

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, JUNE 13TH, 2017
CHAIRMAN LARRY SNYDER
VICE-CHAIR JACLYN HOTARD

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, June 13th, 2017 at 6:30 PM.

CALL TO ORDER:

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, Michael Wright, Councilman District V, Larry Snyder, Councilman District VI, Thomas Malik, Councilman District VII,

ABSENT: Jaclyn Hotard, Marvin Perrilloux

Councilman Madere led the Prayer. Councilman Wright led the Pledge.

Legal Counsel Keith Green, Jr., Geoffrey Michel and Kennilyn Schmill were present.

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

There was no public comment at this time.

INTRODUCTION OF BUSINESSES

Michael Wright/Jaclyn Hotard - Presentation - Benny Robichaux - 2nd Annual American Flag Ceremony

Benny Robichaux and Commander Allen were present to give a brief presentation on the 2nd Annual American Flag Ceremony to be held at the Southeast Louisiana War Veterans Home.

CONSENT AGENDA:

ITEMS: Approval of Minutes - May 23rd, 2017, Regular Meeting

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilwoman Remondet seconded the motion to approve consent agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes - May 23rd, 2017 Regular Meeting. The motion passed with Councilman Perrilloux and Councilwoman Hotard absent.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:

17-16 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance to provide that the Parish include a one percent (1%) legal services fee in any and all construction contracts by requiring one percent (1%) of the total construction cost(s) or one percent (1%) of the total contract price, whichever is the greater, to be included in any and all budgets for construction contracts (L. Snyder)

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yawl didn't have enough information, that's what yawl saying? Okay, let me just put a little light on this, this is what's happening. I did get a couple of calls myself on this particular ordinance, and I think some

people had some misconception who read it in the newspaper, that it was 1% on all constructions in the parish. I'd like to get someone from legal to explain this for me a little bit if you don't mind."

Keith Green, Jr. stated, "Again, Good Evening Council. What this ordinance does, it includes a 1% fee that will actually be used to hire Legal Counsel for the Parish. Counsel who has a let's say; experience in knowledge and certain skill sets that deal with construction related matters. So therefore, in the event the Parish gets into another construction project, the Parish will have an attorney that's assigned to that particular project from beginning to end."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Good and that's only on parish contracts?"

Keith Green, Jr. stated, "That will be anything that's publically bided that the parish is constructing."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Right, right. That's to protect us guys, just to protect. Now if they have a contractor out there who builds houses want to build houses, he has to get his own lawyer. Do his own thing."

Keith Green, Jr. stated, "It does not affect a thing. Exactly."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Just want to get that out there so we can move on with that and that's the importance that we're just trying to protect our Parish."

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

17-17 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance to amend the St. John the Baptist Parish Code of Ordinances to create Chapter 8.6 - Waiver of Prohibition of Jury Trials, to provide that St. John the Baptist Parish waive the prohibition of jury trials and establish its right to demand a trial by jury in any suit filed against the Parish in a court subject to the laws and jurisdiction of the State of Louisiana (L. Snyder)

Councilman Snyder stated, "Administration says that they don't have enough information about the ordinance and its impact on lawsuits filed against the Parish to make a recommendation. There are state laws that this is has something to do with, and I asked them I asked the DA Office again to come and explain this one to us and again this is to protect the Parish."

Keith Green, Jr. stated, "This is the most we've gotten to speak in any of our meetings. With this, current state law is that any lawsuit filed in State Court with any municipality has to be tried by a Judge. However the state law allows any municipality to decide whether it would prefer the option to have a jury trial, so the passing of this Ordinance, the Parish Council will be able to decide if anyone files a lawsuit against the Parish whether that petition will be heard by a Judge or by a Jury. So basically what it does, it just postures the Parish and it puts the Parish in the same posture as any other litigant."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Right! Thank you sir. We appreciate that Mr. Green."
Keith Green, Jr. stated, "You're welcome."

Natalie Robottom asked, "Is there fiscal note or cost associated with or the difference between a Judge or Jury?"

Keith Green, Jr. stated, "No ma'am. It's just actually who's going to hear the case."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I know but who pays for that? Like the jury, like you know sometimes..."

Keith Green, Jr. stated, "That's from the Clerk of Courts Office."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Ok alright, so that would be a cost to them?"

Keith Green, Jr. stated, "I think so, yes."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Ok, that was my question."

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

17-18 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance amending the St. John the Baptist Parish Code of Ordinances, specifically Chapter 113. - Zoning, specifically those provisions related to the maximum permitted height of structures in commercial districts to bring regulations into conformance with best planning practices and to provide for related matters (Parishwide, Docket No. TXT-17-2) (N. Robottom)

Alexandra Carter, Planning & Zoning Director, stated, "Proposed building height and light pole amendments acknowledge the enhanced capacity of the local fire department and aim to support and balance commercial development with rural and residential neighborhood design. On April 25, 2017, the President's Advisory Committee on Community Development and Neighborhoods voted to support the adoption of this study, as did the Planning Commission (unanimous motion) on May 15, 2017. Administration recommends approval."

MOTION: Councilwoman Remonet moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 17-18. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard, Councilman Perrilloux absent and 1 against.

17-19 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the re-subdivision of Lots 5-B and 6-B, Square 1, Cambridge Place Subdivision into Lot 5-B-1, Square 1, Cambridge Place Subdivision, located in the area generally bounded by Colony Dr., West Airline Hwy., Cambridge Dr., and Ormond Blvd., containing municipal address 947 Cambridge Dr., LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana as shown in a Survey prepared by Stephen P. Flynn, P.L.S. on March 17, 2017. (PZS-17-1164) (N. Robottom)

Alexandra Carter stated, "On May 15, 2017, the Planning Commission unanimously approved this request and Administration recommends approval."

MOTION: Councilman Becnel moved and Councilman Sorapuru seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 17-19. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Perrilloux absent.

17-20 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the re-subdivision of Parcel 2, a portion of Lot H, New Era Plantation Subdivision into Parcels 2-A and 2-B, portions of Lot H, New Era Plantation Subdivision, located in the area generally bounded by Jasper Ln., West Airline Hwy., North Sugar Ridge Dr., and Tiffany Dr., containing municipal Address 1900 West Airline Hwy., LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana as shown in a survey prepared by Byron J. Oncale,

P.L.S. on May 9, 2017. (PZS-17-1163) (N. Robottom)

Alexandra Carter stated, "On May 15, 2017, the Planning Commission unanimously approved this request and Administration recommends approval."

MOTION: Councilman Sorapuru moved and Councilwoman Remondet seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 17-20. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Perrilloux absent.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Madere stated, "I'd like to make a motion that the council accept the finance committee report."

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

OLD BUSINESS:

There is no old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Natalie Robottom/Kerry Watkins - Request adoption of Parks & Recreation Campers Handbook

Kerry Watkins stated, "As recommended by the DA's Office, this policy establishes rules and regulations for campers participating in Summer Camp programs. It was reviewed and approved by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board at their June 5, 2017 meeting and Administration recommends approval."

Councilman Madere asked, "Will we get a copy of the handbook?"

Kerry Watkins stated, "Yes sir, it should have been provided to you. It was sent to you all."

Councilman Madere stated, "It was sent to us already?"

Kerry Watkins stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yeah I think we got one. I read it. Good handbook good job, good job. Appreciate you doing that, I think it was some good advice to have something like that written up you know that way we can, we can look at problems before they happen to avoid some of the problems that we may have."

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilwoman Remondet seconded the motion to grant administration authorization to approve adoption of Parks & Recreation Campers Handbook. The motion passed Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Perrilloux absent.

Natalie Robottom/Rhonda Lemons - Request adoption of Summer Food Service Program Staff Handbook

Rhonda Lemons stated, "Good Evening Council. This policy outlines staff expectations when working with the Summer Food Service Programs. Administration recommends approval."

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to grant administration authorization to approve adoption of Summer Food Service Program Staff Handbook. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Perrilloux absent.

Natalie Robottom/Rhonda Lemons - Authorization to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with New Wine Christian Fellowship Church for the 2017 Summer Food Service Program Satellite Site

Rhonda Lemons stated, "This agreement allows access to the Church's commercial kitchen as a satellite feeding site through July 13, 2017 in support of the Summer Feeding Program. The agreement was reviewed and approved by Legal Counsel and Administration recommends approval."

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Sorapuru seconded the motion to grant administration authorization to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the New Wine Christian Fellowship Church for the 2017 Summer Food Service Program Satellite Site. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Perrilloux absent.

Natalie Robottom - Resolution - R17-29 - A resolution to implore United States Congress to expedite funding and construction of a Hurricane Protection Levee for St. John the Baptist Parish

Natalie Robottom stated, "The President's recent budget illuminated funding for the Corps of Engineers for projects in the State of Louisiana, as well as remove GOMESA funding, which was the annual allocation set to kick in 2018. That would support the \$50 Billion Master Plan at the state level for coastal projects. And I request and call to action is to everyone contact their delegation, obviously we know that's just to introduce budget. Our delegation has the opportunity to make amendments and this resolution actually would support that and we'll make sure that they get it. And as weather conditions and high water levels continue to worsen during our severe "rain storms", it implores the President of the United States and Louisiana Federal Delegation to expedite funding for construction of the West Shore Hurricane Protection Levee. Council members, residents and business owners are encouraged to contact our delegation with the same message. There are also sample letters on our website, I think we sent something to the council in the event you guys wanted to draft a letter, I've drafted a letter from the President and this resolution is moving forward, we've also made contact with some of our delegation. Again, this is our #1 priority, flood protection storm surge protection with gates and pumping stations, so again it is important that this project receives some initial funding for property acquisition, initial design, mitigation or something to move this project forward."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I don't know if any of you had time to actually contact the delegation or send them an email like that or telephone call, all that information is on the website. I know I did and it's not going to hurt anything to make some contact with them. Does anyone from the administration know our 4-digit code that we need behind our zip code 70068 for LaPlace area like that? There's a 4-digit number that you put behind there and it took me hard time to find the same thing. It's 2805, so when you're talking to Cedric or you're talking to one of those Senators over there, in order to get them you have to put that number down there and I called the post office, I called Reserve Telephone Company and I finally found and tracked the number down I think it's 2805. That's mine where I live at 70068, and that way they'll let you through for an email to those people. So when you go online you'll pull up their address you'll see that

and you can send them an email. But we're going to get something drafted so."

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilwoman Remondet seconded the motion to approve Resolution R17-29. A resolution to implore United States Congress to expedite funding and construction of a Hurricane Protection Levee for St. John the Baptist Parish. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Perrilloux absent.

DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:

Larry Sorapuru - (Tabled until 06/27/17) Update from Bond attorney on financing for water projects

Councilman Sorapuru item remains tabled until 06/27/17.

MOTION: Councilman Sorapuru moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to move up item: Lennix Madere - Presentation on junked vehicles for Alex Carter to present the presentation. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Perrilloux absent.

Lennix Madere - Presentation on junked vehicles

Alexandra Carter stated, "This is just a brief review of recent amendments made to St. John the Baptist Parish Code of Ordinances with regards to junk and abandoned vehicles. While the presentation loads, I just want to kind of give you guys a heads up we do have tags, new tags. There's a 5 day tag and a 7 day tag and we're going to talk a little bit more about this in the presentation. And like Councilman Snyder was explaining, this is something about you know we really want awareness for the public. And so, the goal of these change was really to improve enforcement, to clarify existing regulations with regards to definitions, the treatment of private vs. public property, to protect residential development and define and allow some storage of junk vehicles as appropriate. And really get it, what that means: When we look at the next slide, the Junked Vehicle Definition - we amended it to be more all-inclusive, it captures characteristics of blight today. This means you know wrecked, rusted vehicles, dismantled or partially dismantled vehicles, burned or partially burnt vehicles, those vehicles that are inoperative, abandoned or discarded, or characterized as being a total loss. And what we did this definition is to say that junked vehicles in violation with the Code will be given 5 days of notice to remove. So when you see on the orange tag that is a 5 day tag that you have to remove the vehicle (examples were shown) and you're going to get a notice and the notice is just going to be the tag. So there is no mail notice associated with these violations. So when we talk about limited Storage on Private Property, it is appropriate in a number of situations: if it's enclosed completely within a building or garage, the idea of this is not causing a public nuisance, right you can't see it. If it's covered completely and stored under a carport, likewise, it's really not a nuisance. If it's located in a manner that is not visible from the street or other public or private property, if you have them in your backyard and it's fenced and your neighbors can't see it and it's stored free of dust and weeds and debris, no this would not be in violation. Also, what we made provisions for was some temporary storage in the front yard, like sometimes you get in a car accident and you have to make short term accommodations for your junked vehicle and that can sometimes take a couple of days. So what we're saying is that, if you have a vehicle that is wrecked, you may store it temporarily within the front yard for 7 days. If we see a vehicle that's wrecked in the front yard, it's going to be not tagged but we are have tags right, that say; look this vehicle is being monitored. So it's not in violation but it is being monitored, it's the yellow tag and what we're

doing is letting that property owner know, it's okay but your time clock is ticking right! 7 days if it's more than 7 days you'll get the 5 day tag and it will technically be in violation. There are some conditions with this temporary storage in the front yard; the vehicle has to be titled to the owner, one vehicle may only be stored at a time, and no more than 3 vehicles may be stored over the course of one year. And this is really getting at issues that we have with mechanics working out of the front yard and sort of rotating cars that they're taking care of and fixing. So we don't want to see that happening you know one new car every 7 days. Right, so we want to make sure it's an isolated incident associated with people who reside at the dwelling and it's not having a negative impact to the neighborhood. So here's an example (example shown), I can't tell if it's junk, it's covered it's stored under a carport, here's another one, so here's a vehicle that partially dismantled it's located in the front yard. This would be something we would monitor, right you would say this is not appropriate long term storage, but if you're doing it in 7 days, we're not going to give you problems except to notify you that this has to be a short term solution. This is another one (example shown) it's obviously being worked on, there's some problems with it, it's not operative or operable so would likewise let people know, you have 7 days this is a temporary solution. We clarified in this Ordinance the difference between public property and private property, if it's on the street it is enforced by the Sheriff, it's a 5 day tag, we wanted to keep this as simple as possible and with the Ordinance we clarified different types of violations on public properties. So we talked about vehicles for sale, junked, long term storage, blocking driveways, all these things are specifically listed as violations in the code so we can be very specific about what is the problem. But their all tied to a 5 day tag. So here's an example: this is an abandoned junked they would get 5 day tagged, burnt vehicles on the street - 5 day tag. There are some exemptions; antique vehicles that are part-time private property with tags registered with the state, we're going to leave those alone. They may not be operative you may be working on them, vehicles thrown in the junk yard that meet the requirements of the code, if you have your occupational license and you have these stored on site, that's fine with us. And then we also have for the parish's protection, but also for citizen's protection, Provisions for Administrative Hearings. If you get tagged and you think it wasn't done properly, you can request a hearing locally within 5 days. So you get the 5 day tag, the tag says you have 5 days to request a hearing and if you do so we'll put you through and sort of make the case that maybe this was not done properly. And then there are fines and penalties, so we did not increase the fines and penalties, they remain \$250.00 and then associated with this is if you do request a court, the administrative hearing you may be fined with some additional cost of fines and penalties if you are found to be at fault. Likewise the tow company will have excess fees, state fines and penalties should the vehicle they tow have liens or you know belong to someone else, or you know are all these other records that the state maintains that may result in additional fines or penalties that they need to collect. We can't predict that. So in furtherance of this Ordinance, the Parish is going to conduct the first of the series of Code Enforcement sweeps on Monday, June 19th, 2017, and we're preparing for that, we have a press release we are going to publicize this on the public access channel, we're working with Utilities to put this on the billing, so we're really trying to put the word out likewise Councilman Snyder, we talked about this at one of his Town Hall Meetings, as much as we can make the public aware that if it's time to move your vehicle today, don't wait to be ticketed, it's better for everybody to do it voluntarily than to create paperwork and processing if you do wait. So if anyone has questions, you can email if some of these things may have brought questions to mind, its g_codeenforcement@stjohn-la.gov, we're more than happy to answer your questions both from the council and the public."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "So Alex we're going to tow the cars away from the driveways, who's going to pay for that service?"

Alexandra Carter stated, "The fine associated with this is \$250.00, if you're found to be in violation and you don't move the care within 5 days, the parish will call the tow company out and that person the property owner will be fined at \$250.00 on the Parish's part. So for on private property the property owner will be fined."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "Okay but who's going to pay the tow truck driver when he picks that car up, he's going to want to get paid?"

Alexandra Carter stated, "He will invoice the parish. This is something we already do, so when the tow truck's company invoices the parish for the amount and then parish accesses the fine to the property owner."

Councilman Madere asked, "So it works the same way of grass cutting?"

Alexandra Carter stated, "Yes, yes."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right."

Alexandra Carter stated, "And should the property owner not pay the fine, it is set up where it would become a lien against the property."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right. Ok now and like you said, this was already a procedure the Parish already have you know have the ability to do, as far as to tow vehicles, those abandoned vehicles? Ok this is just an attempt I think to clean up."

Alexandra Carter stated, "Exactly."

Councilman Madere stated, "A lot of abandoned cars that we do have in different areas throughout St. John the Baptist Parish. Okay it's not just of Reserve, Garyville its Parish wide. And I thank you for doing this, some individuals might be mad, but that's tough. That's tough because you have to take into consideration the people that live next door to these vehicles and the situation okay, and that's the most important thing. Because one individual wanted to stock pile cars and live that way, that's not necessarily what the whole community is all about. You know streets and everything like that so I thank you for putting this together, and I'm glad you were able to bring this out to the residents so they would an opportunity to see the meeting and have a chance to address some of the problems that they know they have. And I support this effort."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I'd just like to add to that. It is a new Ordinance, keep in mind our goal is not to tow away your vehicle, our goal is not to spend public dollars on your private property and hope that you pay us back. We don't really want to lien your property, we would prefer that you move own vehicle. It's kind of like all our violations. The reason we're engaged is because you haven't done what was necessary. And that is a concern for us Mr. Sorapuru, because we have quite a bit of outstanding money that we've paid to cut grass, some of the properties are adjudicated, we're not getting out money back. Clearly by adding it to the tax bill, we've started to collect some of the money but you know we're going to be fronting these dollars in hopes of getting our money back. So that's not really what we want to do, we want you to move your vehicle so that's why we're doing this public service announcement, that's why the

presentation is being made, you are going to get information in your utility bill, but again our goal is to have you move your vehicle or make sure it's compliant so that we don't have to pay a tow company and bill you and/or lien your property. But we do want the area clean. This is important, we amended the junk vehicle ordinance to provide clarity, we had some issues in forcing it, because it wasn't that clear you know in terms of what was a vehicle, how long we had, but I think with working together with everybody, Alex did a good job with that, working and trying to include what Council Members wanted, based on the history of problems they've had, spoke with the Sheriff's Office and their folks as well, trying to put together a good document and I think you did a great job."

Alexandra Carter stated, "Thank you."

Councilman Malik stated, "Quick question for you. So as I'm reading this, stored in the front yard temporarily, vehicle title to an owner. So if a, some guy starts parking his vehicles that he's using in somebody else's vehicle that he doesn't live at that residence. This Ordinance would also include that?"

Alexandra Carter stated, "Only if it was junk and if it was, I would say those provisions are really going to be used when we have a complaint on a property that we cannot, we know is operating a mechanic shop. We need to have the tee to build up the address complaint. Right so, if someone is just parking their vehicle at someone else's house, that shouldn't be a problem. If it's somebody who is parking it there and it's wrecked temporarily and it happens one time a year, that's not going to necessitate Code Enforcement doing this type of research. You know we have to acknowledge our capacity and our staff right, but we also want to make sure that when there is a problem the community identifies it we can address it. And so there's going to be some I would say, understanding that some cases like that really are not impacting the community are going require less energy than the ones that are and that we know residents and people within that area have made us aware that this is a problem. So we are responsive first to the people who are immediately surrounding those properties." Define STORED."

Alexandra Carter stated, "STORED would be and that's at the 5 and 7 days. Right when you talk about Storage we're talking about how long..."

Councilman Malik interrupting stated, "Has to be inoperable it's not licensed."

Alexandra Carter stated, "Right."

Councilman Malik stated, "Ok thank you."

Alexandra Carter stated, "Absolutely."

Councilman Wright stated, "Alex I just want to thank you and your department. I know we've talked a lot about this and I have a lot of happy residents at Home Owners Association so, great job!"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Alex thank you. Appreciate all the work you put into this."

Larry Sorapur - (Carry Over 05-09-17) Update on West Bank Community Center construction

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes Mr. Cooper is out of the office tonight. But what

was determined after going in doing some of the demolition was there's extensive damage to that facility that requires some type of conceptual design and a cost estimate. If you recall we originally went in to do a renovation based on LGAP funding for about \$125,000.00, we'd already committed the next year's LGAP so we would have had about \$250,000.00 to put on this project. But we have some real concerns about the stability of the structure, so we've asked one of our firms to go take a look at it and give us a better idea of what it would cost to put it back in a condition that would be safe and would remove I think, what they ended up finding were termites and when they pulled away the walls, things that you couldn't tell were there until you went in to demolish it. So that's what we're attempting to do is kind of get a cost estimate. We anticipate though, we can tell you this now that it's going to be over the amount of money we have, so we have to start looking at some other options. But we have committed using the LGAP funding for 2 years, which gives us \$250,000.00 toward the project but it was worse off than originally anticipated."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Mr. Kendrick was there also, they did a real good job stripping the building down and opening that wall on the south side where the fire bay was at one point. But you have any idea what type of timeframe the building would be back in order?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "As we said, one we need a cost estimate because we know that it's going to be more than we anticipated and we also have to pursue some additional funding. We did receive you know kind of preliminary cost estimate that was clearly unacceptable so we're working with those numbers to put what we definitely need in the facility, but we also have to and if you guys know of some other means we need to start identifying some additional funding for that building."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Ok thank you."

Councilman Becnel stated, "Yes listen, I just want to say like you said, you don't have a timeframe right now, but I want my Westbank constituents to understand that if we're going to do it, we're going to do it right. So, but I don't like to stalled and delayed but in this instance I want them to have patience like I'm having because we want to do it correctly. And like you said, additional funding and everything we have to go that route, so to those who are listening out there in the audience, just have patience we'll get it done. Thank you!"

Lennix Madere - Drainage/Utilities in District III

Brian Nunes stated, "Good Evening. The Reserve Drainage Project Phase III is proceeding on schedule. Drainage on 26th Street is complete with the exception of a segment that is waiting on a gas line offset by Atmos. It is scheduled to be done this week, weather permitting. All pipe and junction boxes on 27th Street should be complete by this Thursday. Asphalt patching is currently under way at the intersection of 26th and 27th Streets as well as Perilloux Drive. There's not enough information to provide a response regarding Utilities in District III. I have the Project Engineer here as well if you want specifics about construction." Councilman Madere stated, "Yes and I'm going to get to Blake after we deal with drainage. Well I think it's well documented and the situation we had with the rain and I'm very understanding of that, the fact that we had (5) 4 inches of rain within an hour and it affected a large area and not just District III. Me and Ms. Remondet rode her District and she came in my District, we rode together we didn't go in LaPlace but I'm pretty sure they had some problems to okay with

that large amount of rain. With that being said, there's still some situations especially in my District she can speak on her behalf, in my District where even if we had had an inch rain or two inches of rain we still get the situation in the same location in my area. So the picture did not change in my area as far as who got flooded or who got water, it's just extended to a few more houses. But we have this type of situation happen every time we get some rain, 2 inches in an hour, inch in an hour, you know these people still get affected. And that's the problem I'm looking to correct or improve that situation. Because we have no chance those individuals in my area have no chance at all when they get 5 inches of rain, okay we're in trouble when we get an inch and a half, so when we have an episode that don't happen very often, but when 4 and 5 inches come down, they don't have a chance at all. All I've been trying to do since I've been in office is to improve the chances of the residents when we have a large amount of rain. We're never going to be able to solve it all, because you can get 7 inches of rain an hour and I don't care what you have you'll have flooding. I'm just trying to improve it okay, and I've been trying to improve it since 2012, and here we are in 2017 and some of the same people that complain to me are having a problem regardless whether it's 1", 2" or 5" of rain. That's why I have this on here. We have to find a way okay, not just in my District but everywhere to improve drainage. I know we have a project going on right now, okay and I may have said it before and I'll say it again, half of anything is not good and we did four streets and we did half of four streets. Okay and that's not good and that's not working, people in the back are they don't have a whole lot of water, because they're in the back alright, the problem never was all the way in the back. And when we started this project I thought we I don't know if we looked at the situation carefully, found out exactly what the problem was or we just did a project. Okay because in the back area of those streets back there was not the complaints that was getting flooded, it was further up the street, the middle towards the front. Okay, so if you're going to improve drainage down those streets that should have been the area we should have looked to find out what the problem was. And I know we have much larger pipes in the back from the railroad up okay and that's improved the drainage back there okay, but the whole idea of a drainage project is to improve where you have the problem and this project does not address the problem. Okay even now if we get another inch an inch and a half or two inch of rain in an hour, that problem is still up there even though we put 42" pipes down the back of four streets half-way, did not help those individuals to the front, not one single bit did not help them. Okay and I was told during that time that that project was going to improve drainage down the whole street and I did not see how it's possible and still do not see how it's possible if the water can't get from the front to the back. It's just like having gas in your tank and your fuel line is plugged, the gas won't get up to the car and it won't run. So that project have not improved the problem areas in my District down those 4 streets. The houses that flood still flood, the yards that's with water still have water in it, the ditches that still hold water still holding water. Okay the people in the back are fine, okay it was pretty much fine before, okay now I'm starting to get some complaints from them which lead me to my next thing, because some of the people in the back are complaining they have some areas of water that sit on their property that it wasn't there before which bring me to the fact that this morning I took it upon myself to measure that street from the railroad to where it stop at and it's 1,365 feet from the beginning of E. 24th Street to the end of the last pipe on E. 24th Street that's 1,365 feet. Okay and I counted the number of catch basins we have down that street, and we have a total of 27 and out of 27, 21 are the big ones, and we have 6 other little ones okay in various locations. And that is about 2.2 miles and I went down Ms. Remondet's street on W. 1st and W. 2nd and W. 3rd, I measured that same 2.2 miles down each one of those streets then I turned around and counted the catch basins

on those streets, and in 2.2 miles down those individual streets they have a total between 60 - 62 catch basins on that same distance. And that just in my area they have a total of 27, 21 big ones and 6 little ones. Now that same distance down W. 1st, W. 2nd and W. 3rd have a total of about 60, and that averages out to about 22 feet, about 22 feet per culvert just in between them. Okay and ours is 65 feet, it's 65 feet in that same distance. So we are not getting as much water out of that area as down these other streets that have the same comparable distance same comparable catch basin. Okay but we only have 27 and these other streets have a total of 60 between 60 and 62. So my question is; Why?"

Brian Nunes stated, "I'm going to defer to the Project Engineer on that one he designed it."

Merrill Pollach, Buchart-Horn, stated, "I come before you once again to answer your questions and Councilman Madere. To answer your question, the number of we tried to design the projects to capture the water in such a way that you can minimize the number of inlets and still capture all that water. Now if there's some isolated spots that needed to be addressed, typically we'd try and do fine grading of the area that was back filled over the pipes so that it drains in both directions from the middle towards the inlets. And it's, the project is still under construction they're finishing up the surface restoration and we'll be addressing isolated locations where they haven't met the drainage requirement."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay once again, like I said when I went down those individual streets I look at the placement of the catch basin. And one of the areas in front a home had 2 catch basins sometimes 3 in front of each property, now E. 24th Street there's a minimum of 1, okay and then you have some vacant lots between there. Now those vacant lots between there will become homes and we have a catch basin about this big, okay and like I said down these other streets they have the same size catch basin that we have, and the little ones are even much bigger than the little ones that we have. The little square ones we have are no bigger than this and the little round one is about the same size. My thing is, you said you want to catch enough water as possible, it seems as though you catch a lot more water on W. 1st, W. 2nd and W. 3rd than what we do on E. 24th Street, because we only have 21 and I'm pretty sure 21/60 beat 21 every day of the week. Okay so I'm saying is, we're not getting the capacity of water into that system that's capable or possible. And that's why some individuals have a lot next to a house that didn't used to have water now holds water. If there was a drain in front of that lot, an adequate drain that piece of property hold water. Okay now I questioned if, I'm not an engineer I didn't go to school for that but if I'm going to fix this area on this corner as far as where they had water at I'm going to go a day when they had 5 inches of rain. And just like my yard I'm going to map out the areas that's bad, okay and I'm going to have to address the number of culverts to take care of that. Okay and it seems as though 27 total and 21 big ones does not meet that requirement based on what I've seen on the 3 previous streets. Now when they had the flood they had water on some of those streets but they went down real quick. Okay I'm just wondering why just 21 in that amount of distance?"

Merrill Pollach stated, "Well Council Madere I recall at the last council meeting you had indicated that there was this 5" rain storm event and you went and looked at the project and that there wasn't a drainage issue at that time. Do you recall that?"

Councilman Madere stated, "No I didn't quite recall all that. Okay I said..."

Merrill Pollach interrupting stated, "And you commented on Chad B. Baker."

Councilman Madere stated, "I said there was a few areas where residents complained about water sitting on their driveway, in fact even before we had that 5" rain storm about 5 months ago I told you about a resident complaining about water sitting in his driveway and he's one of them where you have a big culvert next to his brother's house okay, and there's none in front of his it's passed his house before there's another one. Okay and that's why that water is sitting in that driveway because it either have to go to that one over here or it have to go way down over there. Okay and like I said, down those other streets in front of every house in front of every house, there's either 2 in some case 3, okay to make that water drain from in front those people houses very quickly. And then another thing I saw, I don't know if it's because it's a brick house because its brick houses you have to have a big type of culvert, but also down that street there's several wooden homes that's off the ground and they have little bitty culverts."

Merrill Pollach stated, "Would like for us to add..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "I'd like for you to do your job."

Merrill Pollach stated, "Excuse me, but I did my job sir."

Councilman Madere stated, "I'd like for it to be more than 27, I'd like for it to be like I said, if we did even if we did E. 1st they did E. 2nd they did E. 3rd. I mean W. 1st, W. 2nd, and W. 3rd and they have an average of 60 culverts. That's what I'm asking."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "Mr. Madere actually. Mr. Snyder can I interject? Um I'm not sure that this firm knows what you're talking about on W. 1st, 3rd because that wasn't their project. They didn't design that project, so he may not be familiar with you know the design practices, but there's a quite a few things on here with drainage that are very specific and it appears when we actually meet and go out together we tend to resolve things better than just talking and abstract at a meeting. There are a lot of things that are being done, there are a lot of projects that are underway that one is one of them, Ms. Toombs and Mr. Boucvalt actually was in Baton Rouge on yesterday and day before, meeting with GOSHEP because we have 6 or 7 projects in design that also address drainage that we're trying to move along. I would recommend a workshop specific to drainage, so we could maybe give yawl an update on the things that's happening. We did indicate the rainfall over the last month, month and a half has been extensive and we experience things that we typically have, but we also experience things that we've never had. Since that time, and I think Mr. Malik ended up coming to the EOC, we've done a lot of work trying to make some determinations to better plan for an overall resolution that I think we'd like to share with yawl, but we'd also like to provide updates on some of the other projects that are moving along or that we're trying to hurry along and I know you guys have been successful sometimes at going to Baton Rouge and moving things along, so maybe we can use your help there. Because we have quite a few projects that are in the works, we have some very specific problem areas, there's some things that we're attempting to do to solve those, but it really is too much to talk about at the council meeting. And probably would need you know some slides or pictures to be able to demonstrate what we saw either during the rain, right after the rain or what's being to fix that and that's what the full team actually has been working on, not just drainage. You know we had to bring in fire department, public safety, utilities is helping. We just don't have the capacity for one group to

handle these major downfalls at one time, but we are attempting to address long term and short term solutions, but I do think it would be appropriate to: 1) see exactly what you're talking about, and 2) provide you with information about some of the overall things that one we've experienced, some of the things that are ongoing that we're making progress on, some of that we've hit roadblocks and then others that we think long term we need to address."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay I understand you said he didn't design those projects on 1st, 2nd and W. 1st, W. 2nd and W. 3rd, so he wouldn't know anything about that design."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I would imagine. That was part of the 2009 bond issued project, and I even think Brian was..."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay I concede that. But the next thing is we have when someone put culverts in the ditch, they require to have a catch basin every 30 feet. That's yes that's their Code."

Brian Nunes stated, "I'd have to pull up the Ordinance."

Councilman Madere stated, "I pulled it already."

Councilman Snyder asked, "And does it matter about the size of it? The culvert?"

Brian Nunes stated, "Whether it be a yard drain or is it a catch basin?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Whether it's 30 feet or 40 feet or 50 feet"

Brian Nunes stated, "I'd have to read the Ordinance before I can comment on that. I just don't have that I'm sorry."

Councilman Snyder stated, "And that might be a good place to start reading that Ordinance so we can see what'd going there. And if it's not in writing somebody didn't do right on the engineering part of it..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "Okay Mr. Snyder."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Hold up here alright! So we've spent some time on this we have a long agenda here tonight. So we know what the issue is, we know what the issues are and we've been knowing for every meeting, so let's you get with Brian and yawl have a powwow, and yawl determine what yawl going to do with Ms. Robottom. That's would probably be the best thing to do instead of, we have some business to take care of here tonight. We can't stay on this one topic all night back and forth on what should be and what shouldn't be. Okay!"

Councilman Madere stated, "Mr. Snyder let me just answer your question."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Okay which question?"

Councilman Madere stated, "All of them."

Councilman Snyder asked, "What all of them?"

Councilman Madere stated, "What you just said."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I didn't say no question."

Councilman Madere stated, "Well your statement then. Let me correct your statement."

Councilman Snyder stated, "You can't correct my statement."

Councilman Madere stated, "As far as, yes I can because as far as the ordinance go, I already pulled the ordinance and it said 30 feet and nowhere in the ordinance do they have a size standard. I was told everybody just use the basic small standard which is the round one or the square one for the little one. Okay but the ordinance already states; 30 feet when you put the culvert down. And I have a copy of it right here..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting asked, "What size culvert is says?"

Councilman Madere stated, "I just told you it doesn't state size. Okay they don't state size in it ok? I just explained that it don't have size in it and read it up and down, sideways and in between, but it says 30 feet. So if it says its 30 feet, then we design something where we have culverts every 65 feet, that's the problem I have, okay."

Natalie Robottom asked, "Are you reference, when you reference culverts are you meaning catch basins?"

Councilman Madere stated, "Catch basins, yes."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Ok."

Councilman Madere stated, "I'm sorry I used the wrong statement, but every 30 feet..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting asked, "Did they have a size for that catch basin?"

Councilman Madere stated, "No size. I then said that 3 times, no size."

Councilman Snyder interrupting asked, "How about the culverts?"

Councilman Madere stated, "Yeah 18 inches."

Councilman Snyder stated, "18 inches for the culverts."

Councilman Madere stated, "For the culverts. There's no size in it for catch basins, there's no size in it. Okay there's no size in it. Yawl can have a copy of it you can look at it, in fact that's it right here that's it right here."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Again Mr. Snyder. I understand..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "Wait, wait, wait let me just finish..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "Hold up, hold up, hold up Mr. Madere. We're going to do this thing right. Now you got something else to say?"

Councilman Madere stated, "Thank you. Okay, I just said this is it right here. Okay and there's nothing in here that said it's a standard size, but it's the culvert's are 18 inches. Ok alright?"

Brian Nunes stated, "Yeah that's right."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I only wanted to say, you had an opportunity to pull it and look at it. You're approaching these individuals cold, who are telling you they'd have to look at it so they can't answer you right now. It's basically what they're saying, so I'm just saying give them an opportunity to look at what it is that you've looked at, to go back and look at some of the design work and deal with specifically with what you're talking about on this specific project. But I imagine you have some other questions. As I said, a workshop specific to drainage would probably be the best way and if you can provide us with specific things that you definitely want addressed, we'll provide you with what we know is going on. But if you have something specific that you know our staff might have to go and look at and access and do a little research, it would allow them to do that to allow a better answer. But to just shoot things at them you know from the hip and they're telling you they're not prepared to answer you isn't going to get it..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "Okay a good suggestion came out, let's have a workshop, now that's what you guys ought to do. Set-up a workshop with the engineer, the contractor with Brian and yourself, and Ms. Remondet if she wants to come there also. And then work at it from there and then when you come back to the meeting let us know what yawl come up with. I mean that sounds like a humane way to do things you know. Is that okay with you sir?"

Councilman Madere stated, "No."

Councilman Snyder asked, "You're not going to have a..."

Councilman Madere stated, "I'm going to have a meeting but I'm just saying one thing. If I'm in charge of and we have drainage and there's a big problem in this area, we should be well versed in this ordinance already as far as distance, that's all I'm saying. Okay, I'm the one that shouldn't have to do the research to find out about it. That's all I'm saying."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "And I can understand the Mr. Madere's frustration, he wants the water to move and while the water's there you can identify the locations, that shouldn't be a problem to put the right things in place. But Brian, we met at Perrilloux Lane a while back and Mr. Madere was there that morning you were blowing the culvert out on the railroad track, did you ever follow-up on that?"

Brian Nunes stated, "Yeah the contractor actually came back out Monday. He was here Monday and he's here for the whole week. I need to get the railroad people down here so we can finish Perrilloux, there's a few other railroad culverts we need to clean as well. But the contractor is here, they're working on culverts right not."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Ok, alright thank you."

Brian Nunes stated, "You're welcome."

Councilman Madere stated, "Ok, we'll get together."

Larry Sorapuru - Cheryl Parquet - Issues in reference to the West Bank Council on Aging building

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "We having a meeting set-up next week with Administration and we're going to handle it through a meeting."

Councilman Madere stated, "Oh wait a minute. On that drainage issue you had Utilities on there."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Mr. Blake."

Councilman Madere stated, "Ok Mr. Blake the reason why I have this on there, well I called you the other day about a situation where I had a pipe that was leaking sewer into the ditch."

Blake Fogleman stated, "Today."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay today, and that call was made last week and it wasn't until today someone actually came out, I think they did I didn't go back and check to see if they actually looked at the problem. Okay but in the course of the day, I also found out in the back of 23rd Street, yawl was changing out a pump in the back, they had a pump failure?"

Blake Fogleman stated, "You're asking for?"

Councilman Madere stated, "Right I'm asking you."

Blake Fogleman stated, "So can I clear up? I know spoke earlier today, which was the first call I received directly on the concerns in the District."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right."

Blake Fogleman stated, "Yes you did call my Assistant Director last week, someone did go out there. They actually went out to the address twice, once they were on multiple calls they had three or four calls at the same time, they went to the site looked at the address and remembered that they had to go back to the shop to get cap, because that's what was requested on that original call. They placed the cap on the clean-out as requested, and today was a different address from my understanding because I worked with both the Manager and Assistant Director, it was on the same street there was an overflow at that time."

Councilman Madere stated, "You got bad information, okay? You got wrong information. The one that you're talking about with that cap that was done a week ago. Not last week, not 2 weeks ago then okay, that was done and I made two calls that was down 26th Street. This one what I called you for was 24th Street, okay and that guy from 24th Street came to my house that Friday and I called Reed that Friday, and someone went out there and they didn't do anything. And then in the process of measuring that street this morning, the guy the same guy happen to come outside and he told me, he said those they never came fix that problem. And I'm looking at the water, the sewer water coming out the ditch coming out the ground into the ditch, that's when I called you again okay? So we're talking about the first time. So you got the cross information because the cap issue was on 26th Street and that was 2 weeks ago. They went out there they didn't put a cap on it, they forgot to do it I called them, I went check it I called them again, and then Reed finally sent somebody out there and they put a cap on it. That was 2 weeks ago, I'm talking about Friday till today. Ok?"

Blake Fogleman stated, "So let's, can you do me a favor so we can clear this up in the future? Can you direct all calls to Elm Street? We put a running tab at

Elm Street on the utilities maintenance building. At my office I have somebody that answers the phone from 7:00-3:30, they put it on a list and they put it on an email chain. Soon as that email chain goes out it has the complainants name, the phone number to contact, and the address and the concern and so myself, Reed and that manager is all on that email chain. I'm not trying to make any excuses, I don't want to have this confusion again. And that's fine I understand. So to address your concerns, which is the overflows in that area, yeah we did have a pump go down."

Councilman Madere stated, *"And I did call your office and spoke to Holly."*

Blake Fogleman stated, *"Holly hasn't worked here in a year and a half."*

Councilman Madere stated, *"Well that's the name I have in my phone, I have a number. I have a number. Okay so when you change, hey listen at me, when you change number and don't give the same number to a name okay, because when that number come to my phone it comes up Holly."*

Blake Fogleman stated, *"(985) 651-6800."*

Councilman Madere stated, *"And when that number come up in my phone, it comes up Holly."*

Natalie Robottom stated, *"Name that Utilities."*

Councilman Madere stated, *"I will name it Utilities. Ok well who is the girl that takes the calls now?"*

Blake Fogleman stated, *"It's one of 3. It's either Danielle, Sherida or Laura."*

Councilman Madere asked, *"They all answer to the same number?"*

Blake Fogleman stated, *"Yes sir."*

Councilman Madere stated, *"Okay so I'm going to put all three of their names on that number, ok!"*

Blake Fogleman stated, *"Yes sir."*

Councilman Madere stated, *"Alright, so I would appreciate it in the future when you do change people at least let us know. No I don't have to change my telephone they have to change the name because the number comes back Holly."*

Blake Fogleman stated, *"In your phone you might have a direct, they each have a direct line but if you call the 6800 number it goes and rings on all three phones. So that's what we would rather you do so that someone does answer that phone."*

Councilman Madere stated *"Let it ring on Holly. Okay in fact I can show it to you right now even though she's gone."*

Blake Fogleman stated, *"I'll see which one it goes to and I'll let you know exactly who that's going to."*

Councilman Madere asked, *"So did they take care of that situation today?"*

Blake Fogleman stated, "Yes I understand you spoke to my manager out in the field. That was Brandon Duhe our manager that's out there today."

Councilman Madere stated "Oh he said I spoke to him?"

Blake Fogleman stated, "Yes."

Councilman Madere stated, "Oh yeah, well he don't know me then. Oh you talking about not that location you're talking about at that pump? At the pump, right!"

Blake Fogleman stated, "That is a, so the concerns you've had or that you've expressed in that collection system, right? So all that collection goes to that. We had a pump malfunction which surcharged our system, but we have I think as you saw we have some temporary pumping in place."

Councilman Madere stated, "So my only concern with that issue right there is; you're changing out a pump like that, okay can someone please just let me know? Can someone call me concerning why this happening and why that's not happening? Okay and I'll know what to tell them."

Blake Fogleman stated, "I understand that. Typically if that concerns comes through the office and we get a multiple complaints in that area, concerns in that area we would address that and we will address that District whether it'll be a representative as well as administration. Typically, I mean as many pumps as that go out we have a 160/176 lift stations we have over 300 pumps, if I was informed from someone every time a pump went down, in that specific area we get a number of calls and we will address to you all as well."

Councilman Madere stated, "Well if Mr. Snyder what's to know that's fine. I want to know if a pump go down in my District and when someone calls me I can tell them it's down because the call is going to come to me first, alright!"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Okay we then said what we're going to do. On 26th Street the issue we're having over there have we..."

Blake Fogleman interrupting stated, "We're in the process of correcting the maintenance. We have temporary measures in place until the permanent pumps are replaced. Yes we shouldn't have any other issues in that area."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I just want to encourage you all, I think based on a couple of meetings ago we talked about the work order system and tracking issues and making sure that we had people following up on that. Again, I know it's typical it's easy sometimes to call employees, but that is in our system. That is not our tracking mechanism, we understand on the weekends you may want to call somebody but 911 is our tracking mechanism, we actually get a printed report of all the calls, the times they're addressed and we match that up with what they're doing in their office. So we do want to encourage all of you as well as our residents, we have a system and that system for after hours or emergencies is 911 and the work order system is the one that we really want to encourage yawl to use, because not saying you know there seem to be a little mix up here, but that's word of mouth between this one and that one. If we had a call and a record, than we can go back in and see you know hopefully they can address the problems quicker than relying on somebody's memory."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yes ma'am and the work order, we write the work order from the, you have to go on the Public Works website to do that I think if I'm

not mistaken or it's on the front page of the and then they get it to you, they get the work orders to you?"

Blake Fogleman stated, "There's multiple ways to. The work order system was originally based as a Public Works so it goes to the proper people regardless of what happens. I mean certainly calling in if you see it on the street and you're on the road calling it in real quick to our numbers is certainly the quickest way to us..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "And his staff will generate a work order, but either way there's a work order being generated. You can do it yourself online or you can call the office and the three assistants in that office as well as the other will generate the work order. Again, as our tracking mechanism for assignments and a..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "Well we got, that's good yawl learned how to our answer telephone or keep some kind of recording system. A lot of our telephones that we call the numbers is not a recording system and mailbox has not been set up, we get that all the time. You know I get that from constituents also. So we need to that I like the work order system myself, it's a good way to get things done."

Lennix Madere - Update on abandoned houses parishwide

Alexandra Carter stated, "Since August 2016, twenty-one (21) structures have been demolished by the property owners, eleven (11) judgements have been issued ordering the demolition of unsafe/abandoned structures, five (5) cases are scheduled for the upcoming June Administrative Hearing, and fourteen (14) cases are moving through the violation process. And this is specific to all these cases are specific to hazardous and unsafe, so there's more cases coming through that are unrelated to this but in terms of parishwide."

Councilman Snyder asked, "So (21) structures have been demolished?"

Alexandra Carter stated, "Twenty-one by property owners."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Oh by the property owners."

Alexandra Carter stated, "Right like a, the Parish President was mentioning earlier. We're really encouraging the public to take ownership of these issues and abate on their own demolition because it is more costly for the parish to do this right, so it's beneficial if they take that an issue."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay I appreciate that and we like the fact that the homeowners are knocking it down. Okay I have a question; when we have a property adjudicated to the parish and the parish not knocking it down?"

Alexandra Carter stated "I know I think I have in mind which one you're talking about."

Councilman Madere stated, "Well I have it mind since 2012 and that house has been adjudicated to the parish prior to 2012, and I was told at one time it had to be 5 years before the parish takes complete control of adjudicated properties. And it's been well over 5 years and went by that piece of property today, I went to that piece of property today, I brought you over there one time and I went to that piece of property today and 2012 I said that thing was in danger of

collapsing. Okay some of the roof parts have fallen in on the porch area, okay there's all types of grass, debris, grass is high as this counter in here right now and that's adjudicated to the parish. So that is a black eye in my case for the parish to have part ownership of that property even though we claim we don't have complete ownership of it, okay we have something to do with it. Okay so they always tell you, if you can't clean up your own backyard don't ask me to clean mines up, okay that's the way I look at it. Okay, before I did anything with these abandoned cars I made sure we moved the one I had in my yard, okay got rid of it. So what I'm saying is, do the same thing. That property is more for the parish than anybody that live down that street and what really upset me with that is, when I first got in office the guy that live next door Mr. Keller, asked me when I first got in office if we can get this house torn down for him and he's dead and gone now. Okay and I went back there and I looked at his house, and that request that he made to me that I could not fulfill that request, because of; it's not ours, it's not totally ours yet but it's adjudicated to us, in 5 years it's going to be for us, well it's pass 5 years now. Okay and I think something needs to be done with that building, as far as boarding it and securing it, that does not work it's not boarded and secured right now, it's falling down, the grass is higher than this countertop, there's debris and trash all down in front the ditch and everything. Okay if we're going to ask other individuals to do something, then we should be more than willing to do it ourselves even if we have part ownership in it."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I think we know the property, but if you can send the address again, the District Attorney's office is handling our adjudicated properties program, so we may need to check on the status of that one. Again I think I know which one you're referencing, I just don't have the address. But any of the ones you're concerned about get that to us. If they're occurring issues, Alex's staff needs to handle that both regard to any of them that are adjudicated we did start a new process, so we definitely want to see where that is."

Alexandra Carter stated "And we have just so you'll know, the adjudicated properties that we know of that are in the parishes and are rehabs right now. Those primarily for the most part have been put through the administrative hearing process have judgements and we are prioritizing them with Royal to be demolished with the CDBG Grants come August and September. So as much as we can do we have done, it's just a matter of having that grant money allocating the bids put out so we can get those demolished."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay that one there, two of them need to be AA-1..."

Alexandra Carter stated "Right, you and I. I know which ones are on that list. I can send it to you."

Councilman Madere stated, "And then we have B, three of them real quickly. Okay but I also know okay like we're talking about our policies and ordinances that we have in the parish, there's also an ordinance that state's in the situation of the house that I'm talking about on the 30th Street, I don't mind saying the address on 30th Street, that house have already been determined by the previous Planning & Zoning Department that that house should be demolished and by its previous administration and also in our ordinance, there's a provision where the Parish President can simply sign and have that home demolished within 24 hours of notification. And the notification would be done to us, because we are the Homeowner, okay and there's an ordinance and I can pull that ordinance okay, that says within 24 hours in the area where the house is in danger of collapsing or in danger to the community, within 24 hours with signature that house can be torn

down after notification to the owner. And the notification to the owner at this time is St. John the Baptist Parish."

Lennix Madere - Discussion Walking/Bicycle Path issues in Reserve and Garyville

LaVerne Toombs stated, "Barber Brothers has re-mobilized and added more erosion control matting in the areas that collect unusual amounts of silt. Also a low section of the path near East 15th Street will be repaved. Mr. David Dupre, Meyer Engineers is present to address concerns regarding the Garyville Timbermill Trail. However, it is important to note that these are outdoor trails and they are subject to the same conditions as roadways and sidewalks."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes okay since this seems to be Councilman Madere meeting tonight I'll continue. That trail, I know we had that large rain, but that trail flooded when we had that 2 inch rain, water was on the track and I saw the area where they scraped all the mud away from it that settled on it, and the water was sitting in a couple of locations just sitting in it. Okay my concern was, I know it's a state basically funded project we had to put a certain amount of money in it, we didn't pay for the whole thing. But my concern is; why did a design go so low to the level of the ditch in that particular area where in other areas it's either on the top or midway, like in front of my house its midway, that levee. It came down its midway it's not on the top interfering with bonfires, why did we dip so low down to the road level in the design? We didn't contemplate that water would be accumulating, we didn't look at that situation?"

David Dupre, Meyer Engineers stated, "Typically like you said, we want the path to be on the crown of the levee, the top of the levee, we couldn't do it most of the locations on this phase because of bonfires. What we wanted to do was put everything at the toe of the levee where you're not happy with but that's the cheapest most cost efficient place to put it if you don't put it on the crown of the levee because if you put it at the toe of the levee where's there's room you put the 8 inches of stone based, according to the asphalt and you're done. When we couldn't get it at the toe of the levee at the base of the levee, some places it was too tight we had to go up the side of the levee and when you do that, you have to add a lot of fill which brings up the cost of the project. So if you have a levee coming down, you put the path here and then you have to add all the fill coming down at a 3 to 1 slop to make grate. So all that fill is that extra cost that makes it will make it more cost efficient."

Councilman Madere stated, "So it was done and I think you said it was cheaper to put it at the bottom?"

David Dupre stated, "Correct."

Councilman Madere stated, "Ok but that was not the best..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "Actually it's cheaper to run it along the top. The cheapest is to do what we were doing but we made exceptions at the request of people to allow for bonfires. Additionally there are requirements to meet with regards to sloping grade that it's not just up to them to just put a path wherever they want. You have to deal with the Levee Board, you have to deal with DOT and the Army Corp. so there are requirements that they're attempting to meet, which sometimes dictates where it's going."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay well I understand all that what you just said, so my questions is this; if it was cheaper to put it at the bottom, at the toe of

the levee...

Natalie Robottom stated, "At the top at the crown. At the top that's the cheapest."

Councilman Madere stated, "Cheaper at the top okay, but it was cost effective to drop it down instead of midway?"

David Dupre stated, "Correct."

Councilman Madere stated, "So when we dropped it down to the bottom, why didn't we at least come up a foot or so? Because we basically had the same level as the ditch bank."

David Dupre stated, "Yeah I think that the ditch needs to be addressed and we have a call in to DOTD to help to clean that out and clean out the downstream end, they have a cross culvert going to the river road. I think that's part of the issue that's going on."

Councilman Madere stated, "They have seven of them."

Councilman Snyder stated, "That is the issue. Excuse the breakup, I hate to breakup in you, but that is the issue."

David Dupre stated, "I agree."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I've been telling him this for years, that that ditch needs to be cleaned out. DOT needs to do something about that ditch. Water sits there regardless, whether that pad was there or not because it doesn't get any further than about E. 19th Street, 20th Street, that's the further it gets. It doesn't go any further and it just sits there so it doesn't have anywhere to go. And I think that's the main issue, I think once we do that we not going to have problems with that, I really don't think so."

David Dupre stated, "I agree. We need to clean it out and call in to DOTD and hopefully they'll come out and do it. Now there is the river level is up high, so even if DOTD had the forces to go out and do it now they couldn't because you can't do any excavation within I believe its 1500 feet of levee when the river is up high and it's not going to go down till at least the end of them month."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes I understand that and I already know there's seven cross pipes okay and only two are in operation. Okay I had that discussion with the Levee Board last year. There's seven pipes that run from the ditch on the levee side across underneath the highway and out the seven only two had canals that was still open. And also Mr. Snyder is talking about there's misalignment of pipes in some of these cross sections that's across the levee where cars park at, there's a misalignment in pipe because the river road was a lot smaller at one time and then they widen it and they moved the ditch they didn't move the pipes. So that's why they're not in line and that's a couple of them like that okay so that a total of seven for sure."

Councilman Snyder asked, "You got DOT involve with this though you said you contacted them?"

David Dupre stated, "I emailed him, I put a call in to him but he wasn't there. Yeah I have an email in to him."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well good, I think that's the big issue over there. Once we get that ditched kind of cleaned out a little bit I think that's going to help along with that walking path out there and areas on the highway also, because water sits on that highway because of that right there. Good thank you sir."

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "Larry I just wanted to add one other thing. I know we found some damage to, I think they had tried to cut the grass to low or something when they first had the path done they damaged the part. I noticed this morning there were two big deep tracks, look like a 4-wheeler had went up the levee and it damaged some of that netting a little further along between Central and say West 4th, but I did meet with the Sheriff yesterday and they are doing a massive effort to get these 4-wheelers off the levee paths, in fact off the roadways altogether. But if we can contain those that would help us to, but from Central on the path is toward the bottom but it seems to be a little higher from there instead of Central to 15th but, and that's working well so thank you."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yeah those 4-wheelers are killing us. They're killing us."

Larry Sorapuru/Kurt Becnel - Concerns about no Air Conditioning at the Wallace Fire Station for the most recent election

Cain Dufrene stated, "This station was not designed with HVAC and would require significant modifications to properly install an Air Conditioning System. However, a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between the Sheriff's Office and the Parish is being drafted for consideration to build a new substation that will house Police Officers and Firefighters. It will also include a climate control area for voting and additional restrooms. Until the project is completed, portable air conditioners will be secured as needed."

Councilman Becnel stated, "Okay listen, I have something to say and I don't want nobody to take it personal, I'm not criticizing the administration and what you're saying right there, I understand that but I think yawl are missing the point. I said when I became Councilman I wasn't going to let nobody on my Eastbank or Westbank be disrespected. So the word DISRESPECT, you know why I'm saying DISRESPECT? What happened that Saturday, neglect led to DISRESPECT, and I don't mean to point my finger, alright! I want to say this to you; an order was given that morning, I mean that Monday saying what they normally do, we're requesting an air condition. Because Cain you know that's a board that's cut out, the garage door you bring it down you put the board underneath it. There's been several elections where yawl have an air condition that just slide in that slot. And for some reason the order was given that Monday okay, Tuesday didn't hear nothing, Wednesday didn't hear nothing, Thursday, Friday I mean my God, how hard was this? It's like a 3 or 4 step process you know, the request was made wherever that air condition at that fits in that slot, get it over there nobody got it there. So Saturday morning I get a call, contact Larry and it's hot in here it's this and that all kind of stuff, so I said, what's going on? So they said, we got a solution, we're going to bring in some fans, which all the fans did was throw heat. Now, let me tell you what those fans caused; okay a normal person goes into a voting poll, they'll call their name, last name Becnel first name Kurt. Here's what those ladies had to do with those four loud fans; (voice became louder) last name Becnel first name Kurt. We lucky they didn't go home with sore throats. Now I'm telling yawl that's disrespectful, because it's a standard procedure that all this was there. All we asked for was that air conditioner, put it there, that wasn't hard, and so when I called Larry, Larry and I decided well, let's go get

an air condition. Now unfortunately we didn't know the exact size of the slot, so we bought one it was small but the question is this you know, and Cain when we said we were going get an air conditioner you said; well watch it because yawl can't plug it in that building because the wiring is not good. Now let me ask you that the question on the wiring; don't we have an in house electrician sir, that could, why is the wiring not that good in there but we adlib and found another solution. When we bought the air conditioner we contacted the fire department they brought a fire truck we plugged it to a generator. But still the question is; where is that air conditioner that was always there? You know if it was there we wouldn't of had none of these problems and I will tell you, these ladies these ladies they're sweat they sweat, it got hotter and hotter and I mean I was a team player I kept checking on them, I wanted to see what was going on and people was coming in there, Councilman how can you let these ladies work under these conditions? But like I said, remember this; had the simple request ladies and gentleman, bring the air conditioner! That was made since Monday, so I'm just saying this; it's the way we did it and it wasn't good because it was hot and they were accustomed to having that air condition there. But the question and mystery I said; where's the air condition? Where it disappeared, you know so basically...

Natalie Robottom interrupting asked, "Do you know, did you get an answer?"

Councilman Becnel stated, "No, nobody."

Natalie Robottom asked, "Yawl know?"

Cain Dufrene stated, (Was not able to understand his statement due to others speaking at the same time.)

LaVerne Toombs stated, "It is my understanding Councilman that a previous employee some time ago had created something there at the fire station for air conditioning some years ago..."

Councilman Becnel interrupting stated, "It's still there."

LaVerne Toombs stated, "And I also understand that someone contacted the Register of Voters as well, Mr. Russell Jack regarding this matter. He did have a conversation with our Capital Projects Administrator regarding the air condition. I think he was also advised of the fact that with that whatever that previous employee did, had an impact on electrical work in the fire station."

Councilman Becnel interrupting stated, "Well we understood that."

LaVerne Toombs stated, "And so as far as administration, we weren't informed of this until on Saturday morning when I know I received a call from Councilman Sorapuru. And also I know that Cain as well as Travis provided fans for that particular day. Now as stated earlier we did we're going to provide portable air conditions for you know future elections..."

Councilman Becnel interrupting stated, "But basically like I said, if we just only new that mystery air conditioner was, those ladies told me that's that standard air condition that they put in that slot, it cools that whole little section. They've been using it for years and the problem I'm having is like I said, the air condition disappeared I guess or something like that."

Natalie Robottom stated, "And actually I think part of the problem is, the person

who handle that is longer here and there was no succession or pass along information so the people that you were talking to had no knowledge of that. Now as the investigation went on as we're finding in some other instances, some of the things that they did were not safe, and obviously we're not going to duplicate that. But we are looking at an alternate system, but in the future and this is what you know I think we're failing to get right here, is there's a huge investment getting ready to be made on the Westbank, that will not only have climate control all the time, it won't portable it will be larger and it will have additional restrooms. So ultimately our goal is to improve it, even though we know it's been like that forever. So our goal is to correct it."

Councilman Becnel stated, "Let's just say like the election in October, it'll still be hot in October. Let's hopefully, I mean let's hope that we..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "Sometimes we have to bring heat, you know just depends on when the election is. So you have to have an alternative to both but in that instance the person who had the knowledge and possibly knows where the air conditioner or knew where it was no longer here and the newer people had no idea that that was the case. "

Councilman Becnel stated, "Because I just wanted to let everybody know that, you know basically you all know I'm very detailed and Russell did tell me that he did speak to somebody and like you said the guy didn't have any knowledge of how the system had worked as far as getting it there, but you know I always like to say you know basically with me, when I do things I document it and basically everything I do is highlighted. I have a master spreadsheet of everything if it's highlighted in yellow, congratulations to the administration that means yawl did a job well done. And basically I'm going to have a master one and I'll be sending you all to keep you all updated. So I just wanted to let yawl know that hopefully and I want to personally apologize to those ladies who worked in there that day because it was extremely hot. So hopefully, I just don't want that to happen again."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "And I just want to say this was a very, very unfortunate situation that happened, nobody got hurt, people got overheated a little bit, nobody had to be brought in to the medical facility for anything. But those machines have to be in climate control environment and I know that sometimes people just think well; we'll give them fans and that should cool them off. But I'd like to see us walk away with a learning lesson from this. If we have parish buildings that need maintenance, I don't know what type of maintenance program you have set up, do you have quarterly inspections on our buildings, all our buildings should be ready to go and this was a situation that it was a very, very important election, we have a democracy we're able to go to the polls and vote, it's a small facility, it's very convenient in the Wallace area for a lot of the elderly people that don't have to travel further down the highway to vote and encourages people to go to the polls. I know everybody involved in the chain of command, there was some breakdowns with communication and I understand some people were ill and that was a very unfortunate situation, but the priority should always be to have a back-up plan or have communication, especially when we have people, we have equipment from the state that's involved in something like this. And I would like to recommend administration get some type of plan to have all your buildings inspected on a quarterly basis, whatever supposed to be working..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "Excuse me. That one would have been inspected, in which it is inspected. There's no practical way to air condition

the fire truck bays, okay? You know that situation is bad and it's going to stay bad. I think what he said was, we don't have it's not set-up for HVAC, now portable air conditioners, if that's what have should have been there, then we've committed to doing that. But ultimately that should have never been a voting location and ultimately we're trying to change that and provide something that will be much better. You should never have been sending people to vote in a fire truck bay. Now again, originally they used to vote at the court house, this site was opened up for the exact reason that you said, which was to make it easier on those residents closer to Wallace and we fully understand that. But that choice was made to open that in a facility that couldn't accommodate it. So we're going to try to work on that moving forward, but ultimately our goal is to provide the same type of setting that we have in most of our locations, and that is a climate control, comfortable facility with the necessary restroom capacity."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "And that's all we're asking for Ms. Robotom. Unfortunate things happen, but Mr. Becnel and I had a long discussion about how we were going to approach this, and we're not here to single out to make anybody look bad, so don't take it that way, all the people involved. I think we have good people that can do and want to do the right job, we just can't afford to have something like this happen again and I'd like to make sure you can assure us it won't happen again, that's all I'm asking for."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Thank you guys I appreciate the input. Appreciate yawl getting an air condition put over there that helped out to. That had to have helped."

Lennix Madere - Update on the Reserve Canal upkeep, maintenance and stump removal

Brian Nunes stated, "This canal was cleaned in 2013 using Gustav/Ike funds and additional snagging and grabbing was completed by the Coast Guard during that time. Additional clearing of stumps was completed in 2014 using FEMA funds through Hurricane Katrina. The total amount spent in 2014 on clearing, grabbing and snagging was approximately \$100,100 as funded through LCDBG/FEMA. It is on the list of canals being permitted by CJ Savoie and Associates and once permitted funding must be identified to perform the type of work being requested."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay I put this on the agenda and I haven't had any complaints in recent months except someone came to my house concerning the upkeep of that particular area. And what the problem is, I went take a ride out there I don't know what been parking out there or who've been using that area but that asphalt out there is totally, totally destroyed that way towards where they guys launch their boat at. I don't know if somebody's been parking big trucks there or heavy equipment, but they totally tore that parking lot up from the time I visited last the time. Do we have any indication as to who did this? Because they should not be allowed to get away with what they did to that parking area, they completely destroyed it."

Brian Nunes stated, "I'm sorry I didn't realize you were talking about the boat launch itself, that wasn't clear in the item."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right, right I'm sorry about that. But were you aware of that?"

Brian Nunes stated, "We're aware of some asphalt damages out there. We're very aware of it."

Councilman Madere stated, "Oh some. Okay who did it?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "I don't know if he might know who did that..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "Well I'm just asking him. He's going to have to answer that question. Well either he know or don't know."

Brian Nunes stated, "I can answer it to an extent because the pipeline company that used that boat launch, they filmed it before and they filmed it afterwards, it wasn't them. So we know that much, it was damaged before then they showed us the video..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "But wait you said they showed you the video that it was damaged before?"

Brian Nunes stated, "Before they even started working."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Before they even started working."

Brian Nunes stated, "So it was damaged that's why they took the video before. There's a few other companies, I don't know if a, I don't have any names for you right now."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right but we need to look into that because and try and track that down as to when this happened, because like I said; last time I went out there and really looked at it, it wasn't damaged like that you know it wasn't damaged like that so we need to find out what's going on."

Natalie Robottom stated, "You know Mr. Madere, and it's unfortunate my staff behind me is kicking themselves. We spend a lot of time trying to address an about some stumps and doing some research, that had nothing to do with your item. We're going to ask yawl again, I thought the DA's Office instructed you all, to please be specific in your item. So that we're not wasting our time and we can come with an appropriate answer for you. We spend a lot of time and a lot of people looking back to try and figure out this stuff and you had not a question about it. The reference was to stumps and again, you're talking about asphalt."

Councilman Madere stated, "Let me address you with that issue. I have received numerous phone calls from your staff, administration and everybody else if they didn't have enough information to find out what it is..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "When it was clear, it's just not what you wanted..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "Uh Ms. Robottom, I didn't interrupt or say one word while you were talking. Now I'm going to address what you just said. I get phone calls many times when there's a question asked to exactly to what I'm talking about, okay. So they didn't do it this particular time that's on them that's not me. Because I have had received phone calls, could you be more specific to exactly to what you're talking about? Or sometimes if there's a question and they understand what it was, they still want to get their heads up so they can look good for when they come up here and I don't have a problem with that. Okay, now this one particular time they didn't make a phone call and they assumed..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "No we read it."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay no I said that area, I didn't say water I just said a boat launch. Okay and the boat launch considered everything out there,

okay it's considered the ramp, it's considered a parking area that's what it have on there. Now if they wanted to know exactly to what I was talking about, just make a phone call like they have done in the past. Okay and like they've done in the past. Now I've received phone calls before okay and so I appreciate the work they did, the information is good that it got out to the people. Okay and I said when I first started it wasn't specifically to that particular area, okay so they could make a phone call, alright?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Mr. Snyder, this item is very specific and it says; Update of Reserve Canal upkeep, maintenance and stump removal. It says nothing about..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "I didn't say that."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Well that's what the item on the agenda is."

Councilman Snyder stated, "We're not we're not we're not going..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "I didn't say that. We got to talk about who put that on there..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "Mr. Madere we're not going to bicker over methods you here? Mr. Sorapuru you have something to say?"

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Yes I definitely, since we have Reserve Canal upkeep and I want to ask Brian, could you maybe look at this situation at the pump station from the suction of the pumps. Off of the highway you have steep drop off there's no barricade or could we put some type of cage or fence that area in at that section of the pump? A barrier and a fenced area because I noticed a couple of tires in that suction well, a few times and a pump operator was out there a few times and I asked him about removing the tires he said he would have somebody to get them out and he did a few months ago. But that would, there's a lot of debris getting in that suction."

Brian Nunes stated, "You're absolutely right about that. We have a project going on right now that's fully designed and it's going to be a bar screen in front of those pumps with an automatic cleaner, so all that debris will get picked up and thrown out."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Okay and I don't know if this was something you wanted addressed tonight, but I just thought since we were talking about the canal, the pumps are a very important part of that canal."

Brian Nunes stated, "Oh absolutely, you're right yeah."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well I mean you're right that clean out. You're talking about the clean out part of it?"

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Yes."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Oh yeah they have some debris in there. Yeah we have to do something about that. These permits that we got in Baton Rouge up there, is to clean out the whole, is it to dredge it also?"

Brian Nunes stated, "The ones that we already received?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "No the ones that we got, we're waiting on."

Brian Nunes stated, "Some are to dredge, some of them are just to clean."

Councilman Snyder stated, "This particular one. You know off hand? Well that's okay that's okay."

Brian Nunes stated, "I think that's on the cleaning list, I don't want to say it for sure but I think it is."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Okay well good that's going to help that canal out. That's another place where a lot of boaters go."

Brian Nunes stated, "You're right."

Kurt Becnel - Kristin Bourgeois - Update on speed bump, littering and drainage on Capt. G. Bourgeois

The above item will be carried over to the next meeting on 06/27/2017 since Kristen Bourgeois was not able to attend.

Lennix Madere/Larry Snyder - Update on water meter issues parishwide

Ross Gonzales stated, "A third meter-reading truck was added; Two-man crews were assigned two billing cycles each to increase familiarity with locations and promote efficient read times; A projected progress date is assigned to identify the need for support from other teams to maintain a 30-day cycle; Bills in dispute are addressed individually with onsite visits, manual re-reads and testing to validate accuracy of the meters; Registers are replaced when unexplainable spikes occur and billing adjustments are made when warranted; A Meter Pilot program is being investigated; An application to DEQ for funding of SmartMeters is being completed by our consulting engineer (Rob Delaune); Assistance analyzing the current meter, register and billing issues was sought from a former Sewerage and Water Board Director."

Natalie Robottom stated, "That's another workshop if you all want!"

Councilman Snyder stated, "I don't have problem with that, I don't have a problem with a workshop since my name is on it here, but we need to do something. This thing should be put with some steroids on it because we're getting too many elderly people calling us, I know they're calling me daily having issues with these things. Now, you need to read all of this stuff you have down here, but yawl tell us what's going on with these meters and what we have for the future and stuff like that? It's up to you how you want to handle it."

Ross Gonzales stated, "Good Evening Council. I'll tell you about a meeting we just had recently on Friday. We have a representative from Aqua Metric, Garrett Raggusso and this is in regards to the Pilot Program, I'm sorry. I invited a couple and I know it was the day before when we confirmed our meeting, but involves putting up to 100 meters or more depending on what we choose, out there and it's an antenna based system, I think we'd give everybody a really good taste of the technology and the capabilities that are out there, so we actually got an estimate on the Pilot Program. A hundred meters installed is \$15,905 which is a little bit cheaper which originally it would have been about \$18,000.00 installed, it's about a 2 month installation period for 100 meters and then you know we own the meters, they loan us the equipment and they will give us again, a

real good...

Councilman Snyder asked, *"They're going to do the monitoring?"*

Ross Gonzales stated, *"We'll actually do the monitoring but..."*

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, *"We do the monitoring also?"*

Ross Gonzales stated, *"Yeah..."*

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, *"I thought this thing came from a central location? Monitoring?"*

Ross Gonzales stated, *"Right here."*

Councilman Snyder asked, *"Mr. Raggusso you want come forward if you don't mind sir?" I left that one meeting we had together with a bad understanding I guess. I thought maybe you had a central place that yawl monitored those inputs from those meters. It's going to be an area here where we'll be able to monitor it?"*

Garrett Raggusso stated, *"Yes sir. Everyone will have access via web log access."*

Councilman Snyder stated, *"Access, okay I got you."*

Garrett Raggusso stated, *"To monitor all meters in the parish but for the Pilot we're talking about 100 meters just for the test run. Those will be chosen, the location by the parish and then if you go to the full system then all the meters can be monitored, yes sir."*

Councilman Snyder asked, *"So I know you got me asking questions also. I just want to get an understanding because I heard something today. These meters can be put anywhere in the parish, right?"*

Garrett Raggusso stated, *"Yes sir."*

Councilman Snyder asked, *"Anywhere we want to in the parish right?"*

Garrett Raggusso stated, *"Yes sir."*

Councilman Snyder asked, *"Okay that's what I need to know."*

Garrett Raggusso asked, *"For the Pilot Program?"*

Councilman Snyder stated, *"Right, just for the Pilot."*

Ross Gonzales stated, *"Since we're going to have one antenna though, we have to read within the reception of that one antenna, which will still read half of the parish. If you put two antennas you could do the whole parish but that would be another..."*

Councilman Snyder interrupting asked, *"So we got to decide where we're going to put the antenna or we made that decision already, one antenna?"*

Garrett Raggusso stated, *"Yes but for the entire parish to cover the entire parish, it does take 2 antennas. But for the Pilot we have not chosen which site but it was the Lucy and Wallace tanks that were chosen for the full"*

implementation."

Councilman Snyder asked, "So we can only, we'll only be able to monitor the Westbank?"

Garrett Raggusso stated, "No sir."

Natalie Robottom stated, "It will cover the whole parish."

Garrett Raggusso stated, "It will cover all seventeen and a half thousand or so water meters with 2 antennas."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Okay, anybody understand that? Well I'm slow, I then got slow this late."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yeah the Pilot is one."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right the Pilot is one and that's the Lucy and Wallace areas."

Councilman Snyder stated, "That's where the antennas going to be at."

Garrett Raggusso stated, "One or the other for the Pilot, yes sir."

Councilman Snyder asked, "And we may have meters in Mt. Airy and Montz with that being okay, that's what I wanted to say."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes. Let me, I don't yawl understand it. We're doing a Pilot with 100 meters. We're only going to, you're only going to loan us one antenna. So obviously it's not going to cover the whole parish, but it doesn't need to because we have 100 meters. But ultimately if a decision is made to move forward with this, they'll have 2 antennas to help us to cover the full 17,000. But this Pilot is not about leach, it's about let's see how it works. Let's see how quickly, how accurate, how quickly we can convey a signal, how accurate is it, so it can help us get our bills out. Now keep in mind, I appreciate you coming, I missed your meeting I think it was your second time, it is something we're extremely interested in, so we definitely want to continue to work with you, however, that's one aspect of the problem. We had a second meeting yesterday with a representative of the Sewage & Water Board, who there's a lot of items we need to address, equipment's one of them, human error is another, organizational structure is another, so there's a lot of things that we need to access and analyze in addition to just changing equipment. We don't have set policies, we have no mechanism for collecting debt at his point, because there's not a policy in place, so there's a lot of items associated with what's happening now that we need to address that just new equipment will not solve. So in addition to this which I think is a great start and I appreciate the proposal that I'm just seeing right now, but there's some other items associated with this problem that we have to address as well, if we're going to have an operation that works properly. So again, I think a workshop would be appropriate, we've done a number of things, I know Curtis and Ross know, it's not to their satisfaction, it's not to mine. You know we've done a lot of things, we've added a lot of people we've added another truck, we've changed the schedule, we've done a lot things but we still have the problem. So the problem is not resolved, it's not being resolved as quickly as it should be and we really haven't identified the full problem with the spike meters, so what we're doing is, is we're reacting. If you get a bill that's spiked, we'll send somebody out to reread and try to make the change before they

get the bill. If a bill goes out that's spiked, we wait for a resident to call us and then we try to make a change, which usually is a change in the register and we try to make an adjustment on their bill. But that's the reactive method of doing things and although it's successful, it doesn't end. As soon as we fix ten there's ten more, so the resolution is not in hand, but we did have someone offer to come in and help us for free, who has experience with analyzing some of the data that we've collected because we can't really pinpoint this one problem, but we have to identify all of the problems in order to create a system that works and we're not quite there yet. But we have to analyze you know which meters are breaking, what we determined was the different batches, there was a set that was put in and then another set was put in and we really haven't coordinated you know if it's this batch, is it any of them, there's not a common denominator between what's happening to allow us to come up with a solution which I think we need some help and I appreciate what Curtis and his team is doing, but Curtis is our reading meters, double checking rereads, trying to make adjustments, so he really isn't in his office setting policy and determine a long range plan, because we're trying to put these fires out. So, love to have a meeting with yawl, we do think this is the way to go, we appreciate your, we ultimately think we're going to have to do something with meters, but that is not all that's troubling this system."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes to do the entire parish, two antennas?"

Garrett Raggusso stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Madere asked, "Okay, to do 100 meters, one antenna?"

Garrett Raggusso stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay and I think, I don't know what Mr. Snyder was trying to find out, but what I'm trying to find out, where would that antenna be placed?"

Garrett Raggusso stated, "That would be up to the parish."

Councilman Madere asked, "That would be up to the parish?"

Garrett Raggusso stated, "We've chosen 2 sites to cover the entire parish, Wallace and Lucy, so you would be able to choose either one of those and disperse 100 meters..."

Councilman Madere interrupting asked, "In those areas?"

Garrett Raggusso stated, "Under that coverage of those particular..."

Councilman Madere interrupting asked, "In those areas?"

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "Not just far as Lucy. It'll come across the river."

Councilman Madere asked "Some would be across the river to?"

Garrett Raggusso stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated "That's what we were trying to find out."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yeah no difference."

Councilman Madere asked, "Right and if we decide to do the whole parish, it would be two antennas?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "That's correct. It's just about the height of the tower being able to get the signal and those are ours and I think you know that analysis is being made, but the temporary site, which is basically what they're going to you know we have to kind of you know just introduce a proposal, not finalizing anything about it, that requires some work."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Okay our next step is to, we need to okay getting these meters put in right to start this Pilot Program. You guys here, this is one of the things we need to do. We can make a motion here to let the administration take a lead on this and let's get this Pilot Program going. I'm ready to try it myself, can we find \$15,000.00? If you can find \$15,000.00, I'm going to give you a week off next year and that way we can at least get something started here. And the underlined issue here is, we can take care of the meter problem we got to take care of the problem with these high water bills, not just the spikes, the 50 day water bills you know, I talked to some people today and we need to do something for these older people man, you know we got to do something for them. Because they're the ones on fixed incomes guys, some of yawl like Larry and all of them they make two-three hundred thousand dollars a year. But these people are on Social Security..."

Curtis Young interrupting stated, "I actually have something on here..."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Pertaining to that?"

Curtis Young stated, "Yes."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I want to hear this. I tell you, we have a motion on the floor? Did you make a motion?"

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "No I didn't make a motion, I had a question."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "How long would the Pilot test last that we're talking about?"

Garrett Raggusso stated, "That's all negotiable but the standard Pilot agreement is for 12 months. It takes about 2 months to get all the infrastructure network of the software all prepared and then the actual Pilot would run for the additional length of that, so 10 months. That can be terminated at any time if you decide to either move forward or step away so."

Councilman Snyder asked, "And these meters are, can be read manually if we need to, I'm I right?"

Garrett Raggusso stated "That's correct."

Councilman Snyder stated, "That's important. So we need to get a motion to have administration to get started on this Pilot Program."

MOTION: Councilwoman Remondet moved and Councilman Sorapuru seconded the motion

to grant administration authorization to begin the process on getting the Pilot Program started. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Perrilloux absent.

Councilman Snyder stated, "Help us out. Yes sir come on I want to hear this. Let's listen tentatively."

Curtis Young stated, "Alright well, we've recently learned of a procedure related to bill estimation from Software Support where initially an entire billing cycle is estimated and then the actually radio reads replaced those particular estimated bills. Thereby reducing the resulting number of estimated bills to a more manageable number subjected to a review, and pretty much what's that saying is, you've been kind of talking about estimating, estimating, estimating and I was giving you, you know some of the pros and cons of estimating. But working with the software company we've discovered a new way to estimate, where we can still manually read. So we can estimate an entire cycle and manually read it, and now we're able to take those manual reads and actually replace some of the estimates. So the ones that we did manually read, instead of just giving them an estimate we can actually replace them with the actual numbers. But still at the same time, estimate the entire cycle and get the billing days back down to what they were."

Natalie Robottom stated, "And added a third truck with two more people."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yeah we're short of people right now, am I right? That we have some of our meter readers not working right now, right? You can just shake your head if you want to. We're short of people right now and a yes sir."

Councilman Becnel stated, "Curtis, to whom it may concern right now. Question, like Mr. Snyder said, a lot of people been calling me about their bills and stuff like that. So how does that solve the problem, excuse me, you know like the average bill for a person is \$50.00 and they got a bill for \$360 and here comes that infamous word DISCONNECT NOTICE, so I have 3 individuals on the Westbank came to my job and she said, Kurt I know I normally pay about \$60.00 and then I end up paying \$398, I said well why ma'am; she said because the disconnect notice and I know several times I tried to explain to them, don't pay attention to that just pay your average. What happens like the lady was asking me, like one of them, she's an educator, she said; Kurt, what happens if I know my bill is normally is \$55.00 or \$60.00 and I ended up paying \$398? So..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "They get an adjustment."

Councilman Becnel asked, "They're going to get an adjustment? So really adjust the bill?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes. We've been doing that the whole time."

Councilman Becnel stated, "Ok so, alright so if I give you the names of the ones who did it!"

Councilman Madere stated, "That's what I was waiting to hear. Curtis, you just said if someone paid a bill, what was delivered to them, let's say they paid \$400 and they normally pay \$50.00. Alright so they would have \$350 worth of credit due to them, right for the next bill okay."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "They would actually pull their 18 month

history and you're right that one might have been \$50 the other one might have been \$60, but you can get an average and it's going to be in that vicinity, but a \$350, they're going to get some type of adjustment because clearly that is out of line with their monthly bill."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right, what I'm saying is; if that individual paid that bill and you said you're going to give them credit, okay so that means for the next several months..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting state, "They don't have to pay."

Councilman Madere stated, "They don't have to pay. Now I..."

Curtis Young interrupting stated, "Depending on water usage."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right I understand that I understand that, but here's the problem why so many individuals are concerned; they don't want your credit they want their money back, because they need their money, they paid okay one lady told me; I paid this large bill and then they found out you know that my bill should have been something else and she said I need my money. She doesn't want a credit, okay that's the problem that they're having with credits. Okay especially elderly people because they need that money. Okay and for that particular month I understand that's going to really hurt them, but I know the previous month it's not going to hurt them because it's not coming out. So what do we have, I mean that's the policy credit."

Curtis Young stated, "That is the way that we are doing things. We are not issuing checks back to individuals."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right, okay..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "They will not have bills. For example: if it's a \$350.00 credit, whatever that bill is they'll continue eat it at that, so they will not have the bill next month, possibly the following month, so they do get to keep their money."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right, I understand that, you just have to understand the fact that when an individual finds that out they're sort of upset for that particular month."

Curtis Young stated, "For that particular reason that's the reason why we've been putting out there that, even though you may receive the DISCONNECT NOTICE, that's standard but we're not DISCONNECTING based on issues of that nature."

Councilman Madere stated, "I know we've been saying that since we started this you know."

Natalie Robottom stated, "And we haven't DISCONNECTED."

Councilman Madere stated, "And you haven't DISCONNECTED anyone?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "So if you got that's if you got a bill for three hundred something dollars and we bill you the \$65.00/\$70.00, the best thing to do is come talk to Norma and see Norma..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "Come in. We can pull you 18 month

average."

Councilman Snyder stated, "And let her handle that so you won't have to pay that three hundred something bill possibly and they can straighten that out. And something like that is wrong anyhow, and I can appreciate that. My concern is that, people are using the bill like they're using 50 days of water or 55 days of water, I might say 55 days of water and that's where the problem comes in with some of my constituents and that many of them are retired and sure I tell them all, you're using water. But it's just 50 days on a cycle, and that's why your bill is up from \$75.00 to \$110.00/\$115.00. Those are the people there somehow we got to figure something to help them..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "We make adjustments for them to Mr. Snyder. We're going to try this again, this is a parish problem, okay and we have assigned someone to deal with your individual problem. If you get a bill that's absurdly high, we encourage you to come in or call, you don't want to come, call, we can pull up your history, rather than pay this absurdly high bill, we can do an analysis, do a reread and if it's really not your bill, then you don't pay it. But if you pay it because you just didn't know any better and you realize it, oh no this is a problem, this is very unusual and you come in, then we credit your account. And so you don't have a bill on possibly the next month or whatever, you know the credit is commiserated with whatever we find, it's not just of hazard, we actually do some analysis and you know if we have to change a register we do that. For the individuals who their bill, number of days is exceeding and you're on a fixed income or if they're not, you can come in and they will work with you on your payment. Pay what you normally pay and the rest you'll pay next month. So all of these things we're being very lenient because it is our problem. And until we fix it, we don't want to penalize anyone, but each one of those circumstances that you guys just brought up, and we haven't DISCONNECTED anybody. So all of your concerns, we're not doing any of that and the route to getting your issue corrected is to get with the billing manager or the clerk so they can pull your history, do a reread, analyze what's happening and the appropriate adjustment. Now I get calls to and you know I want to see the paperwork. Okay when I get a call and you know sometimes it's like people you know when they're telling you the truth, okay you know if somebody tells you, I got 2 bills \$600.00 my bills' \$162.00 they can show you the 2 months we changed the registers, their bill went right back down. So obviously there's a problem on our end, so fix the problem, give them their credit and move on. That's what we're doing. The other thing I've asked Curtis and Ms. Norma to do, is to separate, again we're on analysis trail right now, I don't want everybody coming in here because we have people coming in here who just can't pay their bill. They separate them okay, that's not part of our problem, okay? Separate the ones who are 50 days, that's a reading issue and that's something that Curtis and his team is working on and also this antenna system will help with drastically because it can read them all at one time. And we also have these spiked bills, so we have different sets of problems that we're having to address that are all different, but we're addressing them all, nobody should be penalized and I shared with them as well. And this you know again, analyzing what's happening sometimes they'll come in for one bill, okay my bill you know I'll use this specific one; my bill was \$700.00, and well that's ridiculous you go back and give them a credit. But you have to look back at the previous month. Oh well it was \$300.00, that one was wrong too. Okay so again, in being fare to these and then you changed the register and it's back down to normal, you might have to go a little step further in trying to bring people back into line in to what they should be doing. So a lot of times they just come for one issue and so that's what we address but you got to step back and look at; let's see what is his trend, well this started actually happening 2 months ago,

so you have 2 bills that are out of the ordinary so we need to make an adjustment for those 2 months. So those are all things that I think I made myself clear, that this staff is directed to do and handle. But ultimately we got to fix this, and we've met with vendors, we've met with consultants, we've met with people, Rob is trying to help us analyze what is happening as well, in terms of the meter problem, but he's also applying for these funds. I'm hoping your project Pilot woks perfectly, but we all know we're going to need about \$6,000,000.00, and we don't have that right now. So while we're doing this, we also simultaneously applying for that SmartMeter Loan that 0.95% interest, that Rob spoke to you all about, we actually met with representatives from DEQ who explained, even though it's meters it's in their department not LDH, so there's a lot of moving parts again that we're working on, but please when your constituents call you, they're supposed to be calling here, we can, if they just give us their name and address, they can pull up their history and go through it with them and see what's happening and make a decision based on that. But if they come in or call, that can be done, and we're not trying to hurt or steal from anyone, but keep in mind I heard a question about that, we're losing on the other end to, because some of the meters are zero usage for 18 months, well they're using some water. Okay but they're not calling us for that, okay so we're losing out on that end okay! So again, there's a lot of pieces to this and those are actual bills that are showing up with zeros and so they're getting a minimal bill of \$15.00 and something when actually you know that's wrong. So...

Councilman Snyder interrupting asked, "What are we doing about that? What are we doing about those bills? What are we doing about auditing some of these big businesses around here and that have been here for 50 or 60 years who don't have water meters or a bypass around? You know the meters haven't been read in 20 years."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Those are actually being addressed as well. And we're doing some calculations and some people are going to be very disappointed."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Well I think that's where we need to start at with these meters, these businesses with these smart meters."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Absolutely, the big ones."

Councilman Malik asked, "The schedule, what we pay for water? Is that online anywhere?"

Curtis Young asked, "The schedule as far as the water?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "The rate."

Councilman Malik stated, "Right, the rates that we're paying for water. Why isn't that online?"

Curtis Young stated, "That can definitely be put online."

Councilman Malik asked, "Why is that state secret?"

Curtis Young stated, "It's not a secret it's not a secret. Anybody..."

Councilman Malik stated, "Because I can go to Jefferson Parish and they have a really good website. It'll tell me precisely what I pay, how much per gallon, once I go over the difference between incorporated and unincorporated..."

Curtis Young interrupting stated, "Well it's definitely not a secret, anybody who wants it can get it, it's public information and why it's not on the website now I don't know but I'll make sure that it gets on it."

Councilman Malik stated, "Good, did you get that other thing up on the website?"

Curtis Young stated, "I'm sorry."

Councilman Malik stated, "Explanation of the bill, the power points you had?"

Curtis Young stated, "I did turn that over to the..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "Baileigh actually in Communications will upload those. And we did have this discussion about the rates being on the website, so she'll be working on that as well. Again, a lot of it is set by Ordinance, it is what it is. It5 isn't a secret, you're right. But I think because we're having so many problems we need to make sure everything is easy for people to find, they shouldn't have to go through Municodes. Look at Jefferson, look at somebody's and come up with..."

Councilman Malik stated, "Sure."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "And we need to answer our telephones. I'm telling you, we need to answer our telephones guys, because these people are calling in and can't get anybody. And you have so many different names son, you got plenty different names. They call and tell me about you."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "Yes did we manage to get credit for the old meters, the meters that's going bad. Did we get on that trail yet?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "The warranty expired so no we are not!"

Councilman Malik stated, "The warranty expired."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Period."

Natalie Robottom stated, "It expired after 10 years in August, so the warranty has expired. So what we're purchasing and replacing, we're purchasing at full price. We're hesitant to purchase like thousands if we're going to change meters, rather we're kind of going along at a smaller rate because if we decide on a different technology and a different meter, we don't to have invested a lot of money in these old ones that don't read on the system or whatever system we choose. So we are actually purchasing at the regular rate."

Garrett Raggusso stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Malik asked, "Roughly how many meters are yawl replacing every month? About how many registers and meters replaced?"

Curtis Young stated, "Right now there's no designated number, we're replacing registers on a case by case basis."

Natalie Robottom stated, "It's about a number?"

Curtis Young stated, "I would say about maybe 20/25."

Councilman Malik asked, "Take 20? Okay, in the Pilot Program you're expectation is 12 months?"

Garrett Raggusso stated, "That's the longest it will run."

Ross Gonzales stated, "He could pull them up sooner if we're satisfied with the results or want to go forward or just want to end the program."

Councilman Malik asked, "And the registers that we're paying for now to replace this 20-25?"

Curtis Young stated, "We're not. These are registers that we got already on hand."

Councilman Malik asked, "We already have them on hand so we're not going to purchase anymore. Okay."

Councilman Snyder asked, "That's it? Mr. Raggusso, your meters or your registers, it comes with your particular meter, water meter?"

Garrett Raggusso stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Snyder asked, "We can't use ours and or from here on maybe we can look at buying the ones that we need to that would fit your register if we decide to go that way? See where I'm coming from here?"

Garrett Raggusso stated, "Different manufacturers' meter and register are not interchangeable with that being said, you know there's always a possibility of communications but if the registers are the issue then we wouldn't want to take the chance of communicating through the new system with the old registers."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I got you, alright any other questions?"

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "Are we going to schedule a time and a date for the water workshop Ms. Robottom?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Actually I still have that on here, water and drainage."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "Water and drainage as soon as possible?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Give us something there and..."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Specifically if yawl can send, we know what we want to tell yawl. Okay but we want to answer whatever yawl questions are. So if yawl can submit, make sure we're hitting on that we'd appreciate that, you can get them through your secretary. But we have a whole list of things, just like you're able to get up here and speak about what's been done, there's a lot more but that might not be what you want to hear. So if you have a specific instance or question, make sure we getting it so we can plan to address that. But we do have a lot of information on both of these topics that we think will somewhat enlighten."

Councilman Snyder asked, "When someone calls in to Norma and Norma's busy or she might be on a break or something like that, do they get a recording and does she call them back?"

Curtis Young stated, "It's not just Norma, there's clerks in Garyville that's, there's clerks at the other service center, there's clerks that actually sit by me. These calls go through all of us they go through all of us. It's not..."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well I mean if I got a problem, someone have a problem they call St. John the Baptist Parish and they say give me you. Most of them say; let me speak to Curtis and if Curtis doesn't answer or his mail is not set up then they don't get anybody. And this has happened lately. I tell you, you have many different names out there and what I'm saying now, if they call St. John the Baptist Parish and I want to speak to the person in charge of the water or speak to someone about my water bill, do they automatically go over to Norma?"

Curtis Young stated, "No that's what I'm saying. When they call and have a water problem or water issue, they transfer it to anyone of my clerks in the water department, and all of them are capable and trained at helping them. Now when they specifically come in, then yes they see Ms. Norma or me."

Councilman Snyder asked, "So who would have to just ask for Curtis and then they're going to be transferred to one of those clerks?"

Curtis Young stated, "Yes."

Councilman Snyder stated, "That's not happening. It's not happening. That may not be your fault but that's not happening."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "I agree with you Mr. Snyder. I was under the impression that Norma was going to be handling all the calls/complaints we had with the water meters. I was under the impression too."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Right, I thought she'd take all the calls."

Natalie Robottom stated, "She gets a lot of them Mr. Snyder. And if she's busy she actually does retrieve her messages and she does make return calls. So she does get the bulk because that's where we're directing and that's what she's focusing on, where the clerks at the other offices are still doing their other jobs. Whereas, she's focused just on this and again, you know it's a work in progress you know the typical response of you know, you might have a leak. You know we should be beyond that now with these 700, 400 you know dollar bills. Not to say some people aren't having leaks, but that shouldn't be our first response. We need to start pulling up the history and making analysis and moving forward from that."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes I think it's time to move on. Because I would was interrupted with drainage, so I'm going to interrupt this water. Let's move one."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Okay let's move on then."

Larry Snyder - Lesson learned from flooding on June 3rd, 2017

Jobe' Boucvalt stated, "Thank you Mr. Chairman, Councilman Snyder. Based on weather forecasts, alerts and warnings were sent to Council members and residents in preparation for possible street flooding and the EOC was partially activated. The Parish received in excess of 15-20 inches of rain from May through the beginning of June, with as much as 4 inches in 1 hour on one day. With saturated grounds and canals and retention ponds already full, street flooding occurred Parishwide and in areas not typically known to flood at that level. However, many

of the roadways drained within 30 minutes. Below are some of the measures taken during that time, but it is not an all-inclusive list. For additional information regarding current drainage issues and ongoing remedies, a drainage workshop may be helpful. Working with the Fire Department, Sheriff's Office and support staff, high water signs were placed as needed, however at least 2 signs were stolen within hours after being placed. Discussion was also held with the Sheriff's Office regarding speeding and pushing water toward homes and business when roadways are flooded. Compliance EnviroSystems (CES) was tasked with evaluating culverts around the Parish for possible blockages and cleanings and the Directors of Utilities, Public Works, and Public Safety toured the pipeline right-of-way on an airboat to determine the impact of the Maurepas Pipeline Construction. The Fire Department also provided drone footage along the pipelines and outfall canals for additional analysis. While no major problems were identified that could be attributed to the pipeline, possible projects north of the interstate were discussed to help with Parishwide drainage issues, once permitted."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Good, and all that stuff that sounds good, but you know something, they still had a lot of water out there and I did some riding and I'm sure everybody else did some riding in their District to kind of figure out what was going on. And I think I met people from the fire department, I called Mr. and well I called someone out there and Mr. Alexander came out there because we saw something in the canal, we didn't know what it was but it was a busted pipe. Okay come to find out it's one of the pumping into that at that time. Now when he got there I went down Ellerslie, I went down well they had water everywhere, but I went Ellerslie, down Rensley, I went down Chatsworth and they water in the streets going up in people's houses. Got to the 3 pumps, I got to the pumps the pump doesn't kick on until the level is real high, okay. The pump doesn't kick on until the level is real high, so that means the pump is not running, the water is backed up, am I right? The water can't get out the streets. I know places where have pumps at, the places where we have pumps at. The water was high in the streets and I was surprised how you know how much water they had in the streets in that whole Southeast part of Riverlands over there, but the pumps hadn't kicked on yet and the level was high above the piping because I looked down in the reservoir and then the pump kicked on, and you could see that level dropping. And after the level got through then you could see this water going down to these catch basins. But before that it wasn't moving, so that tells me that we need to get those things recalibrated to come on earlier, or get someone to stand by so these people don't get water into their house, and pay somebody to do something with those pumps. Reed came there and he put it on manual for us, and that drained Ellerslie, that drained a couple of streets right off of Ellerslie going down there."

Councilman Malik stated, "Chatsworth, Chatsworth!"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Chatsworth just like that. When those pumps are calibrated, too high and they're coming on too late and that causes problems. I went by the canal and that water was going in there. And one guy out there, I forgot his name, he was cleaning out drains and everything else, he was cleaning out the drain by the pump, you know. And that water, it went it got out of town trust me. I didn't realize moving that fast, it goes to the canal the canal wasn't full because the pipe wasn't covered. Look, all the pipes weren't covered. So we need to look at all these pumps, get them recalibrated or have some manual switches somewhere where these people can run these pumps, I realize you can't run them, I understand that but with all that water that fell out there I don't think I'd worry about running them amp, because it definitely sucked that sutt down. So that tells me those pumps can handle a lot of water, and the streets

were still full of water. Water going in where the pumps were, you could hear the water going in there. So we need to look at that we need to look at that seriously."

Brian Nunes stated, "Yeah I can address that, you're absolutely right. We're aware of that, this storm for this storm season I guess has made us well aware that those floats are out in those three pump stations in the Riverlands area. And we're actually working with the Utilities Department, they know a little bit more because they have the lift station, they're helping adjust the floats and at the same time I told you CES is in town they're cleaning Ellerslie, Chatsworth, West Frisco, they're taking care of all that area cleaning out all the culverts. So we're going to adjust the floats on the pumps, we're going to clean the culverts hopefully we get this whole thing worked out."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Good, good that's all we need."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes this was supposed to be my last part of my presentation on my drainage issue but since we back with this flood, this paper I have right here, is a report that was done in 2003. That was done by the parish on Chad B. Baker Street concerning the same situation that's going on in 2017 at a certain location. Okay so I can't, you don't know nothing about that you wasn't here. Okay but when I complained about that problem on Chad B. Baker we also had a report done in 2016, okay because I'm not going to say anything unless I research it and I have the paperwork right here, in 2003 it was council person Dale Wolfe, okay 2016 we all know who the council person is, it's myself. Okay and on both incidents it was specifically laid out what had to be done to improve the drainage down that particular street. And as of today, from 2003 from 2016 none of this information has been done. Okay so, the problem existed in 2003 and it's still there in 2017, so what I'm asking is, this administration and that department is we have to start somewhere and it seems to be a very good spot to start, since it was already identified in 2003 also identified in 2016, well from 2003 to 2017 it's been identified. So we need to do something and start in this particular area."

Brian Nunes stated, "I agree with you, that's a problem in old Reserve but we know the reports, I haven't read the 2003 one I have read the 2016 one. We know the culverts are undersized and misaligned. Actually I received a proposal yesterday for the complete design of Chad B. Baker, we've already had it surveyed as you know, so I have a proposal for the complete design of a drainage system there. If we could find funding we can move forward with it."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay and one other thing, down that particular street down any street, okay I know we have a drainage crew now composed of 9 individuals, right"

Brian Nunes stated, "Correct."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay that was told to me, we got a report the very first time we found out about these 9 individual workers and I haven't received a report since as to where they at. Today was the first time I saw them at the back of 23rd Street digging out a canal, okay two of the individuals. My only concern is that when we digging out these canals or digging out these ditches, like I said before I think I spoke to St. Charles, St. James and a couple of other areas. Whenever they dig a ditch, or they dig a canal, okay we only have two workers out there, okay everyone else have three. The third guy is the one that shoot the grade of the ditch to make sure that we don't dig too deep in some

areas and not deep enough in other areas and that's why when water drains you have some areas drain completely and some have pockets. Okay so what I think we need to do is stop digging blindly and have someone shoot the grade to make sure we're doing it the right way the first time. Okay that's my suggestion."

Councilman Snyder stated, "And that's a good idea, that's a good suggestion I think we should take the next time we're doing some drainage over there. So were there any other learnings or does that take care of that we got from that high water? Because I learned a few other things myself but we'll talk about that some other time."

Councilman Wright stated, "I think there was something that was learned also. I do want to come see the drone footage, you know the last part of this administrative report is very interesting because I think this council has said for a long time since Hurricane Isaac, that North of interstate has to be cleaned out and that's never been done and we can check the record on that. We're in Hurricane Season again we've experienced large amounts of rain, large amounts of rain and I it continues to come. I hope the administration will have something on the next agenda because we can't wait any longer. The Pontchartrain Levee District the Pontchartrain Levee District will do a lot of this work for free if it ties into the lake. So I want to see something on the next agenda because I don't want to go into Hurricane Season any longer without addressing this situation."

Brian Nunes stated, "You're correct. Actually I will add one part of the Parish President just reminded me of. We've talked to Mr. Savoie about adjusting our permit applications to extend out into the marsh lands out by the pipelines because I'm not sure where they end right now, but we want to extend the GPS ending coordinates so we can go all the way out, so we don't just stop at the interstate. And so that's our plan, we're working with him right now."

Councilman Wright stated, "And call the Pontchartrain Levee District because I will tomorrow and I'll get a meeting set up with them also because if they can get in here and do it quicker and no cost to the parish, it's got to be done."

Brian Nunes stated, "That would be fantastic, thank you."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Thank you Mike good observation."

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "I just wanted to say that I think it was when Ms. Robottom worked for the Governor Jindal, what storm was that Gustav?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Gustav and Ike."

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "I think we had cleaned out culverts under the Interstate then and I'm just thinking after the flooding we had I'm sure there's a lot of since then for other storms it might have added to debris under that, that maybe we could see if that can be done."

Natalie Robottom stated, "And those were issues and concerns, ultimately though and again that doesn't negate the fact that we need the permits and you know we did a canal cleaning project where it was paid for through Gustav and Ike, so it wasn't like it was totally not done lately but, what we found was it still drain, so you're right there's some issues there but if they were really issues it wouldn't drain. You know even after it stops, it wouldn't drain. So I think the drone footage gave us some ideas of specifically you know where we needed to go,

but ultimately it's a little bit bigger than that because if you know which again we initially thought the pipeline wasn't happening, it was a lot of water and our system is primarily gravity and in a short period of time, it piles up but it drains. So we could see that it actually went through those problem areas or the areas that we think are problematic and we were very fortunate, because we didn't have any strong wind, and we didn't have high lake levels. So none of that impacted what was happening and it was still problematic, I'm not sure if you guys are aware but new Highway 51 by El Paso was shut down. There was water across new 51 and residents could not travel to the Interstate that has never happened. Now we always have water in the curves by the hotels, closer to the interchanges but we never get water up near Airline Highway on new 51, but the Sheriff's Office had to block it off. So you know we're taking a bigger look at some of this, I think we've gotten your request and did a lot of research, you know there have been some work I think through Mr. Savoie's office and on the Main Street area, but ultimately we didn't fully identify you know other than subsidence and you know the amount of rain we got, but it did move and so that's suggest that it's not blocked. It drained, you could see it you could see it moving, so again you know trying to come up with every avenue that we can to address whatever situation that we think is happening, but this has been parish wide. I lived in my house for 30 years we don't have water where you have to put up signs on St. Andrews Boulevard, high water signs. We had high water signs, so there's some a larger issue but we did look at it all the way from LaPlace into Reserve as well. They have a slightly different system that allows their water to actually make it as far as it needs to be. We had a really good meeting with Maurepas Pipeline while they're doing some work they going to do some things that we think will help us, they were very cooperative, came immediately like the next day from Texas and Oklahoma wherever they came from, and actually provided us the airboat to take the ride and worked, brought in their maps and their elevations, so it was helpful, it's not the end all be all but we do want to make sure we have permitting for North of the Interstate, but that's not all it."

Councilman Wright stated, "Well and so like you said, gravity does play a huge role in it. For example: the Woodland and River Forest canal the ones that were cleaned and continuously maintained, that's great. But when we experience these large amounts of water there may not be 100% blockage, if there's a 90% blockage, 10% is still going to flow, but at a slower rate. So when you have large amounts of rain it will back up and we'll have these roads closed and interchanges closes, Old 51 was backed up almost midway, they had a resident he almost flooded. So not a total blockage but that's where all the water drains. So we have to make sure that it's freely flowing so when we have these large amounts of rain, it'll get our quicker so we won't have these residents who are almost having near misses with water getting in their house."

Natalie Robottom stated, "And in specific to that one, we actually had rain the next day, we had video and it's like okay we thought it was blocked. And we met with Chuck, he pulled the stuff and we went out there it was flowing. So again, it's bigger than just one little isolated incident it was just some type..."

Councilman Wright interrupting stated, "That's all over Interstate."

Natalie Robottom stated, "It was you know, it was massive and as we said, we know out typical areas so we wanted to stage high water signs but it was everywhere."

Councilman Wright stated, "It was bad."

Councilman Snyder asked, "We have our pumps back there that can help Riverlands,

it's going to help all of Cambridge, part of Belle Terre we put them on that pump on that canal back there. We're going to pump all this water out of here. I had another question it just slipped mind as far as what we need, we called the police and we called public works to getting stop signs and slow down signs. I think that's one thing yawl may have to put into yawl process when yawl usually have those floods, especially those hot spots you know get some signs out there, no traffic or slow traffic, because I think we can avert some issues there, because people are going to protect their homes and they have some fools that's always coming there with these high big tall trucks, where they can go through the water but they forget the water can go in people's houses you see."

Brian Nunes stated, "The Sheriff's office enforces that, we are actually putting high water signs in typical areas put permanent signs. Instead because we had these temporary signs they tend to get stolen, they go missing, so we're doing permanent signs in some areas. But the Sheriff's Office has been enforcing the speed through high water."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Maybe strategically you can get some of these homeowners they may keep them there, I'm serious."

Councilman Wright stated, "Because we now have footage, is there a way to get some type of emergency permit to expedite this because it's Hurricane Season and we can prove that residents can be in imminent danger?"

Brian Nunes stated, "I don't know if there's an expedited method. Can you collaborate?"

Councilman Wright stated, "I was asking about the possibility of an emergency permit due to the Hurricane Season. The large amounts of rain we had and of course the footage we have."

Chuck Savoie stated, "They sometimes authorize emergency permits, so I'm not going to tell you they don't but they will step in and what you're going to have some justification and present some documentation and show them that and then they may come in and of course they're going to have the same type of restrictions as far as the wetlands and so forth and possibly going to want some mitigation involved in it. So I can't answer your question until I know exactly all the perimeters."

Councilman Wright stated, "I just wanted to know if there was a possibility."

Chuck Savoie stated, "There is that possibility."

Councilman Wright stated, "Ok thank you."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Mike when you review that video, you might be able to find some help for him to get."

Larry Snyder - Update on the St. John Civic Center seating/equipment

The above item will be carried over to the next agenda for the 06/27/2017 meeting.

Larry Sorapuru - Update WestBank Waste Water Tank Rehabilitation Project

Natalie Robottom stated, "This project is one that has been in the works now for

a couple of years, it is a very much needed project and the funding is in jeopardy because of some of the delays in the firm. We did get a response to the letter submitted to South Central Planning that was written by the attorney, Mr. Thomas Watkins, Jr. and a copy was forwarded to Legal Counsel and one was attached to this report. It's consistent with what we know, in terms of the grant application and the use of those funds. I spoke with Mr. Becnel earlier today, and you know we think there are other opportunities, this project was not just drawn up, you know there was work done on it for a year and a half to get it to this point with approvals all along the way that put it in the posture that it's in. And by following their guidelines, the resulting recommendation is the same. I do think there are possible opportunities to work with one of the firms you're looking at, but I think holding up this project any longer is going to jeopardize the funding."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "So when you say the funding Ms. Robottom, we're talking about \$68,000.00 the grant money that they..."

Natalie Robottom stated, "We're talking about the \$68,000.00 and the project was designed as an EPA or drafted as an EPA project. It's not just okay replace the money and move forward. We'd have to go back and start doing some other things because this process was driven by EPA's Guidelines. So it's not a matter of just putting some money in and saying, move forward. It's a little bit more than that."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Ok, so anybody has any questions?"

Councilman Becnel stated, "Let me say something. And the scope of this project or the size of it, you know you hear astronomical numbers this is an \$800,000.00 job or \$1.5 million. So could you be more specific as what, how much will this actually entail?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "I think Mr. Becnel and I had a discussion. There are two obviously components to every project, one is design and one is construction. So yes, it's an \$800,000.00 construction project. But the design fee is right at \$124,000.00, 68 of that was coming from EPA but it was all based on, as with all of our contracts are based on the construction cost or the anticipated construction cost. So I think there may have been some misinformation on the value of this design contract versus the construction contract, and at that point the construction would be bid out based on the specifications in design."

Councilman Becnel stated, "Right so it really would be like 124?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes."

Councilman Becnel stated, "Ok."

Councilman Madere stated, "I still don't get Mr. Snyder had a conference call with, who's that guy was who you had that with?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "With the EPA?"

Councilman Madere stated, "Yeah, concerning with that letter we had to write."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Oh well I talked, that was the EPA."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right."

Councilman Snyder stated, "It's a lady actually."

Councilman Madere stated, "And at that time they told us that we give an explanation, that wouldn't jeopardize the money, the funding that's why the letter was written. Now we're getting something totally different."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well my issue was that, we were told that it was \$68,000.00. That's what the administration..."

Natalie Robottom stated, "That's yeah that's the..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "That was our share."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Per design."

Councilman Snyder stated, "That's what they were going to pay."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Per design yes."

Councilman Snyder stated, "That's what EPA was going to pay for design, just design? And the company that the administration selected to do that, they said we approved it, I guess we did approve it. But we decided we wanted to go with another company, so that put that in jeopardy according to Mr. Delaune, according to administration and put that in jeopardy so we lost that. The people at EPA said we didn't lose that. Because of what happened we need to write this letter, and that's what we did, we asked you to write a letter, pass it over to the District Attorney, let the District Attorney review the letter for language and things like that and pass it back and let's give it to South Central Planning, let them turn it in, let them do what they have to do. In the meantime guys in the meantime, they said that doesn't affect the construction part of that money, there's still money there for the construction part of it."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Right."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Money is still there. This was only \$68,000.00 that they was going to pay for design. Now, if we can find \$68,000.00, there's no reason why we can't start this project. And we don't have to wait on the EPA, if they decide to give us the money, then we replace the money with what they got, where we got it from, and we got budgets that we can look at. We got things that we could look at, read your budget book and see where we might be able to get some of this money from. And all we have to do is get us an Ordinance, an Ordinance and explain that and we can get that \$68,000.00 and get this thing going. I mean Mr. Delaune we just gave him a contract a contract tonight and I told him on the telephone and I told it to some people in administration, I mean what, I mean we're paying for this we have a Grant Manager in there we have South Central Planning over there, and it doesn't seem like any of you guys want to help with project because we went against the grain, that's what I see. Do any of you see the same thing because we went against the grain, here we're punishing the people on the Westbank for \$68,000.00?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Actually we're not punishing anyone. These are long awaited projects that there was no money for. So through our office we were actually able to secure this additional funding and this specific project, it wasn't about you guys at the last minute suggesting someone else, this project has been in the works. Just like the one you approved for the water clarifier grant, but we follow the process that's required for the funding entity. And we

didn't say you would lose the money and I actually gave yawl some other options. However it's not, you can totally disregard all of EPA's money and provide your own funding.

Councilman Snyder stated, "We don't want to give up that funding money."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Right, so that is a good thing. And I think you know I want to commend Mr. Delaune and I know you've referenced, we have a grant writer, our grant writer is doing things but she's consumed right now with CDBG, that \$32,000,000.00, so I can't rely on her and her expertise is not in drainage, and pumps, and EPA, and those guidelines. So the assistance we're getting there has been extremely helpful and we've secured a lot of grant money. But it's not as simple as just saying; Oh well just throw this away we're going to use this here, it doesn't work like that. And I don't think you know we're in jeopardy of losing it, you do have some options, you can if you can justify why you skipped one end to and you have to according to the letter from the attorney, you have to not just pick say; why you want #3, you have to disqualify #1 and 2 and..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "That's not what I was told."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Ok well we got a response."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well I don't you talked to. I'm saying this; I'm saying we were told that we need too, why we chose another one and not the one that you turned in? Alright, that's what we had to do. That's we asked you to do we told you what we want on the letter and let's write this letter. The people who we give it to, is just as qualified as anybody that was on that list, except yawl had them #3."

Natalie Robottom stated, "And again, we relayed what took place, and actually..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "Regardless of what took place Ms. Robottom, we're going through all this again, has the letter been written?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "It's been written and yawl got a response."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Ok, Mr. Green can you put some light on this for us and where we are that process?"

Keith Green, Jr., stated, "The administration submitted us a draft of the letter. Well we sent a request to administration for some additional documentation that was sent to South Central Planning. We got that information last week, we'll be reviewing it this week, and we should have something back to the administration with the respect to any changes or suggestion changes to the letter based on the communications between South Central Planning and the Administration."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Ok so that where we are?"

Keith Green, Jr., stated, "That where we are right now. We're expecting a letter."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well let's move along."

Keith Green, Jr., stated, "Yes sir."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Actually I sent the letter. I sent a letter already and yawl got a response."

Councilman Snyder asked, "You sent the letter to South Central Planning?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Right!"

Councilman Snyder asked, "You sent the letter to South Central Planning?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "That is correct."

Councilman Snyder asked, "And that's where it's supposed to? Did you, that's the one you looked at?"

Keith Green, Jr., stated, "No it's not the one we did..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "Because you're not writing it. Ok you can't tell me what to write in a letter..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "But we directed you..."

Keith Green, Jr. interrupting stated, "I'm sorry ma'am pardon me! I did not tell you what to write, the Council told you what to write and you didn't write it."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "And they can't either. Right, right!"

Keith Green, Jr. interrupting stated, "That's what happened to it and that's why I asked you for additional information."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "I did exactly, I wrote exactly what the..."

Keith Green, Jr. interrupting stated, "Madam President, I'll shoot you an email on that tomorrow, with the council cc'd."

Councilman Snyder stated "Yeah ok."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "No problem. Yawl have the response already."

Councilman Snyder stated "Thank you, thank you, thank you! Let's get pass this. Somebody else has something to say?"

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes, I just heard Ms. Robottom say, not only do we have to write a letter explaining why we want this other company, but we have to disqualify the one, the other one? That's what you're saying?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "The first two."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay well, there's no need to disqualify them if they're all qualified."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I'm just repeating what you were told."

Councilman Madere stated, "So, well I'm just repeating. Well this is my opinion; if they're all qualified and then if we just qualify one, we just qualify them all, because they were all judged qualified."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Ok thank you sir appreciate that input."

Larry Sorapuru - Update on Garyville drainage work orders

Brian Nunes stated, "The Public Works Department is aware of the drainage issues

on Miano Street and Apple Street which involve partially blocked culverts and culverts that need to be replaced and re-graded. The department should begin this work within the next two weeks and any new drainage issues should be sent to the Public Works office for evaluation and addition to the work order system."

MOTION: Councilman Sorapuru moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Lew Myers v. Arceneaux, et al, Docket #62288; Traci King v. St. John the Baptist Parish, Docket #69337; Dianne Johnson v. St. John the Baptist Parish, Docket #67990; Latoya Julien v. St. John the Baptist Parish, Docket #66791; Danielle Harris v. St. John the Baptist Parish/Public Works, Docket #69497. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Perrilloux absent.

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

Councilman Snyder stated, "We did come up with two issues that we need to bring to the regular meeting and Mr. Wright is going to make that motion for us."

Councilman Wright stated, "In the matter of Latoya Julien v. St. John the Baptist Parish, Docket #66791, I'd like to make a motion to authorize Attorney Carl Butler to make an offer in the amount not to exceed \$2,950.80."

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Becnel seconded the motion to authorize attorney Carl Butler to make an offer in the amount of \$2,950.80. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Perrilloux absent.

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to suspend the agenda to add the following item: authorization for the administration to execute an engagement letter with Savoie Law Firm, LLC to provide legal representation and services with the hourly rate of \$175.00 an hour in accordance with the hourly rate for Attorneys established by the Louisiana Attorney General's Office for the following lawsuits: Lew Meyers v. Arceneaux, et al, Docket #62288; Traci King v. St. John the Baptist Parish, Docket #69337; Dianne Johnson v. St. John the Baptist Parish, Docket #67990. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Perrilloux absent.

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilwoman Remondet seconded the motion to grant administration authorization to execute an engagement letter with Savoie Law Firm, LLC to provide legal representation and services with the hourly rate of \$175.00 an hour in accordance with the hourly rate for Attorneys established by the Louisiana Attorney General's Office for the following lawsuits: Lew Meyers v. Arceneaux, et al, Docket #62288; Traci King v. St. John the Baptist Parish, Docket #69337; Dianne Johnson v. St. John the Baptist Parish, Docket #67990. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Perrilloux absent.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Lew Myers v. Arceneaux, et al, Docket #62288

Traci King v. St. John the Baptist Parish, Docket #69337

Dianne Johnson v. St. John the Baptist Parish, Docket #67990

Latoya Julien v. St. John the Baptist Parish, Docket #66791

Danielle Harris v. St. John the Baptist Parish/Public Works, Docket #69497

Kevin Branch v. St. John the Baptist Parish, Docket #68094

St. John the Baptist Parish v. Jovan Washington, Docket #70634

Parish Buildings - Security

R. Bend Estates II, LLC, et al v. St. John the Baptist Parish, et al, #69795

Legal Representation and Prospect of Litigation for Haydel Canal Project

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

John Barrett vs. St. John the Baptist Parish, Docket# 68043 (Graffiti issue)

Sky Nicole Jones, et al v. Troy Miles, et al, 40th JDC

Any and all pending legal matters

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

17-21 An ordinance amending Ordinance 17-02 relative to the annual Operating budgets for the St. John the Baptist Parish General Fund, Juvenile Detention Fund and Criminal Court Fund for the Fiscal year beginning January 1, 2016 and ending December 31, 2016. (N. Robottom)

17-22 An ordinance amending Ordinance 16-38 relative to the annual Operating budgets for the St. John the Baptist Parish Airport Authority, Ambulance Fund, Animal Shelter, ARC Maintenance, Communications District, Community Center, Department of Health and Human Services, Economic Development, Office of Fire Services, Health Unit, Gustav/Ike CDBG, Hurricane Isaac, Isaac Recovery CDBG, Public Safety, Public Works, Recreation, Sales Tax District, Senior Citizens, Street Lights, Mosquito Fund, Solid Waste, Wastewater Fund, Water Distribution Fund, Parish-Wide Sewerage Construction Fund, 2009 General Obligations Bonds, 2010 General Obligation Bonds, 2014 General Obligation Bonds, 2015 General Obligation Bonds and 2015 Sales Tax Bond for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2016 and ending December 31, 2016. (N. Robottom)

17-23 A millage ordinance - levy millage 2017 (N. Robottom)

PRESIDENT REPORT:

Natalie Robottom stated, "Good evening. First, thank you to our residents for their patience last week and weekend. The recent rain events, specifically Saturday, June 3rd, produced 4 inches of rain in 1 hour; this was in addition to the rainfall all week and heavily saturated grounds and overloaded canals resulting in severe flooding throughout LaPlace. We share your concerns and are working to resolve these historical problems. In the interim, a contractor was tasked with inspecting and cleaning drain lines, manholes and catch basins in various locations throughout the parish. The break in the weather will hopefully allow us to complete the assessments and begin cleaning those areas. The Belle Terre Blvd. project was stalled several times due to relocation of private utility lines and severe weather, but once completed, most of the flooding on this roadway is expected to diminish. They are scheduled to begin the work

sometimes next week, weather permitting. We are extremely concerned about the frequency and degree of flooding in the last several weeks, but our area has received 12 to 15 inches of rain in the last 30 days. We are working very closely with all of our partners to mitigate the problems that are within our control on the short-term, while planning for the long-term. One of our long-term goals is levee protection with pumping stations that will facilitate our ability to drain and prevent recirculation, but we need your help. The current President has removed funding from the Corps of Engineers' budget for Louisiana projects and eliminated the plan to allocate GOMESA funds to the state for its Master Plan, which includes our levee. I recently made a call to action to contact our federal delegation and ask for their help in restoring those funds. Please also remember sign up for emergency alerts via sjbparish.com or by calling our office at 652-9569 to stay up to date with ongoing Parish projects. Hurricane season officially began on June 1st and residents are encouraged to stay weather ready. We are also requesting assistance in cleaning out drains and catch basins, and clearing yards and driveways of limbs and debris before and during rain events. Our crews are staged and working during severe weather events and we appreciate residents' assistance during these times. Remember, the proper channel to report any type of flooding or emergencies is 911. This time of year, the possibility of severe weather increases. Please get a game plan and be ready at little notice if a storm were to arise. If your organization or group would like to schedule a hurricane preparedness presentation, please call the public safety office at (985)652-2222. Two community hurricane preparedness meetings will take place in the upcoming weeks - Ken Graham with the National Weather Center will be on hand to explain the new surge watches and warnings. Westbank: Tuesday, June 20th, 2017 - 6:00 PM - Edgard Courthouse - 2393 LA 18, Edgard, LA; Eastbank: Wednesday, June 21st, 2017 - 6:00 PM - REGALA Gymnasium - 200 Regala Park Road, Reserve. Thank you to all of the residents who attend the LA Safe meetings last week. Once plans are developed, the LA SAFE team will use the balance of funds to invest in proposed programs and projects within the 6-parish area, including St. John. Your ideas and feedback will be incorporated into the plan. Congratulations to Baumer Foods, Inc. of Reserve for being selected as the 2017 Lantern Award winner for the Bayou Region. The award was presented by Governor John Bel Edwards and LED Secretary Don Pierson, at a reception at the Governor's Mansion. Baumer was recognized for the success of their small businesses and impact on the community. Congrats again. The 12th Annual St. John Parish Veterans Luncheon will be held Monday, July 3rd, at 11:00 AM at REGALA Gym in Reserve. A video tribute to pay homage to St. John's veterans and service members will be featured again this year during the luncheon. The video will also be played later that day during the televised broadcast of the Independence Day Fireworks Celebration. Residents are asked to assist with the video by submitting photos of local veterans and service members in their military uniform. Black and white or color photos will be accepted, but high resolution digital files are preferred. The deadline for submitting photos is Friday, June 23rd at 4:30 PM to allow adequate time to complete the project. Photos may be emailed to: communications@stjohn-la.gov or mailed to the St. John Communication's Department Attn: Veteran Tribute, 1801 W. Airline Hwy., LaPlace, LA 70068. Mark your calendars for the 17th Annual Independence Day Celebration and Firework Show to be held on the evening of July 3rd on the grounds of the St. Peter Catholic Church, and the St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Edgard at 6:00 PM. The Televised broadcast will start at 7:00 PM. Just a reminder - the summer food service program is running through July 13th. Sites are available on our communication outlets. For more information, contact DHHS at (985)536-4955. The popular Water Aerobics program has restarted for the summer months and classes will be held on Monday, Wednesdays and Fridays at REGALA pool and on Tuesdays at Castle Drive Pool. Times and registration forms can be found online on our website or at the Parks & Recreation Office. Thank

you."

ADJOURNMENT:

At 10:03 PM, Councilman Wright moved and Councilwoman Remondet seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Perrilloux absent.

/s/Larry Snyder
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
COUNCIL SECRETARY