

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS**  
**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL**  
**TUESDAY, MAY 26<sup>TH</sup>, 2015**  
**CHAIRMAN MICHAEL WRIGHT**  
**VICE CHAIR MARVIN PERRILLOUX**

The Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session in the Joel McTopy Chambers, LaPlace, Louisiana on Tuesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015, at 6:30 PM.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

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

**ABSENT:** None

Councilman Gauff led the Prayer. Councilman Snyder led the Pledge.

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

**Consent Agenda**

**Items:** Approval of Minutes - May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015, Regular Meeting; Permit Approval - 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Motorcycle Ride and Car Show - Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015 - 8:00 AM until 4:00 PM

**MOTION:** Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Gauff seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes - May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015, Regular Meeting; Permit Approval - 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Motorcycle Ride and Car Show - Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015 - 8:00 AM until 4:00 PM. The motion passed with Councilman Madere absent.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:**

**15-16** (Public Hearing Held) An Ordinance amending Ordinance 14-41 relative to the Annual Operating Budgets for the St. John the Baptist Parish General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, Enterprise Funds and Parishwide Sewerage Construction Fund for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2014 and ending December 31, 2014. (N. Robottom)

**MOTION:** Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Gauff seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 15-16. The motion passed with 8 yeas and 1 against (Millet).

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

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

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Smith seconded the

motion to accept the recommendations of the finance committee. The motion passed unanimously.

**DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:**

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

Councilman Snyder asked that this item be carried over to the next agenda.

**Larry Snyder - (Carry Over 5-12-15) Path to streamlining the permitting process**

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

**Lennix Madere - (Carry Over 5-12-15) Homer "Boogie" Joseph Center timeline request for start and completion**

Councilman Madere stated, "The administration at the last meeting said they were going to schedule a meeting with me I responded and have yet to get a date but I think I don't mind meeting with the administration but I think the main thing is that we move forward with this project and get it completed."

Councilman Wright stated, "Thank you Councilman Madere and I actually would like to have someone from administration to come up and give an update on this item. I know the council has voted unanimously on directing administration to take care of it so I would like someone to give us an update."

Mike Coburn, CAO, stated, "Mr. Wright at this time we are still where we were. We went and observed the place with Mr. Madere and we want to set up a meeting with Mr. Madere so we can sit down and meet and discuss any plans moving forward if there are any."

Councilman Wright asked, "Okay so no other updates for the council as far as a timeline?"

Mike Coburn stated, "No but we are going to try to schedule the meeting with Mr. Madere as soon as possible."

Councilman Madere stated, "I think we are rehashing the same thing over and over again. It has been well documented several months ago, almost a year that the walls were an issue. We allocated money in the budget to fix those walls so I don't think there even needs to be a discussion about the walls there just needs to be a repair of the walls but I will meet with administration any time they want to meet I will be willing to sit down and talk to them but I think it is more of let's get it done."

Councilman Wright stated, "I completely agree with you Mr. Madere and my reason for asking Mr. Coburn to give us an update is because the council has unanimously spoken on multiple occasions and we would like to see this project come to completion as soon as possible. Thank you so much."

### **Larry Snyder - Vicknair Canal sonar analysis results and plan of action**

Councilman Snyder stated, "Mr. Nunes has updated me I would like him to just update the public too."

Brian Nunes stated, "Mr. Snyder we spoke earlier on this and I do apologize because we were supposed to have the results tonight and provide a copy to everybody but I didn't get the delivery today. I should get it tomorrow. I just received an email from the gentleman and he said he would have something for me tomorrow probably towards the end of the day but I do have a meeting with DNR scheduled for Noon tomorrow but since I won't have the results I am going to have to postpone that until probably Thursday but I can email you the results if I have them or I can put a copy in your office."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Please send a copy to everyone. I know you did tell me that they did find something there didn't they?"

Brian Nunes stated, "I did see one cross section last week and it showed about almost 2.5 feet of silt in that section of the Vicknair canal so we are hoping that is enough to convince DNR to allow us to clean it out then we can move forward with the other canals."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well when you factor that in by a mile and a half and about 20 feet wide that is a lot of area. Thank you very much."

### **Larry Snyder - Statistical update on refurbishing and raising of homes through the CDBG project**

Mike Coburn stated, "Thank you Mr. Snyder as we discussed earlier we would like to set up a meeting with Royal, Pivotal and Providence. We do have the members here in our audience tonight but we can sit down and discuss your specific issues be it intake, contract or inspection or whatever we need to do."

Councilman Snyder stated, "And that is all that I was concerned about to make sure that people understand where we are and that the process is taking a little bit longer time and at least to get some kind of feedback that is all I want."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Just let me know when the meeting is and I am glad Mr. Snyder put that on there because I had called Mrs. Valentine on this issue to. I did need to know when this project is going to start because a lot of residents said they told them that they didn't qualify and I said that is not possible they haven't started yet."

Mike Coburn stated, "No work has started yet we are still in the inspection phase right now doing the inspections and then once they get that all approved then you can start construction. I think they are talking about June or maybe July starting our construction work."

Councilman Perrilloux asked, "Please let me know about the meeting if Mr. Snyder doesn't mind I would like to be in it if I am available and if not I can just get an email explanation from you."

Mike Coburn stated, "That is not a problem at all sir."

Councilman Gauff stated, "I also had the same request just an update and or if I am available I would like to be in that meeting also because it does involve a lot of the residents in my area."

**Larry Snyder - sidewalk repair project process and update**

Councilman Snyder stated, "What I don't want to happen Mr. Nunes is to leave out and then we still have some other work that needs to be done because I was riding around today and I saw where there were some uneven surfaces and a couple of feet down I saw where they kind of leveled it off and grated it down and I just don't want to let the people who have the contract leave out and we don't get that done."

Brian Nunes stated, "Actually the people who were doing that I spoke to them this morning they just received another PO to do some work in that area and they are going to be getting that tomorrow. There was a problem with two locations where there were cars parked on top of the sidewalk and they can't access those areas but everything else they were going to start tomorrow."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well we gave them that contract because they were really reasonable at getting that done and it does remove a hazard that we need to get removed but I just don't want them to leave out and go someplace else and I can't ever get them back. So if they are still in that area I don't know if we need to do an audit on that or what because that is where all the concrete is at in the old subdivision and a lot of them are doing that what about the ones that are broken where the sidewalk is actually broken and needs to be repaired. Are we looking at those? I know I wrote a few of them up because they are really bad."

Brian Nunes stated, "The broken ones we do in house I have crews that handle those so we will definitely take care of it."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Okay I will keep you informed with what is going on with it."

Councilman Madere stated, "Have any repairs been done in Belle Point to the sidewalks? They have a few areas that are bad and need to be shaved down."

Brian Nunes stated, "We haven't done any shaving of the sidewalks in Belle Point only in Cambridge so far."

Councilman Madere stated, "So is someone going to go around and take a look at Belle Point to make sure."

Brian Nunes stated, "After we finish in Cambridge we are going to look at other areas but we will definitely take care of it."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay because I saw a couple of them over the weekend when I rode through that area."

Brian Nunes stated, "I can have them go and evaluate that area maybe this week and come back to us with a list of proposals for that."

Councilman Gauff asked, "As far as the West Bank are we just shaving or are we replacing because a lot of the ones that we have on the West Bank they were there so long that now there is dirt and gravel and everything over them are we going to find them?"

Brian Nunes stated, "The West Bank is to remove and replace all of that."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "When you pull up the cement on the West Bank I know there is a boat launch that could use some shoring up with that concrete. Also while we are talking about sidewalks I wanted to remind the residents that if there is a problem it is very hard for us to get to every spot in the districts or in our parish so if you have a sidewalk that needs repairing please call the public works office and let them know so they can put you on the list because like I said it is very difficult for the public works department and for us as council members to know every area. You know your property and you know what needs to be repaired so just give us a call and we can put you on the list while the contractors are here."

Councilman Madere asked, "Mr. Nunes is this project ongoing?"

Brian Nunes stated, "Yes."

Councilman Madere stated, "Because historical River Road in my district that pavement probably has more history than any other area in St. John the Baptist Parish. We didn't get a family car until I was almost a teenager so we did a lot of walking on that historical sidewalk and it is basically gone. They are still there they are just overgrown. I remember from Our Lady of Grace all the way down through Garyville there were sidewalks and basically in District III you barely see any just in spots but they are still there."

Brian Nunes stated, "We can look at it. I know that money was budgeted in the bond issue specifically for West Bank sidewalks so once they finish over there then we can look at what is left and I know we were going to look at W. 5<sup>th</sup> Street doing some there if we had the money once we finish all of that we can re-evaluate and see what we have and what we can do."

Councilman Madere stated, "I checked with the state about the sidewalk when I first got into office and they told me that they built the sidewalks in all of the different parishes in Louisiana during that time to give people work and he said once they built them they turned them over to the parish to maintain. So that is why I didn't get any results from talking to them because it is our responsibility."

Brian Nunes stated, "That is what they tell us too that is why we are doing River Road on the West Bank and W. 5<sup>th</sup> Street those are both state highways but we will look at it."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Just while we are talking about street repairs at Carrollwood and I want to say almost by Dominican right there is a really bad pothole and I called it in a while back."

Brian Nunes stated, "There is the one that is at Catalpa, it is the

*cross street up there and that is really bad the problem that we have with that one is that the pipe underneath has collapsed so we need to tear up the entire thing and pull the pipe out and we didn't want to do that while school was still in session."*

*Councilwoman Hotard stated, "They are out now. So maybe two spots it seems like that I will pay attention on the way home."*

*Brian Nunes stated, "There is the really bad one at Catalpa and we were waiting for school to let and we are getting ready to do that. I will look at the other one."*

*Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Yes this one you actually hit going towards the back of Belle Terre so I wouldn't be on the Catalpa side but I will check it again and if we could expedite those."*

*Brian Nunes stated, "Sure especially if you could get me an address I can send the contractor out."*

*Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Okay I will check it on the way home."*

*Councilman Wilson stated, "Back on the sidewalks my district all the way to Garyville we have the same problem those things were put in around the 1950's if not earlier but also I have streets in Garyville and Reserve where they are partially in the ditch you cannot walk on them and I would like to see you get something done with those in our areas also."*

*Brian Nunes stated, "We had done some in Garyville in house."*

*Councilman Wilson stated, "There is one that I turned in just before you get to the St. Hubert Center. I asked to get one cleaned up they can walk on it if it is cleaned it has been two months now and nothing has gotten done."*

*Brian Nunes stated, "I will have to look at that you don't remember the address off of the top of your head?"*

*Councilman Wilson stated, "No but if you go about 4 houses south of the church hall you are going to see it there is a big house there in the trees and in the front the sidewalk is all covered with grass it needs to be scraped and cleaned on the sides and the top so that people can use it."*

*Brian Nunes stated, "Okay we can handle that."*

**Lennix Madere - Drainage on Hickory Street and N.W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street**

*Councilman Madere stated, "Mr. Nunes you can just give me an update on that if you have found any information out on Hickory Street?"*

*Brian Nunes stated, "I did I have identified both property owners on each side I just haven't actually spoke to them about going back there and cleaning it out. We do know that it is private property. We have a servitude on one side but it is only 7 feet which really isn't big enough for us to get a machine in so we would still need the property owner's permission so I haven't made contact but I have identified."*

Councilman Madere asked, "Once we that permission then it is just a matter of us getting in there and doing the work."

Brian Nunes stated, "Well it is more than that it is not just driving up and doing it there are trees all up and down that we would have to clear out and there is a cost involved in that and it is probably pretty significant. I have to look into that and get a cost and see if the property owner is okay with us cutting down a bunch of trees."

Councilman Madere stated, "Well a lot of the trees are located in the canal itself some of the trees that we would be asking to remove are the ones that are actually in the canal itself which would be our canal which would end up being our trees. So we don't have to have permission to cut those out of that canal now as far as 3-4 feet on their property line I am not concerned about those just the ones that are keeping the water from moving or causing the problems. So I am not interested in cutting their trees just enough so that we can get by and clear the stuff out. So as soon as you get that information just get back with me and on North West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street I spoke to Mr. Verdell and he told me that the canal that runs behind N.W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street that you all were in the process of cleaning that and cutting it this week so I do appreciate that and I would like to be updated on Hickory Street as soon as you possibly can get to it let me know."

#### **Lennix Madere - Drainage and Road Repair - Melius Drive**

Councilman Madere stated, "On Melius Drive that happened when we did that repair with the sewer line and we cut a big chunk of the road out and Melius Street is pretty bad already. I hope next year it is on the list too because it is really bad since they cut that area those people have been experiencing a lot of flooding that they weren't experiencing before. I don't know what happened in that area but now it is retaining a lot of water and it wasn't doing that before that repair so you might not be able to see it until you have a rain episode and then you will be able to locate the problem in that area and I just wanted to bring it to your attention."

Brian Nunes stated, "I spoke with Blake about that this morning and I think when they did the utility repairs some of the backfill might have gotten into the culverts or the ditches so it is just a matter of us going out there and cleaning it but we can take a look at that repairing where the repair was done."

Councilman Madere stated, "I just wanted to say one other thing because it seems as though every week I am on public works back or something like that and that is just the nature of the beast but I am not and I want to commend 2 of your workers this morning that you had working on drainage. I went by the pump and it was running and I spoke to them because I got a phone call that morning from a guy on Central and he had gone around cleaning out the canals and the guy took me back there and there were two cross tires and a gas tank that was keeping the water from flowing. So they said they were going to walk over there and take a look at it. They walked over there and pulled it out and got everything flowing. When they pulled that debris the entire area in a matter of minutes all the water was moving out. So I want to commend you and your department for being out there and for those two guys to

respond that quickly but I want to make it perfectly clear that there was no order given by this councilman to a parish employee. I just mentioned it to them and they went and got it and they did a great job. One other thing at 1601 Delta we have a canal back there that we go and cut with the tractor and we cut along the side are you familiar with that. You may have to go take a look at it but the concern is when the tractor goes back there it is a spot that we used to go to cut the grass I think that we need to put some gravel or something there because the tractor is making such a huge hole and it is holding a lot of water so you may want to go and look at that to see what we can do about that."

Brian Nunes stated, "I will drive out there tomorrow and take a look at it."

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

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

Councilman Wilson stated, "Drainage on W. 8<sup>th</sup> Street a couple of meetings ago I mentioned around Marmillion Loop has anything been done?"

Brian Nunes stated, "That one hasn't been done yet it is next we are finishing something in the back of LaPlace Park right now and then we are going out that way because we are going to do that area for you and then Mr. Madere had an area as well. I didn't want to go from one end of the parish to the other end back and forth so we are kind of working projects."

Councilman Wilson stated, "I just want you to be online with the schoolboard and get permission from them or the land owners to use that ditch and get it to W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street that is going to be under construction because they already have problems there now because they have one ditch that is close where the loop used to drain when they put the library up but the entire W. 8<sup>th</sup> Street has a sewerage problem. I mean when we have these big rains they have to close the street off. I mean something has to be done there sooner or later. Also in Garyville the canals and culverts that run under Highway 61 need to be cleaned. I went on my 4-wheeler and looked around at some of these spots and the water is as high as can be and I got into some areas where I could see a little bit further and in the canals that go into the swamps to the Garyville canal they have trees in them that fell I guess in the storm or whatever but the water can't get out. Those canals need to be dug and that is all the way from Marathon's property line to pass Pete's wrecker service and including the canal along 54 because it is above the culverts and the water is just sitting there and when I fell in there I sunk up to my waist in the mud and I was stuck in there. I don't want them to touch the sides of the ditch just to dig the piece in the middle because I mean I have a 25 foot servitude for drainage further up from me it is a ditch when it gets by me I have a pond my property is in the water too but we need some attention over there sooner than later because the water is not getting out and they can do all the digging they want before the railroad tracks. If they don't get the water out they have to dig along the railroad track to get the water to the canals to get out everybody has canal problems in LaPlace I have problems getting the water to the canals and if they don't do it



*from point A to point B they didn't do anything you have to complete the entire thing including where it goes under on Garyville Canal. On Easter Sunday I rode back there and the tide was low but they had ground sitting there with grass growing in it and I went over the little bridge before you get to the launch and I saw two more areas all of that needs to be dug the water just is not going to go anywhere anytime quick because everything is blocked up. You don't get around and see it I get around and I see it and the water is going to go downhill but you have to open up the drain so it can get there. It is a big deal that they are doing some digging in Garyville but you have to dig all the way from the front to the back you can't just dig one piece in the front and think that you solved the problem because the water still can't get out."*

**Art Smith - (Carry Over 5-12-15) Overturn trailer placement denial - Brielle Frazier - 132 W. 12 Street - Wallace**

Councilman Smith asked that this item be carried over to the next agenda.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Hugh Martin - Resolution - R15-25 - 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, May 2, 2015, to authorize the renewal of a special tax therein**

Hugh Martin, Bond Attorney, stated, "Congratulations to everyone on the election passing, the resolution that you have before you officially declares the results of the election and authorizes the issuance of a Procès Verbal and a proclamation which is recorded in the Clerk of Courts Office here in the parish and also with the Secretary of State's Office. The results were as follows. There were 1,267 votes cast in favor of the proposition and 521 cast against it for a majority of 746 votes. As you know this election authorizes the renewal of a 1 mill tax for the courthouse maintenance."

**MOTION:** Councilman Gauff moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to approve Resolution R15-25. 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, May 2, 2015, to authorize the renewal of a special tax therein. The motion passed with Councilmen Madere and Snyder absent.

**Michael Wright - Appointment of L'Observateur as the Official Journal for the Parish**

**MOTION:** Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to appoint the L'Observateur as the Official Journal for the Parish of St. John the Baptist. The motion passed unanimously.

**Hugh Martin - Resolution - R15-26 - A Resolution amending a resolution adopted on January 31, 2014, providing for the employment of investment banker/underwriter and Financial Advisor in connection with the issuance by the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, of**

**not exceeding Thirty Million Dollars (\$30,000,000) of General Obligation Bonds**

Hugh Martin stated, "The resolution of January 31, 2014 employed underwriters in connection with the issuance of 18 million dollars of bonds which was issued at that time and that resolution employed Stephens Inc., of Baton Rouge as the underwriter actually they were employed for the entire issuance of authorization of a bond which was 30 million dollars. Since that time there has been a change in the makeup of Stephens Inc. and the principals that worked on your bond issue are now with Stifel, Nicolaus and Company, Inc. of Baton Rouge. This resolution would authorize the changing of the underwriters name to Stifel, Nicolaus and Company, Inc. which is what it is as of today."

Councilman Perrilloux asked, "By changing underwriters, do the terms of the contract stay the same? Is it just a name change?"

Hugh Martin stated, "Just a name change and the same people are actually still working on it."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "Mr. Hugh there are no additional fees or costs in this it is just a housekeeping issue."

Hugh Martin stated, "It is all just housekeeping."

**MOTION:** Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Gauff seconded the motion to approve Resolution R15-26. A Resolution amending a resolution adopted on January 31, 2014, providing for the employment of investment banker/underwriter and Financial Advisor in connection with the issuance by the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, of not exceeding Thirty Million Dollars (\$30,000,000) of General Obligation Bonds. The motion passed unanimously.

There was no executive session.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

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

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

Larry Snyder - Hurricane Preparation plans

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

Water bill issues - 133 Beechgrove, Reserve, LA

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

Lennix Madere - Water bills - amoeba update

Water District #1 System issues/State DHH order

Any and all pending legal matters

#### **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES**

**15-17** An Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 13-07 adopted on May 14, 2013, by the Parish Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, to provide for various terms of the Water Revenue Bonds authorized therein and providing for other matters in connection therewith (N. Robottom)

**15-18** An ordinance granting approval requesting a Re-zoning of Lot 32, Square F, Cornland Addition "B" to show the change in the current Zone of Zone C-2 to Zone C-3, situated in Section 44, T-11-S, R-7-E, Reserve, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (PZR-15-1036) (N. Robottom)

**15-19** An ordinance granting approval of a re-subdivision of a portion of Lots F-2 and G-2 of original Lot 2, Angelina Plantation Subdivision, into lots "H-2A" and "H-2B", which are located both North and South of Jefferson Highway, between Champagne Lane and Tank Farm Road, in Section 3, Township 11-S, Range 6-E, Mt. Airy, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (PZS-15-1113) (N. Robottom)

#### **PARISH PRESIDENT REPORT**

Natalie Robottom stated, "Good evening, I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable Memorial Day holiday while remembering to celebrate our servicemen and women who made the ultimate sacrifice to protect us and our country. We thank all who continue the annual traditions of hosting the Memorial Day programs at the KC Hall and the War Veterans Home in memory of our fallen heroes. Your efforts are greatly appreciated. Work on the 2015 Road Improvement Program is scheduled to begin this week by Barriere Construction. This work involves an investment of over \$1 million and includes 27 roads with varying degrees of patching, milling and paving. Please pardon the inconvenience as we make these much needed road improvements. Opening Day for the 2015 baseball season began at REGALA Park on Saturday, May 23. The day was filled with excitement and enthusiasm by players, coaches and parents. Thanks to all of the parish staff, volunteers and parents for helping to make it a success. The league consists of 5-6, 7-8, 9-10 and 11-14 year olds and games are scheduled for Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays. Game schedules will be posted on the Parks & Recreation page of the Parish website. The Summer Food Service program that provide meals to school aged children begins June 3 and runs for six weeks Mondays through Thursdays. Breakfast and Lunch will be served at East St. John Elementary and LaPlace Elementary Schools. Breakfast will be served from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and lunch will be served at 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. For more information or questions, please visit the Health & Human Service webpage or call 985-536-4955. The parish's Annual Summer Camp begins on June 8 and includes arts and crafts, team sports, swimming, academic enrichment, games, contests, field trips and more. The camp provides a variety of activities to keep campers motivated and active during the summer months. We are working to finalize an agreement to offer free swimming lessons again this year through The Ashley Kelley Swim Program. Details are still being finalized but the program is slated to

begin June 22. Participants will undergo lessons focusing on floating, kicking, breathing, arm movement and swimming to the side of the pool. Sessions will be held from: June 22 - 26 - 5:45 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. July 13 - 17 - 5:45 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Please contact the Parks & Recreation Department at 652-9569 for more information. Last week, St. John teamed up with ESJE students and staff for "National Walk/Ride to School Day." The event promotes riding/walking to school on a daily basis and is an extension of the National American Heart Association's Safe Routes to School Program and grant. Special thanks to the Grants and Capital Projects staff, Administrative staff, Principal Stacy Bradford and the Sheriff's Office for assisting with the morning activities. This is the second grant of this type awarded to the parish. On June 12, a grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony is scheduled for the new Anytime Fitness in LaPlace at 10:00 a.m. Residents and business owners are invited to attend and receive a tour of the new facility. Anytime Fitness is located at 607 Belle Terre Blvd., LaPlace. We extend our congratulations to all of the businesses that recently opened their doors in St. John Parish and wish them great success. These include Title Stream, Dunkin Donuts, BeasMaw's Café, Salon Experience and River Bend Imaging. We encourage new business owners to remain in contact with our Economic Development Department and monitor our Parish communication channels for upcoming seminars and workshops. The water level in the Mississippi River has dropped below 11 feet at the Carrollton gauge and contractors working within 1500 feet of the Mississippi River should refer to their construction permits for guidelines and restrictions or refer to [www.leveedistrict.org](http://www.leveedistrict.org). Just a reminder - Hurricane Season begins on Monday, June 1 and this week has been proclaimed as Hurricane Preparedness Week. Now is the time to make sure you have an emergency plan in place for you, your family, your pets and your business. Please visit the parish website at [sjbparish.com](http://sjbparish.com) to review the 10 step plan and go to [getagameplan.org](http://getagameplan.org) for preparation tips. Residents can also expect to receive a hurricane brochure next month with most of this information. We also encourage residents to stock up on Hurricane Preparedness supplies next weekend during the Hurricane Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday. The holiday begins at 12:01 a.m. on Saturday, May 30 and concludes at 11:50 p.m. Sunday, May 31. The 5% local sales tax and 4% state's sales tax is exempt on the first \$1,500 of the sale price for readiness items including portable lighting sources, radio, gas and fuel tanks, batteries, generators and more. For a complete list of eligible items please visit the Louisiana Department of Revenue's website at [www.revenue.louisiana.gov](http://www.revenue.louisiana.gov). We'd also like to remind you to personalize the emergency notifications you receive through our Blackboard Notification System - notifications can be sent to your home phone, cell phone, or email. Notifications and updates are also posted on the parish website, SJTV (government access channels), Facebook and Twitter. I will be joining Mayor Landrieu, other Parish Presidents from the region and state agency representatives for a joint press conference to discuss hurricane preparations and plans for the upcoming season. Information regarding Monday's press conference will be posted on the Parish's website and Facebook page. Thank you."

**ADJOURNMENT:**

At 8:30 PM, Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Smith seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

/s/Michael Wright  
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche  
Council Secretary