

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, MAY 13th, 2014
CHAIRMAN MARVIN PERRILLOUX
VICE CHAIR MICHAEL WRIGHT

The Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session in the Rudolph Soraparu Chambers, Edgard, Louisiana on Tuesday, May 13th, 2014, at 6:30 PM.

CALL TO ORDER:

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

ABSENT: Jaclyn Hotard, Ranney Wilson and Michael Wright

Councilman Snyder led the Prayer. Councilwoman Millet led the Pledge.

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

INTRODUCTION OF BUSINESSES

New Business - Kathy Mesmer - Kathy's Party Store

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

New Business - Rita Gomez - Napoleon Bakery

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

New Business - Pastor Robert Tanner - Integrity financial business

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

Marvin Perrilloux/Rodney Nicholas - Job Fair follow up

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

Natalie Robottom - Acknowledgement - Faron Duhe, St. John Fire Department - 35th Anniversary

Randy Vincent presented a plaque as acknowledgement to Mr. Faron Duhe of the St. John Fire Department on his 35 year anniversary.

Natalie Robottom - Proclamation - May as National Pet Month

Angelic Sutherland read the proclamation for May as National Pet Month.

Natalie Robottom - Proclamation - May 17-23 as National Safe Boating Week

Angelic Sutherland read the proclamation for May 17-23 as National Safe

Boating week.

Consent Agenda

Items: Approval of Minutes - April 22nd, 2014, Regular Meeting; Permit Approval - Garyville Timbermill Museum festival - Sunday, May 18th - 11:00 AM until 6:00 PM; Permit Approval - Creole City Youth Extravaganza Fundraiser June 6th through June 8th, 2014 - St. John Civic Center/Hwy. 51 Park

Councilman Perrilloux stated, *"I would like to make one comment. The permit approval for the Creole City Youth Extravaganza Fundraiser this permit is approved but will not be signed until some legal requirements have been met and I just wanted to inform you all of that."*

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Smith seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda consisting of Approval of Minutes - April 22nd, 2014, Regular Meeting; Permit Approval - Garyville Timbermill Museum festival - Sunday, May 18th - 11:00 AM until 6:00 PM; Permit Approval - Creole City Youth Extravaganza Fundraiser June 6th through June 8th, 2014 - St. John Civic Center/Hwy. 51 Park. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilmen Wilson and Wright absent.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:

14-11 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance authorizing the incurring of debt and issuance of Eighteen Million Dollars (\$18,000,000) of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2014, of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana; prescribing the form, terms and conditions of said Bonds; designating the date, denomination and place of payment of said Bonds; providing for the payment thereof in principal and interest; and providing for other matters in connection therewith (N. Robottom)

Vince Lucia, CFO, stated, *"Based on the strength of the Parish's financial and operational management, budgetary flexibility, liquidity and budgetary performance and a successful presentation to Standard & Poors, the parish's bond rating was upgraded from A+ to AA-. This allowed for more favorable interest rates for the sale of the first round of bonds from the \$30 Million bond issue. Representatives handling the bond sale will be at the meeting with a recommended rate."*

MOTION: Councilman Smith moved and Councilman Gauff seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 14-11. The motion passed with Councilmembers Hotard, Wilson and Wright absent.

14-12 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance granting approval for the Parish President to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement and an Intergovernmental Transfer, copies of which are attached hereto, transferring to THE STATE OF LOUISIANA, for the use and benefit of the LOUISIANA COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM, property belonging to this Parish described on EXHIBIT 2, which is determined to be not needed for public purposes. The economic benefit to the Parish is equal to or exceeds the appraised value of \$857,000.00 (N. Robottom)

Vince Lucia stated, *"This ordinance authorizes the Parish President to*

sign a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement and an Intergovernmental Transfer with the State of Louisiana for the transfer of property needed for expansion of the Southeast Louisiana Technical College. With an economic impact of over \$15,000,000 annually from graduates of the River Region and the need to develop a qualified workforce for the region, administration recommends approval of the ordinance. The amended agreements were forwarded to the Council last week."

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Snyder seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 14-12. The motion passed with Councilmembers Hotard, Wilson and Wright absent.

14-13 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance granting approval to Re-subdivide Lot 7D, Block 1-A, Reserve Industrial Park into lots herein designated as Lots 7D-1 & 7D-2, Block 1-A, Reserve Industrial Park, situated in Section 36, T-11-S, R-6-E, Reserve, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (PZS-14-1083) (N. Robottom)

Angelic Sutherland stated, *"This re-subdivision was unanimously approved at the April 21st Planning Commission meeting and administration recommends approval."*

MOTION: Councilman Gauff moved and Councilman Smith seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 14-13. The motion passed with Councilmembers Hotard, Wilson and Wright absent.

14-14 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance granting approval to Re-subdivide a portion of Wego Plantation north of La Hwy. 3127 into Tracts 1, 2, 3 & 4, located in Sections 9-12 & 65-70, T-12-S, R-18-E, Southeastern Land District, West of the Mississippi River, Edgard, St. John the Baptist, Louisiana (PZS-14-1085) (N. Robottom)

Angelic Sutherland stated, *"The Planning Commission also approved this re-subdivision unanimously at its April 21st meeting and administration recommends approval."*

MOTION: Councilman Snyder moved and Councilman Gauff seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 14-14. The motion passed with 5 years, 1 against (Smith) and 3 absent (Hotard, Wilson, Wright).

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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

MOTION: Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Gauff seconded the motion to accept the recommendations of the finance committee. The motion passed with Councilmembers Hotard, Wilson and Wright absent.

DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:

Debra Poche, Acting Recreation Director, stated, *"The Ashley Kelly Swim Program was created as a response to the drowning death of Ashley Marie Kelly in Lake Pontchartrain in 2003. Ashley's sister, Latoya, not knowing how to swim, witnessed her sister's tragic death. She made it her mission to educate kids on water safety by creating the Ashley Kelly Swim Program. The Ashley Kelly Swim Program, American Red Cross,*

and St. John Parish partner to educate our kids on water safety. On May 4, we registered 149 kids outside of Wal-Mart Super Center in Laplace. On May 6, we registered 52 kids at the West Bank Complex. Registration is still being held at the Parks and Recreation Office at Regala Gym. At this time, we have 212 participants registered and 88 slots left."

Lennix Madere - Homer Joseph Center

Councilman Madere asked that this be carried over to the next agenda for the Parish President's presence.

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

Councilwoman Millet asked that this item be removed until further notice.

Ranney Wilson - (Carry Over 4-8-14) Discussion regarding the Charter

Councilman Wilson was not present at the meeting his item will be carried over to the next agenda.

Marvin Perrilloux/Lennix Madere/Mike Tregre - Grass cutting contract

Mike Tregre, Sheriff, stated, "You should have all received my letter by now if you have not I did bring extra copies with me. The letter simply states that I will be cancelling the contract on June 30th, 2014. All equipment will be returned to the parish. My decision was based solely on the lack of DOC inmates. That is Department of Correction inmates more specifically qualified inmates. I presently have 217 inmates in the correctional facility in LaPlace. The selection process is very difficult. It comes down to this. I cannot send hardened criminals on the streets of St. John Parish to cut grass. I cannot jeopardize public safety. As a gesture of good faith the parish has its contract with the Sheriff's office which the sheriff's office charges the parish \$150,000.00 a year. Those are made in two installments of \$75,000.00. Currently the parish owes the sheriff's office \$75,000.00 as a gesture of good faith I am willing to wave the fee that the parish currently owes the sheriff's office due to the cancellation of this project. The sheriff's office along with the remaining DOC inmates that are qualified, that are carefully screened will continue to assist the parish with litter control, fairs, festivals, sand bagging, school projects or anything that we can assist on tree trimming projects, commodity distribution that we do for the parish or even the lights that we install in the parish vehicles. We will assist in any and every way that we can. It had just come to a point where I cannot put certain inmates on the street. Some of them just need to be in jail and shouldn't be on the streets of our parish at all. Again I felt it necessary to personally appear before this council, the citizens and the administration to discuss this matter. I am present tonight to answer any questions or concerns regarding the cancellation of the inmates grass cutting contract."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "Because of all the work that your department has done the common ground in the parish looks so much nicer and I want to thank you for the work that you have done because Belle Terre and Fairway look great, especially in my district because I am sure that everybody feels the same way because they all have their

little spots that you have taken care of and I want to thank you for that. I am sorry that we cannot continue it because it has been a wonderful program and thank you for your cooperation with us on that and I am sorry to see that you cannot continue but I understand your feelings."

Councilman Madere stated, "I would like to thank the Sheriff's department for assisting the parish in all the years that you have had the program going and we definitely understand, I know I do that it is more about the safety of the residents then about the program itself. So I would like to thank you."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Thank you Sheriff for all of the work that you have done in the Cambridge area because it looks beautiful you did a good job on it to clean it up. I would also like to thank Lt. Joseph for all of the work that he did."

Marvin Perrilloux/Jaclyn Hotard - Foxwood Levee - proposed start date

Brian Nunes stated, "This project is pending re-subdivision approvals of the Entre Nous property by the Planning and Zoning Commission (5-19-14) and the council (6-10-14). Both approvals are required before the property can be purchased for construction of the levee. Letters were hand delivered to all homeowners with encroachments on the parish servitude with a removal date of June 1, 2014. Once the re-subdivision is approved, the property and mitigation credits can be purchased and the DNR permit acquired. The construction project will then be advertised, pending removal of the encroachments. Rick Shread will be in attendance to address any additional questions."

Councilman Perrilloux questioned when the estimated start date might be on the project.

Rick Shread commented that he is hoping by the beginning of next year everything can be ready to start.

Marvin Perrilloux/Jaclyn Hotard - LaPlace Park (Haydel Canal Crossing) - land titles proposed start date

Angelic Sutherland stated, "Preliminary design of this project has been completed and the footprint of the levee established. Property owners have been identified and right of way maps are being drafted for the parcels to be acquired by the Parish. This process should take about 1 month, at which point the Parish could start the property acquisition process. During this time, the design will be finalized and necessary permits acquired."

Marvin Perrilloux/Jaclyn Hotard - Regala Gym/Park - Completion of rental contract

Councilman Perrilloux asked that this item be removed from the agenda at this time.

Larry Snyder - Reserve Water treatment plant - expansion plans - back-up plans for LaPlace residents

Councilman Snyder asked that this item be carried over.

Larry Snyder - Cost to retrofit the Community Center for volleyball, basketball, public use and cost to operate it for one day

Councilman Snyder stated, "I guess everyone knows my feelings on this and the council's feelings on this. We can do something to whereas this building can be more beneficial to the people of this parish that paid for it and these things here are where most civic centers may have these public use areas so that they can have district tournaments or state/AAU tournaments and I think in the beginning it was intended to be used for that also because it is just a big box over there that isn't being used for anything besides to film in it which there is nothing wrong with that but we should be able to do something. So I would like to make a motion and I would like for you to indulge me so that we could at least get a quote on what we would have to do to get it ready for these things flooring, stripes, goals, bleachers and those type of things and I am sure that someone does those type of things and we can get them to come in and give us a quote on that or a ball park figure. Also we visited St. Charles's civic center and it is a beautiful place and that I think was said at one of our meetings that people don't rent ours because it is too large but when you go to St. Charles over there they have a screen that they can place in there and make it any size you want. It is easy to overcome to make it look smaller. I think that is one idea that we can get from them and it is a very affordable place to rent. They even allow their public schools to use them for free. I was looking at some of the numbers and according to the numbers that I get from the administration and the budget it cost us \$1,500.00 a day to run that thing just sitting there. Now this could be a good place for us to start to make it more affordable for our people but first thing I would like to do is put it in the form of a motion that we request from the administration however it has to be written that they go out and get us a quote on getting this building retrofitted for basketball, volleyball and used by the public."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "You heard Councilman Snyder's request for a motion to go out for a quote to get the cost to retrofit the community center for volleyball, basketball, public use and cost to operate. Councilman Gauff seconded the motion."

Councilman Gauff stated, "For clarification I think he is asking for an estimate on what it would cost to make this more user friendly for schools and the community."

Randy Vincent stated, "The only challenge I see is that anytime that you go out for a quote you need some type of scope of work to tie in so that those who are going to be quoting are quoting on exactly what you are looking for. So I think there needs to be a scope of work developed or in addition to that some description as to how this council expects it to look and wants this done because if we just go out and get a quote for setting it up to play basketball, volleyball or any of the other sports or activities mentioned it will be all over the place. So I think it needs to be more defined as a scope in terms of what are you looking for."

Councilman Gauff stated, "As a former production manager of the Cajun Dome and as far as buildings go that was transformed into an ice hockey

arena, a basketball arena and many different stages ice shows, sesame street or whatever. I guess what I am saying is that how much would it cost to get basketball court, goals and bleachers. All I heard him ask for was estimates so if we have figures on what it would cost to bring in stands, bring in a court then we can set that up for basketball, what it would cost for a volleyball court, it would probably be the same floor except set up for volleyball so that we can host state and district tournaments. What I understood him to say was that let's see what is out there. What estimates we can get to transform this building and it doesn't have to be the entire building maybe it is only half one side would be playing volleyball and the other half could have a basketball tournament going on but if we have an estimate of what it would cost us to get these things or some of these things we would have an idea of if it is too much money to spend, is it not enough money to spend, is it something we can start to piece meal so that we can do something with this building and make it user friendly for all of us."

Councilman Snyder stated, "That is exactly what I was saying Mr. Gauff. We have our recreation department that could surely help out with that part of it. They know everything about putting down lines, it is just a matter of putting a few holes in the floor and lines for the volleyball nets and you can just slide basketball goals in and out and leave those outside. It is not hard. We visited some others and they are doing this. This needs to be user friendly for our community. This can be done but we have to want to do it. That is the key we have to want to do something like that and if we don't want to we can come up with excuses all night for the next year and a half before election but we have to want to do something with it and make it there for our people and that is the bottom line. Just get a number we can make this thing functional."

MOTION: Councilman Snyder moved and Councilman Gauff seconded the motion to direct administration to acquire quotes to retrofit the Community Center for Volleyball, basketball and public use. The motion passed with Councilmembers Hotard, Wilson and Wright absent.

Larry Snyder - Vicknair Canal pumping station update

Brian Nunes stated, "A temporary pump was utilized to pump down the Vicknair Canal to allow for cleaning of the outfall culverts. Based on performance this weekend, it can be surmised that a much larger and permanent pumping station would improve drainage in the area. Before a final decision is made on a path forward, a complete review of previous designs and recommendations will be conducted."

Jaclyn Hotard/Lucien Gauff - DOTD roadwork - Airline Hwy and Belle Terre, West 2nd Street, River Road and Highway 44

Brian Nunes briefly commented on the work that is being done on the Highway by DOTD. He commented that they should be finished with the work by the first week of June and they are widening the lanes and turning lanes of Airline Hwy. Councilman Gauff commented on the DOTD needing to start cleaning out their culverts on the side that is their responsibility. All of the culverts need to be cleaned out and blown out to help the flow for drainage. Councilman Madere mentioned the canals on both sides of Hwy. 3179 in Reserve as well as Hwy 44 all the way to the Airline need to be cleaned out they are full of debris and

this is a major area that drains a lot of his district. Brian Nunes commented that he would make contact with DOTD in reference to these items.

OLD BUSINESS:

Ranney Wilson/Lennix Madere - Drainage and Drainage equipment

Councilman Madere stated, "I definitely understood that we have 5 inches of rain in a very short period of time and I know when you have that large amount of rain you are going to have flooding in the area. My concern is the canals that run alongside the rail road tracks I still get some conflicting information sometimes they say it belongs to the parish then sometimes they say it belongs to the railroad but the bottom line is those canals that run from the back of 31st Street along all the way past Central those canals have a lot of debris and trees in them and today I had to call Mr. Verdell and he responded real quickly. We had a massive amount of trash blocking one of the big pipes along railroad Avenue and I believe he went and picked it up because I am talking about a large amount I mean it fills up the whole canal and the water couldn't pass so I think we need to have a sit down with the railroad because once again I keep referring to E. 17th Street where the guy that lives in the back goes to the railroad track to keep that open. We have five inches of rain when I went down 17th Street that water was moving so fast out of that ditch getting out because he cleans back there. So my thing is if water can move like that on 17th Street every single time it rains if the railroad do their part and keep those canals clean I think basically every street in my district would drain the same way because they all run the same way. We need to talk to the railroad and make them understand because we are coming into hurricane season and we are going to have episodes of 5-6 inches and hopefully not another storm or it could be 8-10 inches so they are really not helping us but hurting us in terms of drainage in our parish and I know you all have a lot of work to do but the railroad, the parish and the residents that cause the problems. I had to call Verdell to get someone to move a sofa set out of a canal just last week. So I am not pointing the finger at one particular group it is a combination, it is a three headed monster but I think the one that we need to focus on is the one that doesn't seem to want to cooperate as easily as everyone else. I think a lot of citizens try to keep their ditches clean but I cannot say that about the railroad. I don't think they are doing their part to help us out and I think they could really help us if they had a schedule and we could get them to understand that we need a schedule that they are going to do this in this area every year because hurricane season is coming every year. So we have to try to meet with them and I would like to meet with them myself and see if we can express to them how important it is to help us with our drainage problems and I know you and Verdell are doing the best you can and your hands are tied when it comes to the railroad but we need to try to reach out to them and see what we can work out with that."

Brian Nunes stated, "I am actually glad you brought that up because about two weeks ago we had a very productive meeting with the railroad. We sat down with representatives from Mississippi and the local representatives I think they are out of Baton Rouge and our track supervisor for the River Region. We all sat in a conference room and talked about all of the problems and they started moving on the

crossing. As far as the drainage that was our biggest concern. They told us their plan is right now that they are cleaning out their tracks from one end to the other they just haven't made it to St. John yet. So I asked them what if we have emergencies can we do it because that has always been a sticking point that it is their property and we can't touch it. They gave us permission. They said if you let us know ahead of time we will send someone down and you can do it. So when we start having these emergencies we are going to address them and even if it is not an emergency we just know something needs to be cleaned out we are going to schedule it but we basically got permission from the railroad we just need to give them a few days' notice and they will send someone down and we can do the work."

Councilman Madere stated, "Well I am glad to hear that but I have heard that one time before but the sticking point was they gave us permission but it came along with a price tag. I think the guy was getting paid a lot of money to watch our worker's do their job."

Brian Nunes stated, "That was one of my sticking points in that meeting as well. I told them if I am going to be doing the work for you then I am not going to pay you to have someone there and they agreed 100% and said that they can't charge me to do their job and that was the agreement that we made"

Councilman Madere stated, "Great because I definitely have some railroad culverts on the list. I will probably come to your office and we can ride around and get them marked and get these things cleaned out. I have another issue. I went to the Homewood pumps again at 10:15 and I was surprised to see we had a worker out there working on the pump for the east side and when I got there he was already there and when I went back at 11:15 he was still working on the same pump. The one on the west side that was set when the water gets to the highest level. Now whenever there is something approaching I know we have to make sure that the pump is working and I think we need to have that done before the storms start coming and like I said I don't know what he was doing but he was there. I went back at 2:00 and now the one on the east side was working and the one on the west side was off but as I went through the parish my district was filling up with water. My concern is that we have two pumps with that type of rain that came down undoubtedly the water is not getting to the reservoir in a timely manner. The second pump never came on so what does it take for both pumps to be working at the same time and I think that is what it was designed for to get the water to the canals because right now one pump is taking all of the water out when it should be two pumps and it would move so much faster both of the pumps should be on you basically have a pump sitting there that isn't being used."

NEW BUSINESS:

**Ranney Wilson - Overturning of Planning & Zoning trailer permit denial
- Tina Watson - 474 Little Hope Street, Garyville**

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Property/Casualty Insurance Agent - 1) Claims, any/all property,

casualty, and Workman comp claims 2) Claims, procedures and disposition
3) Coverage's, any/all material changes

Lennix Madere - 205 E. 30th Street

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

Parish Buildings - Security

Abandoned Vehicles

Code Enforcement - Personnel matters

Water bill issues

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

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

Any and all pending legal matters

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

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

14-15 An ordinance granting approval to further extend the conditional approval for an additional twelve (12) months of the Grove Subdivision, Phase 2B Lots 80-96, Lots 114-133, Lots 278-281 and Lot 350, and Parcels H-3, H-4, H-5, DS-5 and DS-6, all being a portion of New Era Plantation, located north of Airline Highway and The Grove Subdivision, Phase 2A, east of LaPlace Park Subdivision and west of New Era Subdivision, in Sections 19 and 72, T-11-S, R-7-E, Southeast District of Louisiana, east of the Mississippi River, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (N. Robottom)

14-16 An ordinance granting approval for the Parish President to purchase from Wilprise Pipeline Company, L.L.C. a Right of Way and Servitude for a sanitary sewer lift station for the sum of \$1,000.00 across immovable property described as 30' X 20' as described in the Right of Way and Servitude Agreement attached hereto and to execute the Right of Way and Servitude Agreement and all other documents necessary for the Parish of St. John the Baptist to acquire the Right of Way and Servitude (N. Robottom)

14-17 An ordinance amending Ordinance 13-39 relative to the Annual Operating Budgets for the St. John the Baptist Parish General Fund, Enterprise Funds, Special Revenue Funds and Parishwide Sewerage Construction Fund for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2013 and ending December 31, 2013. (N. Robottom)

14-18 An ordinance to amend Chapter (2) Section 2.9, third paragraph, of the St. John the Baptist Parish Civil Service Rules and Regulations as follows: By deleting the existing third paragraph and replacing with: "All rules and amendments of the Civil

Service System shall be approved by ordinance adopted by Majority vote of the Parish Council." (M. Perrilloux)

14-19 An ordinance pursuant to the Charter and Code of Ordinances of St. John the Baptist Parish to change a polling location as Defined in Chapter 2 Section 2:5 of the St. John the Baptist Parish Code of Ordinances for future elections. (N. Robotom)

CORRESPONDENCE/COUNCIL BRIEFS

Councilman Smith stated, "I just want to thank my family for taking care of me all this time. I just want to let you all know my health is great now. I went to the Doctor today and he said I was okay to do anything I wanted to do."

Councilman Madere stated, "I just want to say that I hope all of the mothers of the parish had a wonderful weekend. I am sorry it was a little wet for them but I think we take our mothers for granted and you definitely feel it when they are not here. So if you still have your mother make sure you try to make every day her day."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I want to recognize a friend of mines daughter Mrs. Rashaan is an award winning writer and this is what was written about her bestselling author from a small town and is most acclaimed for her Harlequin Romance in print. She was named best new author in 2007 and her debut novel "Deliver Me" claimed the prize for best multicultural romance. She has been nominated for a prestigious reader award and a reviews choice award. I just wanted to pass that on."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "I would just like to reiterate Happy Mother's Day to all of the mothers out there and that includes stepmoms, foster moms, grandmothers and adopted moms because sometimes they are forgotten and all the moms because a dad works from sun up to sun down but a moms work is never done. So I just want to make sure that all moms had a great day and appreciate your moms."

Councilman Gauff stated, "I would like to say thank you to Brian Nunes and Paige thank you for the communications with CN railroad. The crossing at Central good job they have moved into and completed Apricot and that was two major concerns in my area. So thank you we still have a long way to go because there are quite a few that need to be addressed but thank you for the communication and emails. Just a point of information the Garyville Timbermill Festival is Sunday from 11 - 6. On May 23-25, OLG has their fair. I would also have to say it is very important to give your mother her flowers why she is here. This May 9th it was the 15th anniversary of the tragic bus crash on Mother's Day and it is a sad time but it is also a happy time in that we remember all of the great times that we had together and I know she made me the man that I am today and I think that is something she is and will always be proud of."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "I would like to say congratulations to my son, nephew and niece who will be graduating high school and moving on to college. I would also like to congratulate my nephew Alvin Scioneaux who got called by the San Diego Chargers so I wish him all the luck in the NFL and I hope he succeeds."

ADJOURNMENT :

At 8:25 PM, Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Smith seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilmembers Hotard, Wilson and Wright absent.

/s/Marvin Perrilloux
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
Council Secretary