier today with representatives from CCA and the Wild Life and Fisheries on working to develop a partnership with St. John the Parish and I'll just turn it over to you guys and let you guys take the floor."*

John Walther, Volunteer Leader with the Coastal Conservation Association of Louisiana. Also present with Mr. Walther; Craig Gautreaux, Ashley Ferguson with the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries; Alan DuPont with River Parishes CCA Chapter located right here in St. John, St. James and St. Charles Parish. Brochures were handed out explaining what the organization is, who they are, what they are, what they do and some of the programs involved. CCA of Louisiana is a non-profit organization dedicated to conserving the marine resources, not only in Louisiana but in America. There are state chapters on all three coast and in inland chapter. He also explained the Habitat Program about a project that's planned in the waters of Lake Pontchartrain off the shores of St. John Parish in which they're hoping will enhance in improvements made at the Frenier Recreational area and boat launch. CCA of Louisiana has started a partnership with industry, government and some

of their volunteers about 12 years.

Natalie Robottom - Proclamation - May as Mental Health Awareness Month

Natalie Robottom read the proclamation for May as Mental Health Awareness Month and was presented to Mr. McGee.

Natalie Robottom - Proclamation - May as Senior Citizen Month

Natalie Robottom read the proclamation for May as Senior Citizen Month and was presented to Ms. Parquet.

CONSENT AGENDA:

ITEMS: Approval of Minutes - April 26th, 2016, Regular Meeting; Councilman Boe - Appointment of Melynie Wright to the Library Board of Control to replace Stacey Waller who resigned her appointment.

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Boe seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda items: Approval of Minutes - April 12th, 2016, Regular Meeting; Councilman Boe - Appointment of Melynie Wright to the Library Board of Control to replace Stacey Waller who resigned her appointment. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:

16-04 (Tabled 2-10-16) An ordinance to propose amending the St. John the Baptist Home Rule Charter by submitting the proposal to the qualified electors of the Parish of St. John the Baptist and to place said proposal on the ballot of the next available election in the spring of 2016. By amending ART. V by replacing Sections B,D, and E with: Section B - Submission of Budgets, Section D - Action on Budgets and Section E - Adoption of Budgets. (B. Boe)

The above item will be left on the table.

16-16 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the rezoning of a portion of the Roy Englade Lot, located in Section 90, T-11-S, R-7-E, Reserve, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana, from the Commercial One(C-1)to the Residential One(R-1) zoning district. (PZR-16-1047) (N. Robottom)

Alexandra Carter stated, "This request to rezone property to R-1 aims to facilitate replacement of a single-family dwelling lost to a fire in an area currently zoned C-1 and located adjacent to a heavy industrial land use and district. Rezoning the subject property would condone land use conflicts between residential and industrial uses because there is no I-1 buffer as required per Ord. No. 88-68. At the Planning Commission Meeting, no one spoke against this request and the Commission approved the rezoning with a 7-1 vote. To uphold the intent of the Code of Ordinances and avoid future land use conflicts, Administration recommends denial."

Councilman Madere stated, "Wait a minute, let me ask you something. When you said a motion, you recommend denied."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "You said denied."

Alexandra Carter stated, "So you all have an option of motioning to approve or deny. Administration recommends deny."

Councilman Madere stated, "That's a motion. Right I'm going to make sure we got this straight. Ok because I make a motion to approve that and not to deny it."

Councilman Boe stated, "Alex, so a family lived in a home, it burned down, are they trying to rebuild their home?"

Alexandra Carter stated, "They are."

Councilman Boe asked, "Which is why they're trying to rezone?"

Alexandra Carter stated, "Right."

Councilman Boe stated, "And if we don't allow this, then the family whose home burned down, can't rebuild their home?"

Alexandra Carter stated, "Well we advised him when he came in originally that he could, not conforming renovations allow you to build back exactly as the structure was previously built. So he had multiple options, we advised him of those, we also advised him that because he was located to an industrial district an I-3 District, that rezoning would constitute a spot zone, it would also be inviting new conflicts between the residential and the industrial and the interest of a polling code avoiding future land conflicts, we advised him against not doing that. Another part of this was that he couldn't locate the house further south or further away from the road and had some residential property R-1 in the rear of the site. So there were other options, this was what he chose to request, the ordinance reflects his request so it's an ordinance to approve, but Planning and Zoning does a technical analysis of it and that's what this is. We all offering you a technical analysis, what happened at the Planning Commission Meeting in terms of public input and then you all have the information to make an in forum decision."

Councilman Boe stated, "Thank you."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Alex it was denied, it's denied because of the letter of the law?"

Alexandra Carter stated, "Right, Planning and Zoning doesn't have the authority to tell someone no. So we have to take an application that don't meet the code. When we take an application that don't meet the code, it's our responsibility to evaluate them technically, bring them to the Planning Commission, invite public comment and then bring them to the council. So you all know the type of recommendation, in terms of how the request stand up against the code, but also how the community feel about it. So on this occasion and then at the Planning Commission, the community was invited to say; yes or no we're in opposition or not. With this case the Planning Commission said 7-1 they had approved it."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Right, right, right! So our Planning Commission approved, is there any other structure on this property?"

Alexandra Carter stated, "Not that I'm aware of."

Councilman Snyder asked, "So they just want to re-zone it so he could build a house on it, the house that burned down? House that had problems with the fire?"

Alexandra Carter stated, "Right, the house did burn down a couple of years ago."

Councilman Snyder asked, "And they got to build it exactly like it was?"

Alexandra Carter stated, "That's the way the code work/reads for nonconforming structures."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Nonconforming structures?"

Alexandra Carter stated, "Right, but if look to Page 2 of the report, you can see that to the rear of the property, it's zoned residential, so there was an option to build the house to the rear without the rezoning, without the spots in it and then without us having to approve something that would potentially invite future land use conflict with having industrial use."

Councilman Snyder asked, "So if we approve this, it goes as R-1 and they can do anything they like with the property as far as rebuilding?"

Alexandra Carter stated, "Well they still have some, you know get a permit and you know but in terms of land use, yes."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Right ok, that's what I'm concerned about. Well you know how I feel about this, you know you and I talked about these things and I like the direction that we're going in so, so I'm sure I'm voting for this I'm going to be 7-1 for this also."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes ok, that is in my district. That house probably been there, maybe over a hundred years and when he bought that property that house was there, in fact that house was there before DuPont came. So I think DuPont was infringed on the neighborhood when that happened years ago. Now that house was grandfathered in, I understand when it burned down it lost the grandfather status and this individual is just trying to rebuild his home and I'm not asking this Council or Planning and Zoning to, just like Scarlet Oaks I have a new subdivision in my parish, these laws ought to protect those type of areas that's just starting to develop, you know you're not going to put trailers in Scarlet Oaks, you're not going to put trailers in these big subdivision. This area is developed, there's no more room to develop there's only one lot to the front where someone can build a house at. Everything else is already blocked in, locked in and sealed. So this individual just want to build his home back to where it was, you know basically in the same location. So, I don't think that our laws should apply and stop this individual from building his home back you know that was caused by an accident. Ok Mother Nature, an act of nature it was lightening I think that hit the transformer that set the house on fire. So without that, his house would still be there, but all the rules and regulations that we're talking about, his house would have still been there. So I'm definitely going to support this individual and allowing us to allow him to build his home back you know where he lived at. So that's why my motion still stand to approve."

Councilman Boe stated, "Alex one last question. The map you provided us, the line going across the bottom third is simply the zoning line, that's not a lot line?"

Alexandra Carter stated, "Yes, right. It's for zoning."

Councilman Boe asked, "So R zoning which was put in, just drew a line of C-1 straight across their property?"

Alexandra Carter stated, "Well it's based on distance from the highway."

Councilman Boe stated, "Right, no I understand I understand. But you know, they own the house, they own the lot, they just drew it across, portion of his lot is on R-1 a portion is on C-1, I respect the law and I know your job is to tell us that we should deny, but I'm with Councilman Madere, I think we need to let the guy build his out back since we drew the arbitrary zoning line in 1980 something when we adopted zoning. Thank you."

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Becnel seconded the motion to accept to approve Ordinance 16-16. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

16-17 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the rezoning of Lot 1 (proposed Lots 1A and 1B as per Docket No. PZS-16-1138) of St. Pierre Subdivision, located in Section 44, T-12-S, R-19-E, Lucy, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana, from the Commercial One (C-1) to the Residential One (R-1) zoning district. (PZR-16-1048)
(N. Robottom)

Alexandra Carter stated, "This rezoning request was unanimously approved by the Planning Commission on April 18, 2016 and Administration recommends approval."

MOTION: Councilman Becnel moved and Councilman Sorapuru seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 16-17. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

16-18 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving a re-subdivision of Lot 1, St. Pierre Subdivision into Lots 1A and 1B, St. Pierre Subdivision, situated in Section 44, T-12-S, R-19-E, Lucy, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (PZS-16-1138) (N. Robottom)

Alexandra Carter stated, "This re-subdivision request aims to split one lot into two new lots of record to facilitate reconstruction of a single family dwelling on a lot that also contains a mobile home. If the re-subdivision is approved, both structures will be on separate sub-standard lots of record. Although this request demonstrated to the required depth would increase density in the area, fail to comply with the intent of nonconforming regulations, and increase existing deficiencies in lot depth and front yard setbacks, the Planning Commission approved the request with the vote of 7-1. As an alternative to re-subdivision, Administration recommends removal of the existing nonconforming trailer and reconstruction of the single-family dwelling without undermining the intent of the Code."

Councilman Becnel asked, "Ms. Carter would you please explain to me when you said removal, are you saying that that trailer that's there right now, would have to be moved?"

Alexandra Carter stated, "Ultimately when they came into the office, the request was to demolish an existing home and rebuild it. When looking at the lot there were two structures on one lot of record. The code only allows one structure per lot, so technically when the single family home is demolished the lot becomes conforming, because you have one home per the one lot. So the answer was either remove the mobile home given that it's movable or just

demolish the house and let it be demolished and let the lot become into conformance with the code and the area requirements of the code. We understand that they want to keep both structures and so we facilitated the request, our recommendation is a technical recommendation, you know I think that needs to be emphasized, it's technical and so when you look at the code and what they're proposing, it doesn't fall in line with the code, it increases deficiencies in two lots of record instead of one and so in terms of increasing conformant, we would rather see one structure on an existing lot of record and that would meet either way. Either moving the mobile home or allowing the house to be demolished and then have that mobile home remain."

Councilman Becnel stated, "The problem what's confusing me, the mobile home, are you aware someone is living in there right now?"

Alexandra Carter stated, "Right and my understanding...this is a technical and I don't mean to interrupt, but it's a technical recommendation and the problem is you know a lot of people wanted to buy their lot and create two lots where one exist. So we don't have the authority to approve that, that's why it's here today. So you know just be aware that, it doesn't need the code and other property owners are not allowed this by right when they want to split their property and have a second primary dwelling on the same property currently. And that's where the concern is, that's why we're recommending the house or mobile home be moved or the house be allowed to be demolished and the remaining structure become compliance with the code."

Councilman Becnel stated, "What I'm still asking you though is: if this get approved, I know they're going to tear down the house and going to build another one, we saw the picture of the house, I was at the Planning and Zoning meeting, so they're going to go ahead and build that house but so before they build it, you're saying that trailer really have to be..."

Alexandra Carter stated, "If the re-subdivision is approved tonight, they will not have to, they won't have to go through any other process for the house. In order to rebuild the house and this is why haven't demolished one, they came in they said they were going to demolish the house we said wait, wait because if you demolish it, you can't rebuild it, you won't be able to get a permit because you can only have one structure per lot. So we ushered them through this process, they're well aware of that and so at this point, if this is approved then they shouldn't have a problem getting a permit for one structure per lot because technically they'll have two lots, one lot per structure."

Councilman Becnel stated, "My biggest concern is just, they have to move the trailer and this lady that lives there, been there a long time and that wouldn't be fair to her. That's my biggest concern."

Alexandra Carter stated, "Personal matters aside. You know both of the lots created don't meet the code. So that's what, technically what the Planning Department is remarking on when we take it to the Planning Commission the public is invited to come in and opposition on support, we didn't see any opposition at the Planning Commission, right so and that's why it's here today, for you all to take in these additional comments and information."

Councilman Becnel stated, "Yeah because I had went around the neighborhood and asked if they had any problems in that trailer there, they said no cause that lady doesn't have nowhere to go if she have to move."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "They can build another home on that lot correct?"

Alexandra Carter stated, "Right but they're probably, they're going to have to come in for more than likely variance request because they're not going to be able to meet the setbacks. We've discussed this with them."

Councilman Madere stated, "I think just like the first one. It's a little confusing, when administration recommend and as you first said: Administration recommends to not approve and the whole intention was this council, my district was to approve. So when you make that comment then you say recommend, then you ask for a motion, when we make that motion and get a second we actually saying we're not going allow this to happen. Where the..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "The motion is on the ordinance."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Is on the ordinance."

Councilman Madere stated, "Well I want to make sure we understand this, the fact I was at that meeting and they explained to them and I read and I understand your legal part of it, but once again we're trying to apply codes that were put in place when these structures had been there 40, 50 years or this lady been living in that trailer for 20, 30 years, we're not going to move families because of that ordinance in these type of areas. Now those ordinances were put in place in the 80's to keep subdivisions that was developing to keep this type of stuff from happening. Ok but if you pull up my district, District 3 and you pull up property lines, you have property lines clean cross someone garage or clean across another neighbor's house. So these laws can't possibly apply and fit in those type of areas, now I understand what the intent of the law is but it's also not the intent to move someone out of a home. Now this house is being in fact, they're going to improve the area because the existing house is falling apart, so they're going to demolish it and put a new home there without interrupting the individuals that's been living in the trailer and that's not my intent and I know it's not this council intent and I know the law have good intentions, it don't work in these certain areas, it's just don't work in these certain areas. So that's why I'm voting that we approve this and they allow these people to build that house and put it back in place, in other words we're talking about two cell phones like this and we move one and we putting it back in the same spot, been there for 30 years. So those cannot possibly affect that area, so I just want to make, I understand your point I understand the law, but sometimes the law has to have understanding to."

Councilman Boe stated, "Thank you Mr. Chairman. Alex I know you guys in the report recommended an alternative, but you don't specifically say you recommend denial. Is that the administration's recommendation is to deny this ordinance?"

Alexandra Carter stated, "Yes, yes. Just a point of clarification, just so everyone is on the same page, the ordinance will always reflect the applicant's request. We're evaluating that request so that we make a recommendation, but the ordinance will always reflect what the applicant sufficiently is asking you all to do. And in this case it's to approve a re-subdivision."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I think that you've done your due diligence in off and off of other methods of conforming and my understanding is this is never

conformed to the, what is that the 6500 square feet or something like that per lot, is never conformed to that and you've also offered them some alternatives right? Get them to go the Board of Adjusters and get this thing, get the thing variance for them and I think that's all we can do, you know I think that's all we can do. I sympathize with what's going on and I don't think you're just saying you just can't do it but you have to do what the law says and you can stretch that so far and be in compliance. So I am of support of this also you guys, I don't see no problem with this."

Councilman Madere stated, "I have a question for you, okay. I was at that Planning and Zoning Meeting, you were there, the vote that they approved 7-1 and that was to allow them to tear that house down and rebuild?"

Alexandra Carter stated, "Yes, but just to clarify, the Planning Commission is like Administration they're recommending body."

Councilman Madere stated, "I know I know but the final vote comes here."

Alexandra Carter stated, "Exactly."

Councilman Madere stated, "Ok so if we approve, they tear down and build?"

Alexandra Carter stated, "With their permits. Right!"

Councilman Madere stated, "With their permits. That's why I want to make sure we got that straight. Ok, when we approve it, they can tear that house down with permits they can rebuild exactly what they want to do?"

Alexandra Carter stated, "They may need variances for their setbacks but..."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Yes with the variance."

Councilman Madere stated, "We understand that and that's just a drop in the bucket to be honest with you, they going to get that variance. Okay I just wanted to make sure we understand what's happening here, ok because we definitely want that house built."

MOTION: Councilman Becnel moved and Councilman Sorapura seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 16-18. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent and Councilman Boe abstaining.

16-19 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving a re-subdivision of Lots 19 and 20, Square 9, Melius Subdivision, and Lot 32, Square C, Sunny Dale Subdivision into Lot 19A, Square 9, Melius Subdivision, situated in Sections 47, 48, 82, and 83, T-11-S, R-7-E, Reserve, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (PZS-16-1139) (N. Robottom)

Alexandra Carter stated, "This re-subdivision request aims to combine three lots of record into a single lot with the intent to construct a metal garage and carport. The propose lot has double-frontage, which is prohibited by Sec. 111-154(c) (4) of the Code. Although the request demonstrates no hardship, and Planning has determined that the request is inconsistent with the surrounding neighborhood character, the Planning Commission approved this request with a 7-1 vote. At the meeting of the Commission, no one spoke against this request. To maintain the intent of the Code of Ordinances, Administration recommends denial."

Councilman Madere stated, "Once again, this is another one of these incidents, there is another resident in that area that have double frontage that was mentioned at the meeting. Ok and you have to know the location, we sit here and just read the law and don't know the location we'll deny a lot of things. But there is one house that have double frontage and it have been approved, so basically we're just asking for the same thing. Once again, those areas are not going to improve, that is all the land all the houses are in place and so that's why I support this and we approve this you know and overriding it now."

Jeff Perilloux stated, "You're not overriding it now."

Councilman Madere stated, "We're not overriding or denying, we're just making a motion."

Jeff Perilloux stated, "Planning Commission."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right, Planning Commission."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Ms. Carter, can we well and Council Members and Jeff could probably help me, because we have a whole lot in that area that has been approved, allowed people to do exactly this. From the 25th Melius Subdivision 26th, they have did that. So we I guess have to get together with you, because that's your expertise to maybe put some type of amendment in that ordinance to reflect those areas where we can change that where we won't have this problem because someone just called me today on the exact same item and we're going to go through the exact same thing in about 2-3 weeks again. So I'm willing to meet with you and Councilman Madere whoever else, see if we could put an amendment in here to reflect some of those areas that a and I see legal is coming up so he's coming to tell me something maybe I can't do it."

Jeff Perilloux stated, "Actually I think you know the thing to remember and keep in mind is that, the Planning and Zoning Department is there to apply the code as it exists."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Correct"

Jeff Perilloux stated, "And they will continue to do that if they do their jobs properly. However, the Council has the ability to modify the code, amend the code and so on and so forth in a way that might accommodate some of things you all are looking to maybe do without necessarily challenging the integrity or changing the integrity of the code. However, I think you already mentioned, I think it's extremely important to work with the Planning Department to insure those changes that the council often may adopt those modifications, amendments and so on and so forth are done with the very best thought process in place. So by working with Planning and Zoning we can streamline perhaps some of these issues in a way that will be more productive to allow Planning and Zoning to do the job that obviously they have to do, but also in a way that would be helpful to the residents, particularly in the areas that are more rural in nature. So that's all I wanted to say."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Thank you Mr. Perilloux and I'm looking forward to it. So Ms. Carter if you want, clear your schedule in a week or so and send out the dates we can meet and try to amend that because these items are coming up in that area."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes this is the last comment. I think this would be

a good idea you said to meet her, because you know when you go to these meetings, especially in my area in District 3 and District 2 and District 1, it always seem as though Planning and Zoning is the bad guys, because we always have to follow the law and say denial and they always get a bad rep, but they're basically just following the law. So if we go back and amend some of these things, some of your answers will stop being just automatic NO, but with the amendment you'll be able to tell them YES and it wouldn't even get to here wouldn't even get to this point here."

Alexandra Carter stated, "Well just keep in mind when we do bring these request forward to you, we do look at them we do look at the neighborhood character although there is one lot that is subdivided with double frontage, the rest if you refer to Page 2 of the handout we have like this, the rest are subdivided with just like your normal you know house, house, house, the houses just haven't been developed yet. And just keeping in mind when you do permit a double frontage lot, what that invites is like an accessory structure that fronts on a street next to your house like a, you know and so you know I understand this is rural every case is a little bit different you know, so an amendment to the code that would permit these by right may invite some things that we may not intend, and that's where it in many ways this is the appropriate process because you are very familiar with the site you know exactly what you're approving or not and it's done with a thoughtful consideration to each case."

Councilman Madere stated, "Well Reserve is a very unique situation, okay we're not rural but rural sometimes is applied to us, but the area we're talking about it totally developed. Houses on both side the streets on each side the streets so there's no other way or places to develop you know the only way to do it to the railroad track where that location at. You see you have to sort of like know the location, so I understand the word rural you're talking about areas where they got a lot of open space and you don't want this type of thing to happen and you know you want house, house, house and not house, house and something else. But in this situation here, that's why we have to get together with you and tweak some of these ordinances that's going to reflect these areas because I understand it's to protect, but there's nothing to protect it's the house and another house and the railroad track and there's houses on each side, so there's no way else no one else to do that. You know not in that on that street, so I think we do need to get together and sort of look at these ordinances and try to tweak them a little bit you know especially for the not the rural area, District 3, 2 and 1."

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Becnel seconded the motion to overturn and recommendation of approval Ordinance 16-19. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

16-20 An ordinance amending Sub-Chapter A, Section 2:5 of the St. John the Baptist Parish Code of Ordinances to establish and define the St. John the Baptist Parish Precinct Boundaries, Merge and Consolidate Precincts, and establish Precinct Polling Places

MOTION: Councilman Boe moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to table Ordinance 16-20. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

16-21 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance granting final plat approval of a partition of a Parcel from Riverwood Subdivision into Lots 1-16, Summerlin Lake Subdivision-Phase 4 - Tuscan Drive, situated in Section 64, T-11-S, R-7-E, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (PZS-16-1143) (N. Robotom)

Alexandra Carter stated, "A certificate of acceptance was signed by Planning Commission and Utility Board Chairs on April 18 and 19, 2016, and the Parish Engineer has recommended final approval subject to acceptance by this Parish Administration. Planning and Zoning, Public Works and the Utility Department have each issued written approval of this project and Administration recommends approval."

MOTION: Councilwoman Remondet moved and Councilman Boe seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 16-21. The motion passed Councilwoman Hotard absent and Councilman Wright abstaining.

16-22 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance amending Ordinance 15-50 relative to the annual Operating budget of the St. John the Baptist Parish Recreation Fund for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2015 and ending December 31, 2015 (N. Robottom)

Ross Gonzales stated, "As indicated on the e-mail document furnished to the Council, Administration recommends approval of the Annual Operating Budgets for year ending 2015 as amended."

Councilman Boe stated, "Mr. Gonzales just to confirm, this is the cleanup ordinance right, we're adjusting the budget to begin the audit?"

Ross Gonzales stated, "Yes sir, we're basically bringing spending back down to the budget it amounts."

Councilman Boe asked, "And it's for last year?"

Ross Gonzales stated, "It's for 2015 final amendment."

Councilman Boe stated, "Thank you sir."

MOTION: Councilman Snyder moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 16-22. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

16-23 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance amending Ordinance 15-51 relative to the annual Operating budget of the St. John the Baptist Parish General Fund and Public Works Fund for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2015 and ending December 31, 2015 (N. Robottom)

Ross Gonzales stated, "As indicated on the e-mail document furnished to the Council, Administration recommends approval of the Annual Operating Budgets for year ending 2015 as amended."

Councilman Boe asked, "Mr. Gonzales again this is 2015 money already been spent just adjusting for actuals?"

Ross Gonzales stated, "Yes sir that's correct."

Councilman Boe stated, "Thank you sir."

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilwoman Remondet seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 16-23. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

16-24 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance amending Ordinance 15-52 relative to the annual Operating budget of the St. John the Baptist Parish Airport

Authority, Ambulance, Animal Shelter, ARC Maintenance, Communications District, Community Center, Criminal Court, DHHS, Economic Development, Fire Departments, Health Unit, Gustave/Ike CDBG, Hurricane Isaac, Isaac Recovery CDBG, Juvenile Detention, Public Safety, Sales Tax District, Senior Citizen, Street Lights, Mosquito, Solid Waste, Wastewater, Water System Fund, Parishwide Sewerage, 2002 General Obligation Bonds, 2009 General Obligation Bonds, 2015 General Obligation Bonds and 2015 Sales Tax Bonds for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2015 and ending December 31, 2015(N. Robottom)

Ross Gonzales stated, "As indicated on the e-mail document furnished to the Council, Administration recommends approval of the Annual Operating Budgets for year ending 2015 as amended."

Councilman Boe asked, "Mr. Gonzales one last time, this is the 2015 money already spent just adjusting for Westbank?"

Ross Gonzales stated, "Yes sir that's correct."

MOTION: Councilman Boe moved and Councilwoman Remondet seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 16-24. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Madere stated, "At this time I would ask that the council accept the recommendations of the finance committee meeting."

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Boe seconded the motion to accept the recommendations of the finance committee meeting. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

OLD BUSINESS:

Buddy Boe - Resolution - R16-19 - (Carry Over 4-12-16) A Resolution urging Congress to maintain the OCS Revenue Sharing Arrangements passed under the Gulf of Mexico Energy and Security Act of 2006

Councilman Boe stated, "Council members I appreciate you carrying this over for the last two meetings, my apologies for not being here. This came as a recommendation of our consultant Mr. Chris Guidry but also the observation of the administration and I know members of the council. I know in 2006 Congress passed the Gumaca Act which was basically giving Louisiana its fair share of oil revenues from federal waters of the Coast of Louisiana, it was spearheaded by then Senator Landreau and of course adopted and supported by the rest of our delegation. In recent years there have been attempts in D.C. to get rid of that and go back to the old formula where Louisiana basically got no money. And these funds which are disbursed based on formula, St. John gets a share, the state gets a share but more importantly all of it goes to Coastal Restoration Flood Protection. So this resolution basically states that we ask Congress to keep it as is, let us get our money that every other states gets so that we can rebuild our Coast, so I'd ask for your support. Thank you."

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Remondet seconded the motion to approve Resolution R16-19. A resolution urging Congress to maintain the OCS Revenue Sharing Arrangements passed under the Gulf of Mexico Energy and Security Act of 2006. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

NEW BUSINESS:

Buddy Boe - Resolution - R16-31 - A Resolution establishing a Flood Protection Committee of the Council focused on the designing, permitting, financing and construction of the Westshore Flood Protection System

Councilman Boe stated, "Thank you Mr. Chairman and I know this is a new committee that's being proposed for the council, so I wanted to just make a few comments and to inform the public of its intent, fellow council members and hopefully gain your support. So the original purpose of creating the committee is to have a singular focus that this group, a smaller group of the council as was discussed at our retreat could focus on building, financing and everything else that goes into building the Westshore Flood Protection System. But and at the recommendation of our District Attorney, a committee with fewer members doesn't have as large as a quorum requirement so that we meet more frequently if a lot of members aren't available in a public setting with properly advertised agendas, but if we have five members the committee quorum is three, as opposed to every member of the council quorum's five. We'll do the local work, we'll be the spear headers of what will take years of many, many steps to get this levee project to actually put dirt on the ground, so I wanted to over that process. You know in 1968 I think the study started, we finally got the Chief's Report 2 years ago following Hurricane Isaac, flooding the Eastbank and we're now in the draft language of the (WRDA) The Water Resources and Development Act of 2016 that's currently being considered by Congress. Two weeks ago we were very happy with administration and council's partnership in working to get the Environment and Public Works Committee of the Senate to approve it 19-1, it now goes to the House, if the House approves it, then they vote on the bill, if they like the bill and it agrees with each other, then it goes to the President. That's just saying our project is approved in name only, it doesn't give us a dollar. We then start working with the corps to start getting funding and at that point we at the local level working with our partners at the Pontchartrain Levee District, Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, the Corp of Engineers and their entire staff of our delegation have to start working at the local level to get the project ready, so that funding when it does become available we can put it straight to construction. So what does that mean at the local level? We've got to get permits for the project, we have to design the project, we have to do Geotechnical Analysis which can take a year and a half for a project of this magnitude, we have to mitigate any wetlands that are destroyed as a result of this project and then we have to get the right of way to build the project. And that we're going to have to use the authority by state statutes that the levy district has, to do a quick take of the right of ways, up and down where the levee will get built. But we have to do preliminary design, to know how big the levee has to be, does it have to be a football field wide including all the buffer zones and the discharge pipes for the pump stations. So once we get all that done then this committee has to work on all the financing, because it's not just a blank check from DC. We have a local obligation, now we share that with the state and the levee district but the parish is going to have to put some money in it and that's too constructed, when it comes to the day after it's built, which will take a while when then have to operate and maintain it and we as a council have to work on that budget, because the six pump stations that are proposed to drain the entire Eastbank when that levee is built, those on average cost about \$150,000.00 a year in fuel and each pump in a massive pump station is between seven hundred and a million dollars to replace. And so we have to start allocating those funds, setting up escrow accounts and we need to work with the administration to begin setting up those

budgets and laying out those funding streams because it won't just happen overnight. Initially I think this committee would work with the administration on an MOU with the Corp, that (MOU) Memorandum of Understanding would allow us to start spending money and any money that we spent counts as our local match. Right now we don't have an MOU, so if we spend any money it doesn't count towards the local match. That is a massive document that we have to draft with the Corp, they have review with their legal team we have to review with our legal team, the Levee District signs on with that, CPRA Board signs off with that, so multiple agencies have to approve it. We have to amend our cost share with the Pontchartrain Levee District and then we have to protect this project's position in the state master plan. If we lose that spot because they don't see and action on our level, then getting back into the state's master plan is another 5 year process, they update the plan every 5 years and they just finished updating it and we because this project hasn't been moving we have lost out on some funding opportunities and now it's been moving in DC but it's got to move at the local level. And we've got to move it, we've got to drive it, if we let the Corp drive it, it took 40 years for that study to get finished because the Corp drove it. We have to drive this if we want it to get build faster. This Resolution simply creates the committee, it doesn't name members it doesn't name a chair or vice-chair. That power rest in the chair of the council so, after we approve if we approve it tonight, then Butch - Councilman Perrilloux will name the chair and vice-chair and any members that wish to be a part of it and then the hard work begins, that includes getting The House Transportation Infrastructure Committee to approve it in a few weeks and then ultimately getting the President's signatures so we can start allocating some funding and approving some agreements. And we do have some funding that the administration and previous council set aside and bond issues that we can start allocating to some of these tasks that are required. So this levee project is a billion dollars and its multiple years and it's going to take a lot of work and it's not going to happen overnight. So this committee will allow a small group of us to focus on it and move this project forward so that the public can have the reassurance and the confidence that it's moving its happening and dirt will hit the ground at some point in the nearer future to encourage renovations, reinvestment you know we've flooded we got hit by a tornado, we need to make sure our public feels comfortable in vesting and reinvesting in our community and this is one major and important physiological part of that, knowing that they have flood protection. So I'd appreciate your support on this resolution and that's it Chairman thank you."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Haven't the Corps done most of that research already as far as the preliminary planning of it and the directions we'll being going in, the cost and things of that nature, is that exactly what you want this particular committee to focus on that part of it and from what have been done?"

Councilman Boe stated, "So the Corp said where it's going and there's been some preliminary design done in partnership with the Pontchartrain Levee District but the actual design, the actual right-of-away acquisition, mitigation none of that's been done and correct me if I'm wrong President Robottom, but the Corps main focus lately is to get through Congress because that's key for them. Our focus needs to be to get the tee ball put on the stand so that when Congress gives us money we can hit."

Councilman Snyder stated, "And I think we should be proactive on this I really think we should be proactive on this. Ms. Robottom had mentioned to us a few times but we need to come up with some kind of plans to finance our portion of

it. We are going to have to take some responsibility for keeping it up, up keep. Now, but I just don't want to duplicate work, I also think we should use more than 5 people on this committee because if we started dealing with finances and making those decisions, I think that with a quorum of 3 that would be 3 people calling the shots and I think there should be at least 4 people calling the shots so I'd like to see several people on that committee and have a quorum of 4 you know that's one thing I'd like to see. But I do believe that we should be proactive on it and I'd like to, you know when I first read this resolution I saw us as taking lead on all of this, I know what part we play with the Corps and all the work we did with that with them as far as getting it through the state, getting it through Congress and then getting input from all the people in the parish and I thought they had done most of the work on it, but I know we have to do some work also and find some money for this thing. But I just want you to clear it up with me, exactly what you meant by as far as looking into it as far as our contribution to this, to this levee or the total project. We're looking at a billion dollar project here you know, that you're saying that we need to plan, we need to acquire the land, do ecological studies and do this and do that. And that's kind of huge and I thought it was huge when I read it but I do know we have some important plans."

Councilman Boe stated, "I'll just respond, first I want to clarify that this committee would be the same as an Insurance or Finance Committee, just recommendations no vote of that committee would approve anything. It would all have to come to the council, so any of that work would have to come just like Insurance Committee, Solid Waste that sort of deal and the intention of this committee is simply to keep pushing the ball or the car down the road, that's it and to keep to not let the state go focus on other projects and the Corps focus on other projects, keep the Westshore Project at the top of their list by constantly being present and making sure we've ironed out the local details that we don't hit any speed bumps along the way."

Councilman Snyder stated, "And that's exactly what I expect us to do right there."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I'd just like to comment. I had an opportunity to speak with several of the council members on Mr. Boe's request and recommendation and we have been extremely busy doing a lot of things and we've come a long way. But I think this is where the rubber meets the road and this is our closest chance we've ever gotten to having that levee built. Hurricane protection is the most important thing to our residents, our business owners and our future of St. John and on our part because we have so much going on in the parish, it would be helpful to have a committee that's so focused is Hurricane Protection. Just this several of you met I think just last week on the golf cart ordinance a smaller group, you're not going to make the decision but you'll make a recommendation to the rest of your colleagues after you do all of the leg work. And I don't think this is a bad idea to have this committee, obviously we'd love to make sure that we're involved in it, we do have other partners. As you said Mr. Snyder this is a huge project and there's no way that our little entity can take it and carry it but there's some critical parts to that, that we do need play a part in and ultimately it will affect our area and we need to engage with the representatives from the Corps, the Levee Board, CPRA and understand what our responsibility will be once it's done once it's moving. The number that's out there is a five million dollar operation and maintenance budget annually after the levee is built. And we've talked about this we have some ideas on funding and that is something

sometimes we may have to go to the people. So we want to start early enough to have what we need in place when this and I say when because I'm confident it will, when this project is in WRDA and we start to get funding, we don't want to just be starting our efforts, we want to be ready. So I encourage you all to move forward with it and whatever number you think will work, but just look at it as a small committee that's going to focus on this, that will make recommendations to the larger group who will ultimately make the decision."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes I was one of the council person talked to Ms. Robottom about this and I had expressed some concerns because I thought we were basically duplicating things but after listening to what Mr. Boe said and you, I think it's a very good committee because we definitely want to be ready when they give us the green light. Ok because that light been on caution since sixty-eight and maybe seventy. See I know a history about this levee from New Orleans to Ascension Parish, they started designing it in sixty-eight it was approved in seventy-two to build a levee from New Orleans to Ascension Parish. The word cost analysis came up too much money 72, 80, 90 last time they re-visited thing was 2000, so I know the whole history about it. In 2000 five years before Katrina they had picked up the ball and couldn't save a lot of money and that's what spear headed all this thing back again and rejuvenated, so now that it's been rejuvenated and they actually see there's really a need maybe like you say, if you're ready for it and I definitely support this committee and I think that's something we need to have and get ready for it."

MOTION: Councilman Remondet moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to approve Resolution R16-31. A resolution establishing a Flood Protection Committee of the Council focused on the designing, permitting, financing and construction of the Westshore Flood Protection System. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

Julia Remondet - Resolution - R16-32 - A Resolution establishing an Annual Retreat of the Parish Council and Administration to be held the weekend before the Annual observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Day

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "Thank you Mr. Chairman, you had recommended along with other council members that we do a retreat this past year. We had it in April, we felt it was very successful, one of the things that came out of it was the establishment of several committees which we see is a direction we need to go in.

MOTION: Councilman Becnel moved and Councilman Sorapuru seconded the motion to approve Resolution R16-32. A resolution establishing an Annual Retreat of the Parish Council and Administration to be held the weekend before the Annual observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Day. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

Natalie Robottom - Appointment of Director of Purchasing and Procurement

Natalie Robottom stated, "Ms. Jean Stewart had a 33 year career in Procurement and Finance at Shell Oil Company. She held the position of Buyer for 10 years and Finance Analyst for 5 years. During her time with Shell Oil, she negotiated contracts, scheduled, planned and prepared bids, and manage the procurement of goods and services. She provided customer support to all departments and resolved and recommended solutions to daily issues. Ms. Stewart has received various awards such as Supplier Diversity Coordinator of the Year and Supplier Diversity Buyer of the Year and was nominated for three "Champion of Excellence" Awards. Ms. Stewart holds a degree in Business

Administration from Nicholls State University. I humbly request confirmation of this appointment."

MOTION: Councilman Synder moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to appoint Ms. Jean Stewart, as the Director of Purchasing and Procurement. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard Absent.

Natalie Robottom - Appointment of Director of Economic Development

Natalie Robottom stated, "Jerry Jones is the Chief Executive Officer for the Lake Charles North Redevelopment Authority (LCNRA) and the Interim Executive Director for the Imperial Calcasieu Regional Planning Development Commission (IMCAL). In these capacities, he collaborates with various economic development organizations and entities on advancing small business and community development. In addition, he assists property owners and business owners to develop and improve business opportunities and provides professional services for regional comprehensive economic development strategies (CEDs). Mr. Jones holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Southern University and A&M College. I humbly request confirmation of this appointment."

MOTION: Councilman Boe moved and Councilman Remondet seconded the motion to appoint Jerry Jones, as the Director of Economic Development. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

Kerry Watkins - Authorization to approve Recreation Center's policy for spray and dog parks

Kerry Watkins stated, "The Rules and Regulations in Articles IV (Spray Parks) and V (Dog Park) were reviewed and approved by the Recreation Advisory Board and are being introduced as components to Ordinance 16-25 tonight. Approval is pending adoption of Ordinance 1-25, but would allow the Recreation Department to move forward with signage and opening both parks before the next meeting (see attached). Administration recommends approval."

MOTION: Councilman Snyder moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to grant administration authorization to approve Recreation Center's policy for spray and dog parks. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

Natalie Robottom - Resolution - R16-33 - A resolution authorizing the Parish President to execute any and all documents in connection with the amended Hurricane Isaac Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Parish Recovery Proposal

Natalie Robottom stated, "The CDBG budget was recently amended to re-allocate funding from ineligible programs to programs with large numbers of applicants. Approval of this resolution allows the Parish President to sign all associated documents. Administration recommends approval."

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Remondet seconded the motion to approve Resolution R16-33. A resolution authorizing the Parish President to execute any and all documents in connection with the amended Hurricane Isaac Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Parish Recovery Proposal. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

Natalie Robottom - Resolution - R16-34 - A resolution to adopt the revised Hazard Mitigation Plan

Natalie Robottom stated, "Based on a state requirement to update the Hazard Mitigation Plan every five years, the revised plan is being presented for adoption. All Parish Directors, led by the Department of Public Safety, have reviewed the plan and made revisions, and it has been reviewed and approved by GOHSEP and FEMA. A copy of the entire document is available, but a list of revisions was provided by memo. Administration recommends approval."

MOTION: Councilwoman Remondet moved and Councilman Snyder seconded the motion to approve Resolution R16-34. A resolution to adopt the revised Mitigation Plan. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

Hugh Martin/Jason Ackers - Resolution - R16-35 - A resolution providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the special election held in the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, on Saturday, April 9, 2016, to authorize the renewal of special taxes therein

"Administration recommends approval."

MOTION: Councilwoman Remondet moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to approve Resolution R16-35. A resolution providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the special election held in the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, on Saturday, April 9, 2016, to authorize the renewal of special taxes therein. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:

Lennix Madere - (Carry Over 4-26-16) Update on Road Repairs in Dist. III

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

Larry Snyder - Update on dredging permit and next step for Vicknair Canal to improve street draining

Brian Nunes stated, "The dredging permit was submitted to DNR and returned twice with comments. Responses to the latest comments were sent last week and a follow-up meeting was held with the Secretary of DNR and staff members yesterday."

Larry Snyder - Report on previous design/plans and current design/plans to install pumps on Vicknair Canal to improve drainage on both sides of canal

Brian Nunes stated, "Final design plans are anticipated this summer. If the cost estimated aligns with the budgeted amount from the 2014 Bond issue, we will advertise for construction."

Larry Snyder - Status update on requalifying for Isaac fund

LaVerne Saulny stated, "The application period for all CDBG programs ended, but any applicant with questions regarding their eligibility or the status of their application can call (985) 359-0555 and set up an appointment with Myra-Alexis Valentine at SJPB Call Center."

MOTION: Councilman Sorapur moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the Coastal Land Lost Agreement with the Louisiana Attorney General. The motion passed with 7 yeas and Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Madere absent.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Agreement with Louisiana Attorney General

Lennix Madere - Update and concerns regarding home on E. 30th Street - regarding health and safety conditions

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

Parish Buildings - Security

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 - Pending possible legal matter - E. 27th Street

Any and all pending legal matters

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Sorapuru seconded the motion to go back into regular session. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

As a result of the executive session.

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Sorapuru seconded the motion to authorize the Parish President to execute an agreement with the Louisiana Attorney General for Coastal Land loss and damage litigation. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

16-25 An ordinance to amend the Code of Ordinances of St. John the Baptist Parish as follows: By adding to Chapter 30, Section 30-26 and adding Article IV - SPRAY PARKS, Sec. 30-62 and Article V - DOG PARK, Sec. 30-63

16-26 An ordinance granting approval to further extend the valid period of time of Conditional Subdivision Approval for an additional twelve (12) months for Belle Terre Commercial Subdivision, Phase 1, Parcel A, Lots 1-13, Parcel B, Lots 1-22, Parcel C, Lots 2-9, Parcel DS-4; Phase 2, Parcel B, Lots 23-49 and Parcel C, Lots 10-44 and Phase 3, Parcel D, Lots 1-39, Parcel E, Lots 1-42, Parcel DS-2 and Parcel DS-3, situated in Sections 69 & 70, T-11-S, R-7-E, Southeast District of Louisiana, east of the Mississippi River, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (PZS-07-024).

16-27 An ordinance amending St. John the Baptist Parish Code of Ordinances, specifically Chapter 107 - Floodplain Regulations to permit small, inexpensive accessory structures to be built below the base flood elevation without a variance under limited circumstances (Parishwide) (N. Robottom)

PRESIDENT REPORT:

Good evening, I recently returned from Washington D.C. and pleased to say we are one step closer to levee protection after gaining the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee's approval of the Westshore Lake Pontchartrain Levee Project. The Committee voted 19-1 in favor of the project which is a considerable step in the process. The next step in the process is to gain

approval by the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, and then a final vote on the Water Resources Development Act. The need for this project is critical as we continue to flood during non-weather events much less larger tropical storms. We remain hopeful after 42 years of inaction we are finally moving forward with the project. The resolution passed tonight will create a committee focused solely on moving this project toward construction. It is and remains our goal to protect your families and businesses. Residents and businesses affected by the February 23 tornadoes are encouraged to visit the Disaster Loan Outreach Center at New Wine Church, Monday through Fridays 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. to apply for financial assistance. Businesses of all sizes may borrow up to \$2 million to repair damaged real estate and disaster loans up to \$200,000 are available to homeowners. The filing deadline to return applications for property damage is July 5, 2016. Congratulations to all of our new businesses that celebrated ribbon cuttings and grand openings recently including: Acadiana Cinemas, Stewart's School of Performing Arts; and Esquire Elite Barber. We are thrilled to welcome you to St. John Parish and wish you great success. We want to thank Kathy and Doug Collins, Acadiana Cinema owners, for inviting our staff and elected officials as guests before the ribbon cutting and giving us a sneak peak of the beautiful renovated theatre. Don't forget to check out the local LaPlace theatre for a great time - the show scheduled is posted on on acadianacinemas.com. Congratulations to Firefighter Travis Etie on winning the state Firefighter of the Year award last week. We are so proud of you and all of your accomplishments. Best of luck at nationals! Opening Day for the 2016 baseball season was held at REGALA last week. Thanks to all of the parish staff, volunteers and parents for helping to make it a success and with such a successful basketball season - we know baseball will be a great one. The league consists of 5-6, 7-8, 9-10 and 11-12 year olds and games are scheduled for Tuesdays and Thursdays. Game schedules will be posted on the Parks & Recreation page of the Parish website. The Parks & Recreation Department is offering several opportunities for youth to stay busy this summer including Soccer, Gymnastics, Summer Camp, Swimming, Water Safety and more. Visit the Recreation Office at 200 REGALA Park Road to register your child for these activities. Register for the free Ashley Kelly swimming program this Sunday, May 13 at the LaPlace Walmart from 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Participants will undergo lessons focusing on floating, kicking, breathing, arm movement and swimming to the side of the pool. Sessions will be held from: Youth ages (5-17) June 13-17 at 5:45 p.m. at 8:15 p.m.; July 20-24 at 5:45 p.m.-8:15 p.m.; For Adults: July 11-15 at 5:45. Please contact the Parks & Recreation Department at 652-9569 to register. St. John 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, June 4 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. St. John Sheriff Mike Tregre invites the public to attend the annual candlelight vigil and memorial honoring the fallen heroes of the St. John Parish Sheriff's Office. The event will be held May 18 at 7:30 p.m. on the Percy Hebert Building grounds, 1801 W. Airline Highway, in LaPlace. Please mark your calendar. Motorists should be reminded that the I-10 westbound off ramp to Belle Terre Blvd and the Westbound on ramp to Belle Terre Blvd. is closed nightly from 8:00 p.m.-6:00 a.m. for overpass repair work through June. Congratulations to all of our students graduating from high school and college this month. Best of luck to each of you while you move into the next chapter in your lives. May it be filled with happiness and success! Good luck, Thank you.

ADJOURNMENT :

At 8:08 PM, Councilman Snyder moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

/s/Marvin Perrilloux
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
Council Secretary