

SPECIAL COMMITTEE MEETING
JUNE 17th, 2020
Chairman Lennix Madere
Vice-Chair Kurt Becnel

CERTIFICATE

The St. John the Baptist Parish Council, through its Chairman, Lennix Madere, Jr., hereby certifies as follows: In accordance with Executive Proclamations JBE 2020-30 issued by Governor John Bel Edwards on March 16, 2020, and concurrence by the Attorney General on March 19th, 2020, this Notice shall serve as certification by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council of its inability to operate in accordance with the Louisiana Open Meetings Law due to a lack of quorum as a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency. Pursuant to Section 4 of JBE 2020-30 the St. John the Baptist Parish Council will provide for attendance at its essential government meeting on Wednesday, June 17th, 2020, via video conference in order to obtain a quorum of its members. Therefore, in accordance with JBE 2020-30, the St. John the Baptist Parish Council meeting on Wednesday, June 17th, 2020 at 2:00 PM will be held via video conference and in a manner that will allow for observation and input by members of the public, as set forth in the notice posted on Tuesday, June 16th, 2020. All other Open Meetings Law requirements have been met.

The St. John the Baptist Parish Council members will meet via Zoom video/teleconference at the posted date and time.

Via Telephone access: Call 985-652-1702

Via Web access: www.sjbparish.com {click on (Government) Menu button, then select (Parish Council)}

Also, you can watch as normal on our Government Channels live with scheduled replays.

Members: Lennix Madere, Kurt Becnel, Warren Torres, Tammy Houston, Tyra Duhe-Griffin, Robert Arcuri, Tonia Schnyder, Michael Wright, Thomas Malik

PRESENT: Kurt Becnel, Warren Torres, Tammy Houston, Tyra Duhe-Griffin, Michael Wright, Thomas Malik, Tonia Schnyder, Lennix Madere

ABSENT: Robert Arcuri

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilwoman Schnyder seconded the motion to go into a 30-minute recess. The motion passed with Councilman Arcuri absent.

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin seconded the motion to go back into the Finance Committee Meeting. The motion passed with Councilman Arcuri absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT - AGENDA ITEMS ONLY (90 seconds per citizen)

There was on public comment received.

Jackie Landeche, Council Secretary, read, "Thanks to Councilmembers; Parish President Hotard-Gaudet for allowing the conversation for a parish-wide

Juneteenth Observance Resolution. It is in the spirit of community and the souls of our ancestors that I come to you this day, as this nation grapples, yet again, with the value of black lives within the country, and begin to approach July 4th, a date set aside for the commemoration of America's Independence, to ask this council to again affirm that Black Lives Matter and so does black history. Whereas, St. John the Baptist Parish's African American population knows all too well the cost of the fight for freedom and one of the original cries for black lives matter as documented in our own historic slave revolt of 1811 from the Woodland Plantation, 52 years prior to the Emancipation Proclamation and 54 years prior to Juneteenth, which resulted in the lost lives of slaves as they cried out for 'Freedom or Death' within our very own communities, I ask that we set aside this moment to commemorate the freedom of all slaves within the United States. June 19, 1865, could be arguably recognized as the date of America's true independence. It was this date on which slavery legally came to an end in the United States. Thank you for the continued conversations to advance race and race relations within our community. This conversation is definitely a step in the right direction for all of St. John the Baptist Parish citizens in the celebration of Juneteenth Independence Day to provide an opportunity for the people of the St. John the Baptist Parish to learn more about the past and to better understand the experiences that have shaped the United States and our culture locally. Derron C. Cook, Sr., Community Advocate/Educator, 2nd Vice-President, NAACP Chapter 6077, Vice-President, St. John Association of Educators."

Jaclyn Hotard - Proclamation - "Juneteenth Independence Day" June 19th, 2020 in St. John the Baptist Parish

Parish President Hotard read the proclamation for Juneteenth Independence Day.

CONSENT AGENDA:

ITEMS: Permit Approval - St. John the Baptist Parish Juneteenth Walk "A Walk for Justice and Equality" - Friday, June 19th, 2020, beginning at 8:00 AM at Home Depot and ending at the St. John Government Complex

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin seconded the motion to approve consent agenda items consisting of Permit Approval - St. John the Baptist Parish Juneteenth Walk "A Walk for Justice and Equality" - Friday, June 19th, 2020, beginning at 8:00 AM at Home Depot and ending at the St. John Government Complex. The motion passed with Councilman Arcuri absent.

NEW BUSINESS

Lennix Madere - declaring Friday, June 19, 2020 as a Parish Holiday

MOTION: Councilwoman Schnyder moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to declare Friday, June 19, 2020 as a Parish Holiday. The motion passed with Councilman Arcuri absent.

Adjournment:

MOTION: Councilwoman Schnyder moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to adjourn the special meeting. The motion passed with Councilman Arcuri absent.

The meeting can be viewed in its entirety at www.sjbparish.com.

Public Comment Form: <http://st-john-parish.com/council-meeting/>