

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, JUNE 25th, 2019
CHAIRMAN THOMAS MALIK
VICE-CHAIR MARVIN PERRILLOUX

The Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session in Council Chambers, St. John the Baptist Parish Government Complex, 1811 W. Airline Hwy., LaPlace, Louisiana on Tuesday, June 25th, 2019 at 6:30 PM.

CALL TO ORDER:

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

ABSENT: Jaclyn Hotard Gaudet

Councilman Sorapuru led the Prayer. Councilwoman Remonet led the Pledge.

Legal Counsel Keith Green, Jr. was present.

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to recess. The motion passed with Councilwoman Jaclyn Hotard Gaudet absent.

MOTION: Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilwoman Hotard Gaudet seconded the motion to go back in to the regular meeting. The motion passed with Councilwoman Remonet, Councilmen Becnel, Madere and Sorapuru absent.

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

Good Afternoon, my name is Ann Harvey. I'm a resident of St. John the Baptist Parish, and I along with some of my team members are here from a Water Aerobics Class, and on Friday, June the 14th...

Councilman Malik stated, "I'm sorry, which item are you speaking about?"

Natalie Robottom commented the Recreation item."

Ann Harvey stated, "I'm speaking concerning Recreation, I'm sorry."

Councilman Malik stated, "Recreation, ok."

Ann Harvey stated, "And on Friday, June 14th, we had a situation and because of some past experience I had had with President Robottom, of course I wanted to go straight to her. And in route I called Councilman Madere, I do want to say that we were met with dignity and respect, and I'll our concerns were aired and not just where they aired, they were immediately acted upon. And President Robottom, I want to take the time out as a Spokesperson for the group in its entirety, we thank you, we appreciate it, we're old we don't have anything to do, our bodies are moving like they used to, and that water aerobics was well needed! And it is appreciated, we went there today, and My God the pool the facilities were off the chain, as the young people say! I Thank God for Mr. Madere, and his encouragement with us, he came out he listened to us, and I wish there were no term limits for

Ms. Robottom. Because she has done an awesome job, anytime I've gone to her, she has addressed it not to tomorrow, but today! And we thank you, we appreciate it and we're here today to just say, thank you thank you thank you!"

My name is Frank Cook, and Ms. Julia that's for you...

Councilman Malik interrupting asked, "What item on the agenda you're here to speak about?"

Frank Cook stated, "Garyville, this is about Garyville. The streets in Garyville is horrible..."

Councilman Malik interrupting stated, "Okay, hang on a second sir. What you have to do though, speak specifically on what's on the agenda."

Frank Cook stated, "I didn't get on the agenda. I thought it was just open meeting."

Councilman Malik stated, "Nah no sir. But what you can do is get her phone number, and..."

Frank Cook interrupting stated, "I called her I've been calling her for 9 months..."

Councilman Malik interrupting stated, "I bet she answers tomorrow. Yes sir, but we have to have that on the agenda. We have to have it on the agenda sir."

Frank Cook stated, "But Ms. Julia, I've been calling you for 9 months."

Councilman Malik stated, "It has to be on the current agenda."

INTRODUCTION OF BUSINESSES:

Larry Sorapuru/Buddy Boe - Update on Tourist Commission Bill

Buddy Boe stated, "Thank you Mr. Chair. I'll let Councilman Sorapuru just state why, he asked me to be at the meeting and I'll begin."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Yes, there was a Bill that recently went through Legislature that came through, where we could possibly increase the taxes on the Hotel Taxes in the area, and also there was a part that described a docking facility to come in. So I thought it'd be a good idea to let everybody know about this bill that was introduced through the Legislature to the Tourist Commission. That way we all can be on the same page and sing the same song, as we progress in St. John Parish."

Buddy Boe stated, "Thank you Councilman and all members of the Council. Included in the folder that's in front of you is the newspaper article this week where Councilman Sorapuru was quoted, so I wanted to address a few of those things then we'll go through the Bill. So in the inside right cover of your folder, and again I'm Buddy Boe, the Executive Director of the River Parishes Tourist Commission, and our Chairperson, Peggy Joseph is also in the audience. Is the Bill, it's HB590, it was passed unanimously by the Louisiana House and Senate, and signed by the Governor on June 6th. We'll go through it quickly to talk about what was done in the Bill, so HB590 amended the statute that governs the River Parishes Tourist Commission. It's the Statute that creates us and gives us our authority. And I'm

going to reference the line number on the left side when we go through the changes. The changes are either marked out, with a line through the words or they're underlined if it was added to. So on line 16 and 17, you'll see that we got rid of the restriction that we could not meet more than once per month. Currently our By-Laws require a monthly meeting, and then allowed the Chairperson to call a Special Meeting. The By-Laws also require that there's a Budget Committee Meeting every May. Well the Budget Committee, based on our Legal Counsel advice is treated as a Special Meeting. And so therefore, our By-Laws are requiring us at times to have multiple meetings per month, and so we removed the restriction on not more than once per month, but we must meet at least once per quarter. So that's still in there, and our By-Laws state that we must meet monthly. Line 20, we added 'or state funds' to a line that allowed us to receive federal funds for Capital Projects. This change was at the recommendation of the Legislative staff, because they didn't understand why our bill didn't allow us to receive state funds for Capital Projects. And so now we can receive federal or state funds. If you flip and I'll go through the whole bill and then we can do questions if you don't mind. On the 2nd page Line 1, we add the words 'management and' and that applies to the next two lines. You'll see 'film studios and activities, and then docking facilities', and then this allows us to manage film studios or as we discussed earlier in the Finance Committee meeting, the St. John Center, which we operate as a Sound Stage at times, and activities relates to, and I've mentioned this in previous meetings and multiple Tourist Commission meetings, a proposed River Parishes Film Commission. So that's what that 'and activities clause' relates to. That if we get to that point, we have the authority to manage that sort of organization. Line 3 allows us to manage a 'docking facility'. We'll get into details in the docking facility later Councilman, and there's a document in your folder related to that. Line 6 on page 2 inserted the word 'Direct Competition'. To clarify, because we do promote and manage and facilitate business in the hospitality and tourism industry, and our previous law just said that we couldn't compete with businesses period. That's a very vague line, and so we recommended that we add the word 'direct competitions' so that we don't directly compete with businesses. We're a state agency, we should facilitate we should provide opportunity, but we shouldn't directly compete with businesses. And then Line 10 is what made the headline in the newspaper obviously, and this is where we increased our authority, to levee an Occupancy Tax. I want to repeat that, we increased our authority we did not increase the taxes. The River Parishes Tourist Commission by Statute, has to vote to increase the tax at any point in the future. There's a whole process in our law that allows for that. For comparison purposes, the Parishes that surround the River Parishes Tourist Commission collected for the last 20 years, we've been sitting at 2%. We've been at 2% since the Commission was formed, what this changed did, it increased that to 4%, increased the authority not the tax. Livingston Parish to our North, collects 4%; Tangipahoa Parish, which touches our Region - 4%; Jefferson Parish - 13%; Lafourche Parish - 4%; and Ascension Parish - 4%. So I state that because we were sitting at 2%, competing against our neighbors so they were any visitor or any industry that was renting a room in our Region, was getting a 2% discount. Because if they went anywhere else, they were going to pay a higher Occupancy Rate than they were paying in the River Parishes, and in Jefferson Parish - 13%. But to make it easy as a comparison, Baton Rouge charges about 15% Occupancy Taxes, that's Baton Rouge occupancy taxes, we're at 2%. So let's say there's a \$1,000 worth of hotel rooms, okay! Baton Rouge collects 15%, so Councilman how much would Baton Rouge get in their Occupancy Taxes? That 15% off of a \$1,000?"

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "They would get at least Fifteen (15), Fifteen Hundred (1500)."

Buddy Boe stated, "Well off of a \$1,000, they'd get a Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$150). A Hundred and Fifty is 15% of a Thousand Dollars (\$1,000). Right now the River Parishes Tourist Commission would get Twenty bucks (\$20.00). So that's the comparison and why we felt this time an increase in our authority only, was justified and that the commission in the future, if they so choose to, could increase the actual tax. But that's an actual discussion for a different day with a different part of the law that requires a process that's followed. This item was discussed at the May 15th, River Parishes Tourist Commission regular meeting, it was discussed with the Board, the Board on May 30th meeting, approved a Resolution supporting HB590 and that is when it passed the Senate unanimously, and then was signed by the Governor. The item other item that Mr. Sorapuru wanted clarification on is the other document in your folder, and that is the proposed River Parishes Cruise Terminal. This is a project that we've been discussing for at least 6 to 9 months, and that's because for over 30 years, River Cruises docked at one location in the River Parishes. They would dock right in front of Oak Alley Plantation, their visitors would get off the boat, visit Oak Alley eat at Oak Alley, shop at Oak Alley and they get right on the boat, and go either up and down the river. For 30 years! And then the boat hit the levee, and it was discovered that there was no permit for the boats to dock there, because you know that's how things were done! Whether it was wrong or right, that's how things were done. So upon noticing that and knowing that we get about thirty-five thousand (35,000) guest and visitors to the River Parishes off of River Boats, and growing every year, there are three (3) shipping lines looking at bringing more boats here. A meeting was called with multiple attractions, State Reps., State Senators, the Head of Louisiana Office of Tourism, the Corps, the Port of South Louisiana, myself, Parish President of St. James Parish, to discuss how we could resolve that issue. And the location that was proposed, was a location at the old ferry landing in Vacherie. In the room it was decided that for the Region, so that more attractions could benefit than just one, which has been benefiting for 30 years, that it was in the best interest that the two Regional Entities lead the effort to construct and manage a proposed River Cruise Terminal. The proposed constructor of the terminal, would be the Port of South Louisiana. They do water, they do docks, they do boats docking, and things getting off of boats. We would do the management of the dock, cuz that's dealing with the visitor, the tourist and then our attractions would do what they do. So this document included in your file list the partners, the Landowners, the Port of South Louisiana, and the River Parishes Tourist Commission, and each of our role. The landowners are just leasing their land (that's what they do), the Port's building and maintaining, and we're managing the dock and then our attractions are doing they're role, which they do every day phenomenally, which is host visitors from around the world to one of the most unique places in the world. Below that is the phases we have to go through to get this dock constructed, and I'll get to the question that was raised in the newspaper on why the location. The bottom is how this thing is going to get paid, the industry standard is that every guest getting off of a boat pays a fee when they go to any dock. There's docks in Baton Rouge, there's a proposed dock in West Feliciana Parish that's being built. The fee is going to be broken up with a portion going to the landowners, as part of their lease; a portion going to the Port, to pay for the dock payback the Port; and then a portion coming to the Tourist Commission to pay for the staff that we're going to hire to manage and schedule the boats and build the tour packages. None of us at the end of the day (besides the landowners or private entity) are going to make money, the Port's looking to make their money back for their cost, and we're simply looking to earn money to pay the salary of the staff that's going to be dedicated to this project. Now, why Vacherie? And why this location? First, the Port and I look at it regionally, okay, we don't look at it per parish; second, it's about proximity and access to

other locations. Because the goal, we could have just said we'll stay out of this, somebody would have built a private dock and the boats would have gone there and unloaded their visitors and that private dock would have captured those visitors and kept them. But if we do this as a public dock, we have the ability for the whole region to benefit. The proposed ferry landing is 5 minutes from Highway 20, which gets our visitors to Lac des Allemands and Pleasure Bend. Gets them all the way down Highway 20 where Spuddy's is located, Bonnie's is located, and the 3127 corridor. It's also located directly in the middle of Oak Alley and St. Joseph Plantations, and Whitney and Evergreen. It's right in the middle, so the buses can turn left or right and go up river or down river. And then it's 5 minutes from the bridge so that we can get the visitors to the other side of the river. Remember, for 30 years they went to one attraction. Now with the building of this dock, by the Port, and the management by the Tourist Commission, we have the ability no matter where the dock's located, but this allows us to get that visitor to a majority of the Region, within about 20 or 30 minutes. Putting it anywhere else and especially in between the two (2) bridges, adds an hour and a half of transit time to get those visitors to attractions. We only get them for about 9 hours, cuz they dock in the morning and they leave in the evening. And so the goal is to get them to experience as much as possible in those 9 to 10 hours that we have them. We're also going to be building patches that's include Swamp Boat Tours, Charter Fishing experiences, Andouille Cooking experiences, cuz again, it's not going to be tied to one attraction and a private dock. And so, that's the update on the dock, that's the update on the Bill, and I'll answer any questions that you may have."

Councilman Malik asked, "Mr. Boe, would you be a little bit more clear (just for everybody watching) as to who actually is going to pay this Occupancy Tax that you're originally discussing."

Buddy Boe stated, "Only visitors that choose to rent hotel rooms in the River Parishes, or Park and RV at an RV Park, or stay at a Bed & Breakfast. Only visitors that choose to rent hotel rooms."

Councilman Malik asked, "Good. Just want to make sure that everybody understood that, and there wasn't, we weren't discussing an additional tax or..."

Buddy Boe interrupting stated, "And the taxes have not being increased, have not been increased by the River Parishes Tourist Commission."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yes thank you. Mr. Boe, I'm looking at I'm looking at this paper you gave us here. At the bottom of the 2nd sheet it did say that anything that's underscored are additions. Now, on page on page, beginning on Page 1, Item 20, you going to take over management and promotions of our and, of our Civic Center, am I right here or what is this saying?"

Buddy Boe stated, "So this is the paragraph in our law that gives us the authority to do things, and so we added the authority specifically to do this. Now, there's an argument that the management of a Convention Center, cuz we're the River Parishes Tourist Visitors and Convention Center Commission, is part of our mission anyway. There's an argument to state that managing a film studio, because film is so important to Tourism because when they film in an area and show sugar cane fields and any other historic buildings, that people eventually come to those areas. It's why Oak Alley is the No. 1 visiting attraction in the River Parishes, it's because of Interview with a Vampire, like that made it world famous. And so we could've done those things but clearly putting it in the Bill and giving us the authority to, before we start that CEA discussion about

managing the building long term and into the future, now our Bill gives us the explicit authority that we can do this so there are no questions."

Councilman Snyder asked, "So that means that according to the Bill, you're going to be promoting it also? And wouldn't that be in direct conflict with St. Charles, to promote that one?"

Buddy Boe stated, "So we promote right now when a person calls to ask for meeting and convention facilities, we give them a list of all available meeting and convention facilities."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well part of your lease for using our building over there is to manage it and promote it, am I right?"

Buddy Boe stated, "Correct! Well there is no current lease. Right now that's being done as a favor."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Right, right, as a favor. Okay, so you don't think there'll be a conflict there, as far as what the law say you can't do..."

Buddy Boe interrupting stated, "No sir. The law always say you can promote convention facilities. So that includes the Community Center if we are managing it or not, it includes the Lafon Center in St. Charles, it includes the Dufresne Center. It includes Belle Terre Country Club, it includes Choice it includes every space that's available for rent."

Councilman Snyder stated, "However, the commission shall not exercise any function which results in direct competition with local retail business or enterprises. That's what I'm talking about right there. So you're saying there's not going be any, that's not going be any such competition if you promote and manage our Civic Center against St. Charles' new Film Studio over there and their Civic Center?"

Buddy Boe stated, "So I do not believe that!"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well."

Buddy Boe stated, "But their Civic Center is not a private enterprise. So I don't think that's included in the sentence."

Councilman Snyder stated, "And I do understand that, but it's you know they got the Film Studio over there to."

Buddy Boe stated, "Quixote yes, and we promote that facility also."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Exactly. Alright thank you."

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "A yes, I just wanted to thank Mr. Boe and his staff, I work on a project in Reserve that's underdevelopment, so sometimes when people are trying to find it and they think it's open, we're still in construction but, thankfully your staff does send those calls over to us. And we made some valuable connections over the last few months with people who could financially help us as well as making some contacts that I think also. I'll share with ya'll that I think we can help the Tourist Commission out of the City so, thank you so much."

Buddy Boe stated, "And we're very excited about the Godchaux House. Thank you and your group, it's one of our unique stories that we always say, you can't find anywhere else. The Godchaux Houses' story is one of the most unique."

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "And the rivers' been holding us up as we now know for at least four (4) months. So, thank you."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Just quick question Mr. Boe, cuz you and I talked extensively on the phone about the docks, and you gave a update on what you thought and what I thought. But why, cuz when you do Tourist and you do Tourist Commission they have several stops. Why can't going up the river we stop at the our facility right here at Central Avenue (the ferry there), going up the river we make that stop, coming back down the river we make the stop on St. James and tour that side the river and this side, why we can't have two stops in that tourist package?"

Buddy Boe stated, "Because we only have so many millions to go around that the Port's is willing to construct one; two, boats need a dock they don't care which side the river it's on, and most of the attractions that their guest are interested in are actually on the West Bank, and they include both Whitney, Oak Alley, and Laura Plantation, that's really they're the areas they're attracted to. We're going to try to convince them to do more than just those attractions. And, getting one dock is going to be difficult to get built, I mean everyone knows the challenges that have been experienced up and down the river with the high water. Anytime you have a stop along a river bank where boats are pulling in and out, as boats are passing, that's a complication. So we have meetings scheduled with the River Pilots, we have meetings scheduled with the Coast Guard, with the Levee District, so getting two stops is just doubling the chances that they tell us 'NO' versus one, that's controlled and scheduled and managed by two public entities."

Councilman Perrilloux asked, "And we are talking about a boat like the Natchez?"

Buddy Boe stated, "Little bit larger..."

Councilman Perrilloux interrupting asked, "We're talking about the big river boat that you can house them like a cruise ship. What we're talking about?"

Buddy Boe stated, "So these are actual cruise ships. So they typically leave New Orleans and go to St. Louis, or the leave St. Louis and come to New Orleans, and people are on them for a week or two, they pay five to seven thousand a person, and they're staying on the boat. We currently have three (3) ship lines that come to our region, Viking is looking to come to our region, the Delta Queen is looking to come here, and American Cruise Lines is looking to add two (2) more boats. So the demand that exist today, it's going to exist and what we're finding is that as baby boomers are aging, they're shifting to the River Boat Cruises around the world. So, we think that there's about a 15 to 20 year life cycle at least on this current trajectory, and the Ports hoping you know they're going to make a 10 year schedule to get their money repaid, so that by the time if this market shifts nobody still on the hook for anything."

Councilman Perrilloux asked, "And talking about millions for the dock, what kind of millions we're talking about?"

Buddy Boe stated, "So the estimate for the Port for...so the goal ultimately is to build a dock that can house or dock rather (let me use to correct words) four (4)

boats at a time. We thinking in about 3 to 7 years we're going to get to that point, where there are 3 to 4 boats everyday in this Region. That estimate was between Three, and Four Million Dollars. The Port had their Engineers do a back of the knack in estimate, they're not going to spend any actual dollars on this project until there's some agreements in place we had a meeting yesterday with landowners. But what I've proposed yesterday in the meeting is designing a dock that's built in two (2) parts, and we build one half of it to house or to dock two (2) boats right now, which is the existing need, and then if we do our job correctly as a Tourist Commission promoting those Cruise Lines, building the appropriate packages, in 2 to 3 years when the demands up, the Port can pull the trigger on the second half and if it's designed from the beginning to connect, it'll be a seamless connection so that we're not paying the debt on two (2) spots we don't need upfront, and we can do that within 3 to 4 years."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Well I just asked let's not close a door on open a Port here in St. John Parish and utilize those facilities those docks there, and I would send that out to our Board Directors, Ms. Joseph and Michelle, all them on there. Let's not close the door for St. John Parish on these Ports."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Yeah and Mr. Perrilloux you're exactly right. Mr. Perrilloux and that's one of the things Mr. Boe, that I would think that the Tourist Commission would take a close look at. I know it's a three (3) parish area, but we had a ferry we had a Edgard/Reserve ferry that's gone, and hopefully the Tourist Commission can help us hornist this ferry back, we can bring Tourist to both side the river and not just the West Bank, but the fact is what I'd like to see, small business people take a look at what's going on with the Tourism business because it's not just about visiting plantation homes. They are a number of other businesses that we need to go after and attract and try and develop and put on this river road and look harder. We have the lakes, the river, we have restaurants we have a bunch of seafood, and vegetables in the area. I just thought it'll be a good idea for this council to really digest this at hand right now, we need to work together right now as a team, but I do have some concerns about the part about the tax, a lot of people are asking who's raising the taxes. We want to make sure this council didn't vote to raise taxes on anybody..."

Buddy Boe interrupting stated, "Absolutely not. The council has no authority to raise those taxes..."

Councilman Sorapuru interrupting stated, "And sometimes things can get a little miscommunicated, and I know its election year and I know Mr. Madere's worried about that. You know we want to make sure that we understand that council is not raising any taxes. But I do understand in Ascension Parish, the voters are voting to raise those taxes on hoteltax, not the commission."

Buddy Boe stated, "Because that's what the law required, and has required since Ascension's Tourist Commission was created, our Tourist Commission never required that. And I do appreciate, Councilman Perrilloux did state that he does call and calls all the time and we stay on the phone sometimes for a long time going back and forth, and I invite anybody to do that any times there's questions. Because it's better to clarify before quotes are in the paper that do convey the wrong information and the Board was updates on this process before it went to the Senate, and before it cleared the House, and at the end of the day I am sorry if there was miscommunication, but the Councils of all three (3) parishes had no chance, opportunity to increase this tax. There was not involvement, ya'll didn't do it, and neither did the commission. That might get done next year might get done in five (5) years, but the authority's there. Just like you all have the

authority for certain taxes to increase."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "And I have a one other question while we're here where everybody can hear this. In St. John Parish, is there a Hotel/Motel Association that exist? I spoke to one of the hotel owners, he said there's no Hotel Association that exist in the area?"

Buddy Boe stated, "There's no Hotel Association that exist in any of the three (3) parishes, or regionally, there's no Restaurant Association that exist. There's a Small Business Association in St. John and St. Charles, I would welcome the lodging partners getting together and forming an association that we have strong partners and can work with them to compensate for that, we're hosting quarterly round tables, we had one last month for our Lodging Partners, where all the Hotels, RV Parks, and the Bed & Breakfast, were invited to participate. Next quarter is a Food & Beverage Round Table the next quarter is an Arts & Culture the next quarter is an Attraction, so that we can include and increase those businesses. Now some people aren't going to get invited, that's because our list are old and they're antiquated. But when they get mad they weren't invited, that means they're going to come the next time and our list gets better and that's just a natural part of the process, but I'm a big believer in doing the good instead of the perfect to get it done, and so we're going to continue to hold these things just like our destination guide, we missed some things that happens. As soon as you click print on everything it's outdated and wrong. But you've got to click print and the people that are missing they're in the next ramp."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "And this is good Bill that was put in..."

Buddy Boe interrupting stated, "Thank you sir."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "A lot of hard work went behind putting this together, but I just as elected official, I would just want to make sure that we be keep everybody inclusive to what's going on, how it's moving, and of course even help develop, help small businesses develop themselves to be a part of what's happening. And that's one of the main reasons why I asked you to come and share this with us, that way we get firsthand information, weren't not getting quotes from the newspaper, or we're not getting information that someone's passing on passing rumors."

Buddy Boe stated, "And part of that, again I want to thank you for what just crediting the Finance Committee in case people aren't just tuning in. Thank you all for approving for us to use these buildings, because it does let us speak to a larger public and provide greater transparency. So thank you all for approving that agreement."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Thank you."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Mr. Boe, this a why did, did we look at River Boats coming down instead of Cruise Ships?"

Buddy Boe stated, "I use those terms interchangeably so they're the same thing."

Councilman Snyder stated, "No they're not. To me they're not, not really because the River Boat floats on top a Cruise Boat got a lot of weight to it. You know cuz..."

Buddy Boe interrupting stated, "Then these are all River Boats. Then I'm sorry I

used the wrong term."

Councilman Snyder stated, "That's good."

Councilman Malik stated, "Yeah the air draft wouldn't allow a cruise boat to go further than Baton Rouge."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yeah that's what I thought about when you say cruise ships you know."

Buddy Boe stated, "Right. Now, these are the big boats these are the nice pretty boats that people sleep on when they go up the river."

Councilman Malik stated, "Bring those up they can't go much further North so, we'd get a lot more tourist in there."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes, so it's going to dock in St. James, right? And they're going to these various locations of interest. How far they're coming on the East side?"

Buddy Boe stated, "So as soon, there's going to be two (2) agreements that are done in the next couple of months. One agreement is going to be between the Port and the Landowners, to lease the land; another agreement going to be the Port and the Tourist Commission, for me to manage the dock. When that agreement's approved, right, that's my Board saying we're in this game, and the Port's port saying we're in this game, we're going to hire a Director of Cruise or River Boat Operations. That person's job is going to be fold; 1) to promote our/the Region, and that dock to all the Cruise Lines, cuz we need them to come more often right? And we need to let them know what we offer. But simultaneously to work with all of the businesses to build different types of tour packages, and then we're going to package them and sell those to the Cruise Lines, because people buy experiences (just like when you go on the big cruise ships right) you buy them when you book your cruise sometimes, sometimes you buy them on the boat, and then sometimes you buy them when you get off the boat. So we need to have these tour packages available for, during and when they get off that boat. So that person, that Director of Cruise Operations/River Boat Operations, is going to work with let's for example: a Charter Fishing Company out of Lake Des Allemands, out of Pleasure Bend, where they/you go out for the first 3 hours in the morning and you fish, cuz they get off the boat about 7 a.m.; then they might stop at Spuddy's or Bonnie's on Hwy. 20 on the way back for a little lunch, and then they might end their process with a Mint Julip under the oak trees at Oak Alley (I'm just throwing that out there right) so that might be what one person books; another package might be, they want the History of 1811 Slavery Vault, so they're going to hop across the river, go to Destrehan Plantation, then come around and go to Whitney and Evergreen, before they're back to the River Boat. So we're going to be able to make tour packages that will attract different people's interest, whereas for 30 years it was one channel that one attraction. So how far on the East Bank I don't know yet, it all depends."

Councilman Madere asked, "That's going include the San Francisco Plantation?"

Buddy Boe stated, "Yeah cuz they're right off the bridge. So we can hop across the bridge and get there."

Councilman Madere stated, "That's what I'm talking about."

Buddy Boe stated, "We want to get them to tour the Perique Tobacco Facility in Convent. Like there's so many things we can do now that we never could before, because we never had a chance to grab that visitor and get them through the Region."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right, and there's a couple of other historical buildings along that river road passed San Francisco. So you might want to add those to it to."

Buddy Boe stated, "And when we know the boats are coming, we can work with like I said, the group at Godchaux House, right? Cuz they'll know that this group is coming weeks ahead of time, and they can help schedule a tour so that they won't be open to the public, but they might get 40, 50 visitors, and they'll stop at Connie's in Reserve and eat or whatever restaurant right, and then go to Godchaux House and continue on. So we have those abilities to, cuz like the Tobacco Farm is not open to the public for tours but they do, do tours for us upon request."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay, and make sure no taxes right?"

Buddy Boe stated, "Right now absolutely not, just the authority."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right. I mean the Council have no involvement with taxes okay?"

Buddy Boe stated, "No. You all review our budget, that's it."

Councilman Madere stated, "Alright."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yes Mr. Boe, one last question. I see where the according to the newspaper, L'Observateur, that there was some people on the Council that did not know that was going on?"

Buddy Boe stated, "The Commission did not know?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yeah."

Buddy Boe stated, "Council Sorapuru said that. Councilman, which Commissioner on the River Parishes Tourist Commission didn't know about the Bill?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well I'm not asking for names..."

Buddy Boe interrupting stated, "I am!"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well I'm not asking for names now. What I need to know is that, was it passed by the Board? Your Board voted on this?"

Buddy Boe stated, "Yes. The Board voted on this at the May 30th meeting the vote was; 6 to 1 with Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph voting against it."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Okay, Okay. And then that was to ask Mr. Gaines to write the Bill?"

Buddy Boe stated, "That was to support the Bill as already drafted."

Councilman Snyder stated, "So Mr. Gaines did this on his own, or he was requested to do this?"

Buddy Boe stated, "I worked with our State Representative, which any citizen can talk to any State Rep. to change any law in the books."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I understand that. Okay good, that's what I needed to know."

Buddy Boe stated, "And, while we're on that order, my job description; directs me to increase the revenue of the River Parishes Tourist Commission. The River Parishes Tourist Commission passed a Resolution directing me to take all steps to build a River Boat Cruise Terminal, the River Parishes Tourist Commission unanimously approved a Resolution directing me to take all steps to create a River Parishes Film Commission, the Tourist Commission approved the CEA that expired in 2017, for us to manage the building here, and the River Parishes Tourist Commission operates under the By-Laws which we're in the direct conflict with the State Law. So my argument is, I did exactly my job in cleaning up the law, to perform the duties tasked to me by the River Parishes Tourist Commission members. But Councilman Sorapuru, which member wasn't aware?"

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "I prefer not to make this information public right now Mr. Boe. But I did get a phone call and I did call State Representative Randall Gaines and State Senator, and the Bill was in the House and I understand yawl had a special meeting was called cuz the Bill was in the House going to the Senate, that was no Resolution on that Commission at the time. And that was my main concern at the time when I received information, I think I spoke to one of my colleagues, might of spoke to Councilman Becnel about that. But anyhow that was my concern at the time, a..."

Buddy Boe interrupting stated, "And the law does not state that a Resolution must be obtained, but you do not want to say which Commissioner you told the newspaper wasn't aware of the Bill? Okay thank you."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "I didn't have you on the agenda to call people's names Buddy, I think it's a good Bill that went through, a lot of people thought it was good, it was the way it was handled and I got the phone calls on that from more than one of your Commissioners about that..."

Buddy Boe interrupting stated, "Just so you all know, at the May 16th meeting that this Bill was discussed, all three (3) St. John Representatives were in attendance, and those minutes were approved by the Commission on June 20th meeting. So Commissioner Peggy Joseph, Commissioner Elizabeth Joseph and Commissioner Michelle Jenkins, were present at the time they were updated about this Bill before it went to the Senate as was stated in the newspaper. Thank you."

Councilman Malik stated, "Thank you Mr. Boe."

CONSENT AGENDA:

ITEMS: Approval of Minutes - June 11th, 2019, Regular Meeting; Robert Figuero - Monthly Financial Report (May 2019); Permit Approval - 19th Annual Independence Day Celebration - Wednesday, July 3rd, 6:00 PM at St. Peter Catholic Church and St. John the Baptist Catholic Church - Edgard

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to approve consent agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes - June 11th, 2019, Regular Meeting; Robert Figuero - Monthly Financial Report (May 2019); Permit Approval - 19th Annual Independence Day Celebration - Wednesday, July 3rd, 6:00 PM

at St. Peter Catholic Church and St. John the Baptist Catholic Church - Edgard. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION ON ORDINANCES:

19-18 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance to rescind Ordinance 87-76, which reads, an ordinance requiring all applicants for electric power service to obtain a receipt from the St. John the Baptist Parish Utilities indicating that they have applied for water services prior to LP&L granting electric service to the unit. (J. Hotard Gaudet)

Councilman Perrilloux stated, *"I have a question. Ms. Gaudet, I know we've been playing phone tags, just give me what you're trying to do here. Basically it's cut and dry that's it, or there's more than what this is? Just tell me what you're trying to do."*

Councilwoman Hotard Gaudet stated, *"Thank you, and I noticed on here that administration recommends approval. I know Rob and I had gone, had spoken about this back and forth. What this Ordinance will do, St. John Parish's unique with all the other parishes (this is the only other parish that this is required). But if you go in to obtain, if you call Entergy on the phone to set-up electricity services, they will tell you that you have to actually have a permit from the water department faxed over to Entergy to release your request for electrical, you know to get electricity at your house. And so it's something that has just come up over the years, it's problematic it's something that we do that no other parish does, it's not something that Entergy request us to do. Obviously this ordinance was put into place in 1987, and so for me it was just more of a housekeeping thing, someone called me again about it the other day and I said you know we've talked about this I didn't think it would be as simple as it was until I contacted Entergy and they said; no, no, you're the only ones. This is actually, they didn't really like it either, because it just creates sometimes unnecessary burden on the residents. So once I realized that we could just resend it to operate like all the other parishes do, I put it on the agenda. And that's it."*

Councilman Perrilloux stated, *"Ok, thank you."*

MOTION: Councilwoman Hotard Gaudet moved and Councilwoman Remonet seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 19-18. The motion passed unanimously.

19-19 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance amending ordinance 19-13 relative to the annual operating budgets for St. John the Baptist Parish General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, Enterprise Funds and Capital Project Funds for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2019 and ending December 31, 2019 (N. Robotom)

Robert Figuero stated, *"Thank you Councilman. These amendments reflect changes to estimated revenues and expenditures for 2019. Based on an increase in cost for the Communications Tower Project, Administration requests amending Ordinance 19-19 to include an additional \$271,019 in the 911 Communications District Fund for the tower (see attached amendment) that was given to you all recently. Administration recommends approval of Ordinance 19-19 as amended."*

MOTION: Councilman Snyder moved and Councilwoman Remonet seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 19-19. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard Gaudet absent.

19-20 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance granting approval to further extend the

valid period of time of Conditional Subdivision Approval for an additional twelve (12) months for Belle Terre Commercial Subdivision, Phase I, Parcel B, Lots 4-22; Parcel C, Lots 2,3 & 6-9; and Parcel DS-4; Phase 2, Parcel B, Lots 23-49; and Parcel C, Lots 10-44; and Phase 3, Parcel D, Lots 1-39; Parcel E, Lots 1-42; Parcel DS-2; and Parcel DS-3; all situated in Sections 69 and 70, T-11-S, R-7-E, Southeast District of Louisiana, east of the Mississippi River, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana; which were granted conditional approval on June 12, 2007 (Ordinance No. 07-33) and October 9, 2007 (Ordinance No. 07-65) (N. Robottom)

Rene Pastorek stated, "This ordinance extends the valid time for Conditional Approval of this subdivision for 12 months. According to the developer, an extension is requested due to economic times and a slowdown in the local real estate market. Administration recommends approval."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Just off the top of your head, could you remember when this was first approved, what year it was?"

Rene Pastorek stated, "It's in the caption of the Ordinance, it was originally approved for conditional approval for construction in 2007."

Councilman Snyder stated, "2007."

Rene Pastorek stated, "So it's going to extend it year after year since then."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yeah that's what I thought you know. And I look at these sometime and I really don't...I like to know has, what do you examine when you look at one of these request come through, as far as are there any, has there anything been changed as far as ordinance that's been passed to further have some control over these developments. Do you look at those things, did you come up with anything when yawl looked at this or did you look at it? Or you just or we just going pass it?"

Rene Pastorek stated, "We do look at the request, our subdivision regulations haven't changed since this was adopted, so infrastructure requirements, drainage, water, sewer has not changed. So leaving it on the books is really not going to change anything."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Right, that's what I was kind of concerned about. Some of these go way back and before 2000 you know, and we continue to do this but I know you know, I know some of the drainage have changed you know things have changed like that. Anyhow..."

Rene Pastorek stated, "Right. I think that's a great point that if there were major changes to requirements then you would want to take a closer look at it."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Alright, alright Rene. Thank you."

MOTION: Councilwoman Remondet moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 19-20. The motion with Councilwoman Hotard Gaudet absent.

19-21 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance to declare Part of Lot 2, Block 10, Woodland Plantation Subdivision, LaPlace as surplus property and to authorize the advertisement and sale of said property. (N. Robottom)

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes. On page I think 89, 90 & 91, there's a map and a description of the property. It's off of near Captain Bourgeois, it's a small

piece of property that was utilized by Utilities, Mr. Alexander has indicated all we're doing is cutting grass, the next door neighbor who actually has a facility has requested to purchase it, she couldn't purchase it outright, so the process is to have you declare a surplus, and have us advertise it as such to give her an opportunity to bid on the property."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Oh yeah, just a question I got that's all. Ms. Robottom, didn't we do this a year ago?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "With some other property, we've done it before."

Councilman Snyder stated, "No, no, no, no this piece."

Natalie Robottom stated, "No sir."

Councilman Snyder asked, "It's right there by the track? It's a..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "But it's on the opposite side."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Opposite side of the track."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yeah. This is going toward, I guess Cardinal. This piece is..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting asked, "It's on Captain Bourgeois?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "What the name of the church? No, it's actually in between the canal and West 5th..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting asked, "West 5th Street?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes. There's a lil church and used to be a flooring store, so it's the property that abuts the church."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I know where you talking about. Oh okay. Alright!"

Councilman Malik asked, "The price of the property is based on the fair market value?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "It's appraised, you know appraise value is included in the ordinance, we had to have it appraised."

Councilman Malik asked, "Alright, very good. Thank you ma'am."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "So what's the appraised value of the lot?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "I think its \$10,000. Is it in here? Yes, that's what it is, \$10,000."

Robert Figuero stated, "\$10,000 yes."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "\$10,000?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "It's a small piece of property that's not being used, that we're having to cut the grass. However, it's adjacent to somebody who has property that would like to broaden their lot. And again, the Utilities

Department has indicated they do not need that property for anything so indeed it is surplus, and no longer needed for our purposes."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "So the property owner that adjacent to the lot is interested in purchasing it? That's what you're saying?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "That's what I'm saying."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "And that's a church?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "The person has a church."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Okay alright."

Natalie Robottom stated, "They were out of town, they would have been here."

Councilman Becnel stated, "Okay, I just wanted to make sure cuz somebody had called me and it would be the people that own the church that would like to purchase it? Are you sure it's them?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Again, it's a bid. Okay, so it has to be public, the person who made the request was the person who owns the church."

Councilman Becnel stated, "Okay, thank you. It's just for clarification."

Natalie Robottom stated, "And so we pursued it, and explained it to her how it needed to take place, and this is the process. She's aware of the cost and she's still interested."

Councilman Becnel stated, "Thank you, thank you."

MOTION: Councilman Becnel moved and Councilman Sorapuru seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 19-21. The motion with Councilwoman Hotard Gaudet absent.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Becnel stated, "I ask that the minutes of the finance meeting be accepted."

MOTION: Councilman Becnel moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to accept the minutes of the finance meeting. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard Gaudet absent.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Natalie Robottom - Resolution - R19-19 - A Resolution authorizing the Parish President to partner with the United States Census Bureau for Census 2020 and to formulate a Complete Count Committee to help promote a full and accurate count of St. John the Baptist Parish

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes, there are teams' set-up around the country to help facilitate this census count for 2020. As many of you know our Congressional

seats and Federal Funding is determined by our census count, they are making a concerted effort to partner with (and they've done this before, 10 years ago) with the municipalities to establish a team of not just parish employees but community leaders again, to communicate and in accordance of completing the census data. They are going to be encouraging people to do it electronically, and then they will follow-up with those who have not. But again, they're asking us to put together a team (I've already assigned a point person, Ms. Rebecca Hymel has been actually working with them for the last couple of years), but we're moving closer to their plan, they have a very specific timeline, but they also have a specific request about putting together a variety of members representing the community to make sure the word gets out. Ms. Rhonda Lemons from our Health & Human Services Department, just went to a conference she'll be a part of that. Also some of our Phase-Based Leaders, because they have access to people in getting them that information and again, some of our Senior facilities, the goal is to put together a team that would give us the best results in making sure that our population is accurately counted. So this Resolution actually authorizes or approves or supports that idea."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "Are these paid volunteers that's going to be doing this?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "I'm sure they'll be paying somebody, but our people won't be paid. Okay, they are jobs that are provided for Census to go door-to-door to do the work, but that's not our part. Our part as Parish Government is to encourage and promote and do outreach and you know do as much as possible to get our people to participate. But we aren't going to be paid for that, but the Census does hire people to go door-to-door, and those opportunities will be provided in our outreach."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Okay thank you."

MOTION: Councilman Snyder moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Resolution R19-19. The motion passed with Councilwomen Hotard Gaudet and Remondet absent.

DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:

Kurt Becnel/Larry Sorapuru/Lennix Madere - (Carry Over 05-28-19) Discussion regarding the replacement of the old West Bank Community Center

Councilman Becnel stated, "I just want to say this, I need Ms. Robottom and the Administration to help me out a little bit on this one. Not making any excuses but, I know I stepped in I walked into this, and when I took office I know we had a CEA Agreement with the School System, but what I need to know I was confused a lil bit because I had spoked to Art a while back, maybe a couple of years when I first took office he said that; I need to know Ms. Robottom, when did yawl decide what year was it that yawl decided that yawl were going to have the money to repair or remodel or tear down the inside of this Community Center. Because I wanted to know how much money we had allocated for that because I'm getting conflicting stories and you know and some of my council members was council members at the time. I'm just a little confused, but we how much...did we have enough money or we didn't foresee these problems?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "We didn't foresee the problems. Annually we get a Grant from LGAP for about \$149,000 that is specifically to be used towards parish facilities. We did the Senior Center, we've done Health & Human Services we did

the 40th Judicial Court we did some on the Courthouse, but it's a \$149,000. Once it got into the building, there were two (2) separate rules, the foundation was poor and the estimate from two (2) engineers is \$800,000." Councilman Becnel stated, "Alright and..."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Again, they're not going to recommend you know we need a new slab, so once they got down to that and realized that they tried to connect two (2) buildings with one roof. So it you know it just wasn't doable for the one forty-nine."

Councilman Becnel asked, "So, that's when we kind of like discussed like the...propose a new facility?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Right, let's do something else. Even if it's there, even if it's in the same location. We couldn't fix that one, right!"

Councilman Becnel stated, "We'd have to tear it down. Yeah, we couldn't fix that one. So we, this is where we were left off at, and I know we reached out to some state officials and stuff and they, you know they tried to help and Rob Delaune is not here right now he was trying to help me with a Grant. And I just want to let the public know, whether I'm the Councilman or not in the next Administration, I'm a make it my goal to see that this come through fruition, and the remaining time yawl have left over here, I would appreciate yawl help us and guide us a little bit with this because we really deserve a facility. We're just at lost, it wasn't no fault of mines, yours or whatever it was just an unforeseen problem."

Natalie Robottom stated, "It was a horrible facility."

Councilman Becnel stated, "Yes."

Natalie Robottom stated, "It was in horrible shape, and we had done some cosmetic things on it a couple of times, and thought we needed to invest more money. We've had opportunities for potential businesses who've brought that up as when they expressed interest for going to the West Bank, they know that the West Bank wants a Community Center, so they always bring that to the table. Unfortunately those projects have not come to fruition..."

Councilman Becnel interrupting stated, "I understand. Fruition yeah!"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Now keep in mind any facility for \$800,000, we don't budget for that. Those are typically done in a bond issue. Now as we're finishing off these, I'm assuming just like we've done everything else, you know of these magnitude if we do another facility bond issue this might be something you'll want to put in it. But, none of our projects that cost probably an excess of Three, or Four Hundred Thousand Dollars, we can do without some bond issue or major grant. We do continue to work with companies that continue to say they want to help on the West Bank and this would be one way of doing that. But again, as we continue to close-out bonds and free up bonding capacity, there's an opportunity."

Councilman Becnel stated, "Yeah cuz I just want to let the West Bank know that Larry and I, we kind of explore a lot of avenues. We even had a meeting with Robert, he offered you know to check into bonds, we're bonded out right? We couldn't do that, but I just want to let them know the path forward hopefully like I said, if I'm the Councilman or not, that this come to fruition you know

within the next year or so...

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "It's not likely to be a repair, or it's going to have to be replaced."

Councilman Becnel stated, "No a brand new facility and we did chose the spot back there by the...I think by the St. John Council on Aging, in that area because we have all that land that Councilman Rainey had purchased and we could utilize it, it's a good thing. And I want to say this, you know I know Art had told me and I know he was a good Councilman, he fought for us and everything and he said, so he was hoping with the intention that we had enough money to repair the building before he, you know when he had got out of office or not. So, I just wanted to let the West Bank we are exploring other avenues you know, we haven't given up, it's a long process, but it will pay off in the long run. Like I said, whether I'm the Councilman or not! So on that part, I'll let Larry and Mr. Madere comment from there."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes, I thank Ms. Robottom from me explaining everything about it. Like I said in the past, the West Bank is definitely a side that needs a Civic Center, and they definitely the one on that side that's definitely take advantage of it and use it. Because the loss of that building no matter how bad it was, it was being utilized up to the time they completely took it down. And it's solely missed, and I understand about the bond and capacity and the grants. But when the bonds do become available, I mean that should be one of the top priority and not just one of them, that should be one of the top priority is to try to get that Civic Center completed on the West Bank. Cuz like I said, the one that was torn down it's solely missed you know and the school system is doing the best they can you know utilizing the school, but that Civic Center would be a great help to the people of the West Bank and they would I guarantee you probably be booked every week, you know if not every other week."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Yes, Mr. Madere and Mr. Becnel exactly right, there is a outcry for usage of that building, and I think in very short time we're going to be coming to look at some rededication for some millages. I think we could possibly look at that with the water projects that they have coming up that needs to be done. We can possibly be creative and rededicate some millages into Capital Projects. And we can only look at refurbishing, putting up a new building we can look at putting up other Recreation facilities, for instance an Airnasium, Garyvilles' asking for an Airnasium in that area. Reserve can use a nice green space in Mr. Madere's District right now, I know he's been trying for a long time, along the river road someplace I heard him mention that when I first got on the Council. So we put our thinking cap on and I know we can, we have some funds that over funded that are not being utilized like they should be, we're stock piling money, we need to go back and look at that. So I'm going to challenge this council before I leave or before some of us come back again. Some of us are going to come back in 6 months, some of us won't be here some of us are going to dream about being here. But let's put something in place for a long term so we can make things happen to explore the quality of life that people need in this community people are wanting that. The young lady came up tonight and talk about how she enjoyed the water, the pool, swimming pool at REGALA, and yes I want to thank Mr. Kerry for jumping on getting that pump fixed the way you did..."

Councilman Malik interrupting stated, "Mr. Sorapuru, a little bit more narrow. It's specifically the West Bank Community Center."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Yes Mr. Chairman, but the swimming pool there's

people from the West Bank come to swim in that pool! But we're talking about buildings and facilities, that's all I want to say. We're going to have to be creative, we have the opportunity to be creative let's do it and make it happen. Thank you sir."

Councilman Becnel stated, "Yeah in closing I just want to say we're saying a Civic or Community Center, but I want to put slash or Educational Training Center. Cuz that's what we really going to use it for too! Educational Training Center, we can get/have seminars and people come over, so we don't want them to just think it's just going be a big party place or whatever, we could utilize it for that to. So call it the Community Center Civic Center or whatever/Educational Training Center. That's right!"

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Just quickly Ms. Robottom, out that \$800,000, what fees are the Engineers paid?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Actually that was just their estimate for the cost of the building..."

Councilman Perrilloux interrupting stated, "That was just an estimate."

Natalie Robottom stated, "That was like a pro bono, like that's not a real drawing and they looked at the slab and they went in and visited and gave us you know, again, it's an estimate based on what they saw, in terms of the cost to replace that facility. And we looked at different things, like some of the galvanized metal buildings but again, the issue is the slab is horrible and obviously the roof is bad. So we relocated somewhere else now we're talking possibly a road, you know then that parking, so and you know and as much as it was utilized we all know that parking was an issue, there were other issues with the facility, but this is just a rough estimate by two (2) different Engineers that were brought to look at the facility, and both of their numbers were at the Eight Hundred to a Million Dollars."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "So I mean look path forward just say if I'm building a house, I get an Architect to design a house and..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "10% of it, 10% of it is Engineer/Architecture fees is estimate. Nine, 10% of the cost of your project, will be Engineer fees."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "But my question is, do I have to use an Engineer?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes you would. Somebody has to design that facility, make sure that the, it's safe, we're going to have the public in it. So we got to make sure our plumbing, electrical, all those things are..."

Councilman Perrilloux interrupting stated, "Well I know we still got to follow building codes."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Right, yeah!"

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "I understand that, we still got to do that. But I'm looking at if I'm going build a house, I get three (3) estimates and I go and build a 8,000 square foot facility, let's just say cinderblock. I mean there are strong, they're durable, and then you also can use it as a hurricane evacuation center."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I mean again, we're using this and we know we're building one right now, that's hurricane sturdy and it required a Architect. Keep in mind you're having a public facility. So now we have to meet ADA Standards, you know there's all kind of things, you know we can't just throw up a building and just say it's open and go in it..."

Councilman Perrilloux interrupting stated, "NO, no, no, no!"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Because we're starting from scratch, we have to meet the current standards. That's was built a long time ago and clearly it didn't, but if we build something now, we have to make sure it's compliant with all the ADA Standards as well as the building codes, and that's typically what we hire people to do."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Okay, thank you."

Natalie Robottom stated, "And again, they didn't charge us for this. It was just people who's done work for us before, we asked them to take a look at it and give us an idea of what it might cost to replace that building."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Yes I just want to say for the record that the building we're talking about was built by volunteer firemen, the Westside Fire Department built that building, back in early 70s. Mr. Warner Sylvain and Mr. Hillary Bocheaux, Mr. Eric Roussell, Mr. Sylvain were a number of people that put this building together back in the early 70s."

Natalie Robottom asked, "But it was a fire house right?"

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Yes, it was used as a fire station, but volunteer firemen built it. Thank you."

Larry Sorapuru - (Carry Over 06-11-19) Discussion regarding Parish Health Insurance - Employee premiums

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

Larry Snyder/Michael Wright - Update on the 2020 budget Comprehensive drainage program line item

Natalie Robottom stated, "I think it's on there, you know I think yawl have made yawl request already we'll do our budget beginning in June. We send out request from all of you, obviously drainage is one of them, there's currently a drainage line item existing, at that point we take your recommendations as well as those from the departments and we'll put together a balanced budget, present it to you and you have an opportunity to amend it or approve it or whatever else. But, we're well aware of the request for drainage."

Councilwoman Hotard Gaudet stated, "Thank you, just really quick. I'd like to make sure that while we're doing that with drainage, I know that we've got some drainage and sewer problems on Carrollwood Drive, not to mention a road problem. So I want to make sure we address all of those in the 2020 budget. The sewer problems, the water problems, and we're going to have to replace the road when we repair both of those items. Thank you."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yes. Ms. Robottom, you said there was a line item in here that's pertaining to drainage?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "But it's only like it's at Three Twenty-Five (325). I think ya'll had a request for Five Hundred (500) or something? I wasn't at the last meeting, but it was my understanding that ya'll had a request to make sure it was Five Hundred (500). We actually have Three Twenty-Five right (325) now. So."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Three Twenty-Five (325)?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes sir. Or something along those lines."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Okay. Well actually I was that's what I was looking for just now. I see they had one down here that, it's somewhere in the neighborhood of three twenty-five (325) which is Spraying and the Drainage Project, I don't know whatever that mean that's kind of ambiguous there. But a..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "But those are typical typically the in house drainage projects, because usually our bigger ones can't fit in this line item. That has to be you know, that's in the millions of dollars. So this is for in house drainage projects that you know it might be culvert replacements, it could be some digging and excavating, so it just it's at the request of the department head to use that on the projects as he prioritizes."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I don't know if we on the right same track here, but I know for sure that my thoughts were that we can we will we'll do like we do the road project you know, and that's what I was that's why I want the Administration on their next budget to look at cutting some cutting some here, cutting there or whatever we got to do to get that amount of money. From what I've, I talked to some people yesterday about like the streets for instance; most people are satisfied with their streets you know what streets..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "Not Garyville."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Let me finish let me finish."

Natalie Robottom stated, "The man who came..was it Garyville? Mr. Cook came in here! Or is Reserve or somewhere. {LAUGHTER}"

Councilman Snyder stated, "But you know what streets they're talking about? You know what streets they're talking about? They're talking about their cross streets. We don't do anything to the cross streets. It seems like we just do the streets that go North and South..."

Natalie Robottom interruptingstated, "Sometimes we do we do some in Reserve."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well the ones they are talking about I guarantee you the ones Mr. Cook was talking about..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "We just need a list Mr. Snyder."

Councilman Snyder stated, "And the one in Reserve, how they got a bunch of them..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "Yeah we did some cross streets in Reserve, on both sides. Cuz you know Mr. Madere was on them and we have some cross streets already on the list for the Reserve Project. So we do, do them..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "But listen at what and that's what I'm talking about. You see..."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Okay. We just need to get them the name of them."

Councilman Snyder stated, "On whole most of the streets in the parish are in decent shape, especially those asphalt streets. The cross streets are in bad shape. I got to honest with you there..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "Just get us the name."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Not me, not me, I don't have any in my District. You know I have cement streets you see. Now, my point is here is what I'm trying to make is that, is that we need to look at if we need to cut that back a little bit we could cut it back a little bit to put that money into the drainage. We have spent money on drainage, don't get me wrong! You could ask you know Mr. Verdell, I mean he bought a new machine okay! Wow, that's great! It helped areas where you got this subsurface draining at that's what that's for. But the people who need the help are the people who don't subsurface draining. And that's my thinking, and that's on the West Bank, and on the old Reserve, and Old LaPlace. They don't have that kind of draining and that's what those people are flooding out also, and that's where the big issue at. And that's what I'm thinking about doing for those people, especially on in this area up here I don't go much toward North or East LaPlace, but I've heard some stories about that, but those are where the issues are. If I got to plug drain back there Mr. Verdell might get it tomorrow. But we got drainage up here where we need to do some digging, and some culvert replacement..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "And let's meet on that, because I agree..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "Well let's meet let's meet."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "I agree with you, but if we put \$800,000 that's not going get it! Cuz we know..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "And we know that!"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Right! So we got to come up with a better plan than that, we can just keep throwing money at those or decide on some projects. We've done about three (3), and they're all in the ballpark of Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000), and that's not going to be in your budget. Okay, that's either going to be a bond issue, a loan a tax or something, that in order to cover those cost, but our basic budget can't cover the cost of projects that size. But I do think we can prioritize and put some money in there and do some things like I think they did some work on Chad Baker that was significant enough to help some people that you know our original estimate was a Million Dollars (\$1,000,000). Well we didn't have a Million Dollars (\$1,000,000), but it did some work that improved the area."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yes, if you look at it if you look at it from that perspective, but if you look at it from a perspective, if I got subsurface drainage, even if I don't have subsurface drainage and I use what I got, the big problem is culverts that start plugging up, that's our problem. And you could put a culvert in the ground and tear one up in a days-time, and you can help the drainage on that street big time..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "It is. And Mr. Snyder, I'll continue to talk to you about that, we tried to do that. I think Mr. Madere asked us to do that, we're going charge people a dollar (\$1.00) whatever. Legally, we weren't allowed to just go pick culverts and change them. However, when we did the project as a scope, we were allowed to pay for it. So, they're you know we understand that is a problem, and it affects our drainage to it just doesn't affect your home. So there are some areas that are on our list to do some culverting projects, one's in Mt. Airey, ones in Old LaPlace, or the McReine area, those are projects specific. But there are other areas that we probably need to look at as well, and this will be like the fifth or sixth area that we done that to, that makes a difference. So, we agree with you, I just don't know if our Public Works Budget line item will be sufficient to do what you're asking."

Councilman Snyder stated, "That's why we're asking to put some more meat in there, and that's what we need right now for these people. I, we can go about saying what we want to say here but, we've already got plans in place, I think Mr. Savoie then got some things drawn up already on where most of our problems at, and that's you know, let's put some money in there and let's go dig 'um out. You know if we got to use our own people, you know, we got the machinery, we done bought the machinery, you know and if we bought the machinery to get the machines there. Now we just got to use them you see, and we can do that. How are we doing it with our streets? We put Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$800,000) in there for pave and we put Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000) for cement work, Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$800,000) for asphalt. And every year we spend it out on that, before you know it we got most of our streets in our neighborhoods are getting better. Most of them in decent shape, let's keep that up, we can cut that back a little bit and let's start this drainage program. Cuz really, now if you want talk about it, let's talk about it I don't have a problem talking about it. But we need to do it!"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Ok."

Councilman Snyder stated, "And I heard what you say a little while ago, about this item down here we got down here. About we got a line item already and we gone pass it out if you got a suggestion, that's not that wasn't my motion last time. My motion was to direct the Administration to find some money and put into a line item on that..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting asked, "To add to it? You know it was my understanding you wanted to increase it to Five Hundred (500)."

Councilman Snyder asked, "That's your understanding?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "That's what Robert told me."

Councilman Snyder stated, "No!"

Natalie Robottom stated, "I wasn't here."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Maybe Robert told you that, but my, because you told me a month and a half ago that we already had a line item down there for drainage. I knew that, cuz I had looked at the budget already. My motion was to..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting asked, "But you want to increase the line item?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Right! My motion was to put a line item down there for just Drainage, cleaning up ditches. I don't care how you put it down there and how you want to phase it, but that's and let's start off with Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000). Now, see that Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000), Three Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$325,000) you're talking about? Leave that there."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Right!"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Leave it there!"

Natalie Robottom stated, "We need it there we can't take it."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Fine I do and I do agree with you. But we need to find Five Hundred Thousand (\$500,000) and that means cutting some trips, means cutting some luncheons, and that mean cutting some..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "That ain't going get it."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well it might help every little bit help."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Okay so let me get this clear. You wanted another line item for 500?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yes ma'am."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Right okay, and I think Robert understood it as make that line item go to 500. But you're saying keep our 325, and add an additional one specific to drainage with about another 500, which gets us to about 800, that we're spending on asphalt."

Councilman Snyder stated, "That's fine that's fine!"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Ok!"

Councilman Snyder stated, "This Three Hundred Twenty-Five already accounted for. You know where that's coming from, it's already in there. We're talking about increasing that so we can get some work done around this parish."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I think we're good!"

Councilman Snyder stated, "And I know it was brought up last week that we got 1.5 Million Dollars left in our budget from Bond issued in 2015? But he also said we got to use that money for someplace else hah! We got to use that money for digging canals out?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "We definitely, we have some money in our Bond Issue, we are working with our Parish Engineers on those permits that ya'll got, that he got for us to clean the canals that go to I-10 that go to the levee. Those permits I think

Councilman Snyder interrupting asked, "That go to go to the levee?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "There were six (6) that he got for dredging, and a number others for snagging, we need to use that money to complete the work that's been permitted."

Councilman Snyder stated, "We need to use some of that money..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "That's correct!"

Councilman Snyder stated, "We could use some of that money for the dredging..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "Actually we got some pretty good at least one pretty good price. So we do think you know we need to use some of those dollars for that. You were in the meeting, [POINTING] you were there, the Army Corps is telling us, we're not/you have to get your own water to us. We're not doing anything to help you get your water to us. That's on us. Okay that's why we wanted to try and make sure we'd at least do the big four (4) that go to those pumps. Initially, with the money to make sure that those aspects are done. So that was like a priority on that end that we thought."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yes ma'am, thank you."

Councilman Wright stated, "Thank you, and I guess to piggy-back to the both of you guys, and Ms. Robottom. Ultimately the goal is to get the water to the levee, there's a lot of big projects that we obviously cannot afford to do in house..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "Right!"

Councilman Wright stated, "But I do think the goal also to is, there's a lot of small projects that would make a big impact that would accomplish, at least slow down the bleeding to give a lot of areas some relief to get the water to these major canals. So by increasing a line item, we can focus on more of these smaller projects rather than look at these big projects and do more of a Capital annual expenditure on these small individual drainage projects. So but I absolutely support and even if we can amend this year's budget to add more money, we've got to beef up that drainage line item and there's so many small projects that need to be accomplished to get the water to these major canals. "

Councilman Madere stated, "That's exactly right Mr. Wright, what you said. You know we get these major canals cleaned out, but then we can't get the water to them. Okay the, down the streets in my District and Old LaPlace, and Garyville, okay we need something every year, that's moving forward to relieve some of the problem. Like I said before when I first got in this office, you know about eight (8) years ago, my biggest thing was drainage. My first meeting was drainage, you know the first meeting I asked about a Drainage Department, okay? And now here we are again still talking about drainage, so that tell you..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "We will always talk about drainage."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "No, no..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "Okay, every, you can talk about drainage forever..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "Hold on Ms. Robottom. Mr. who have the mic? I have it? Okay well make sure she understand that. Okay, okay, can I continue now?"

Councilman Malik stated, "You have the floor."

Councilman Madere stated, "Like I said from the beginning, I've been up here

about 8 years talking about drainage, and I keep it on there every time it's on there, every time! Okay and until I start seeing significant improvement. Mr. Verdell been doing the best he can with what he have. You understand, it's like him walking in a hurricane with a lit match. You understand, he don't have much of a chance. So what Mr. Snyder and what Mr. Wright is doing, is putting some money to a major problem that's in this parish year after year, especially in the older part of LaPlace. Okay, if you don't start addressing the big issue that's been with us for years, it's never going to happen, and this is the step in the right direction. I don't care if they fix one (1) street or two (2) streets a year, it's still one (1) or two (2) less than what we have on the list now. Okay and if we had done two (2) streets a year since I've been in office, that would have been 16 streets that's been corrected already. And 16 problems would have been solved. Just like we're doing with the roads, the streets have gotten better under your administration cuz we fixed roads every time. But I've never heard anyone saying call and complain about asphalt going into their house. It's about water, the biggest problem is water. So this line item is in the step in the right direction. And I said it before, when they passed the Ordinance about 8 inch culverts, the Council the previous Council before, I don't know who it was, you don't grandfather in a problem. And my solution at that time, was for the parish to locate those areas where they have 12 inch and 10 inch pipes down the street that have a majority 18 inch pipes, and to remove those and if the people couldn't afford to pay for it, then we would add it to their water bill. That's what I said! Cuz we pay for mosquitos (that still bite us) we pay for ambulance and everything, so why couldn't we if someone say they couldn't afford to pay for it at that time, do it for them and add Five Dollars (\$5.00) to their bill. Somebody can/would die then, what about if they sell their house? Well the no brainer is whoever bought the house, get the rest of the bill! The money come back to the parish. So we have to talk to legal about that because I think that's a way. Not every culverts down every street is the wrong size, but we need to identify the ones that's are the wrong size, and remove those. Because I can tell you every street in my District that flood, I can tell them, tell you where they going flood and how much it take. And down NW 2nd Street where everyone have 18 inch culverts, I never get a call. And that's what we're trying to do in this parish now, is get the water to the major canals. Okay and when you say bottle neck, anybody ever drank a beer? When you turn it up and it comes out slow, because it has a small end to it."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I agree with everything you said, but you guys speak as if nothings been done on drainage. There are millions of dollars that's been invested in drainage and I'll be happy to get it to you, I'm sure ya'll be using it in yawl election. We have done a lot of work on drainage, there's still money left to be done on drainage, and every year there's budgeted money. You're right, we have to address the culverts, we did attempt to do exactly what you said Mr. Madere, we met with at the time it was Mr. Daley and Mr. Perrilloux, whose specifically told us we couldn't do just what you asked, which was put down their culverts and charge them on their water bill. Because one, they probably didn't even have the money upfront to spend it to wait to pay it back/to get it back. So again, that's a good idea but it didn't work, which is why we've done projects down those streets that didn't require the residents to pay. If we do it as a project for the whole area, we funded it completely. So that's you know we've done at least three (3) of those that we've worked on, we've done some of the culvert changes, we've added pumps we've done screens, we've you know we've done a lot of things. So to get up here and act like nothing has been done on drainage, is really you know a slap in the face to the people who've been doing the work. But we're going to continue to have drainage problems, everybody's having drainage problems. Now, we're introducing new Ordinances to try and help

retain water, to help change the services to absorb water. We've continued to build, so we have more runoff and the water is running off quicker than it's draining. We have gravity flow all over our areas not pumped, so it just you know it's not working to the capacity that we want it to, but when I started we had four (4) pumps, okay, now we have twelve (12) pump stations. It's like again, we're getting there, our big issue right now is making sure that our large canals are cleaned, and working with our Public Works team to deal with those smaller areas and if we can get, we try to move some more money to those projects that are specifically culvert related in HMGP, because we know how much those projects cost. We've done them three (3) times, we know what the estimate is we know how much should be in that budget, and we do have designs to do that at least in two (2) more areas as soon as we get the construction approval. But the designs are already done to do just what you're saying, in those very old areas with very small culverts that, (and some have no culverts) you're talking about the ones that this size [HAND GESTURE MADE], some people just close their ditch. So you know that's problematic for everybody in the area. And some you know like Stout Street doesn't even have any ditches. I don't even know how they drain, we fixed their road but there's no ditch on either side of Stout Street in Garyville. I think it drains to the rear of the homes, but then the road floods. So you know, there's all kinds of issues we're dealing with, but please acknowledge that there's been work on drainage, there's going to continue to be work on drainage, cuz drainage continues to be a problem. And as you fix one area, sometimes you create a problem in another."

Councilman Sorapururu stated, "Yeah, I just want to say just two (2) things Mr. Snyder and everything else, everything else everybody else is saying about the drainage. Yes and Ms. Robottom it's not a slap in the face that you didn't get anything done. The amount of work that needs to be done, Public Works, there's no way can keep up with the amount of work that needs to be done. And Mr. Snyder, we spoke about the numbers, a half of million dollars is not enough money sir, we need to have about a million and a half million dollars in our Drainage Department. We need to look at coming together and getting into the areas and identifying the areas that are flooding, and send contractor work out. There's no way Public Works can keep up with the amount of work that needs to be done in this parish. It would take 10 years to catch up at the rate we're going right now, let's not fool ourselves. Let's not fool ourselves, so I think a half of million dollars Mr. Snyder, we need to bump that up to about a million dollars right now. Thank you."

Lennix Madere - Update on drainage throughout the Parish

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

Lennix Madere - Update on abandoned houses throughout the Parish

Rene Pastorek stated, "Planning and Zoning regularly inspects and issues violations for hazardous and unsafe buildings Parish wide. An updated report on abandoned houses is attached for your review."

The above item may be viewed on the parish website - www.sjbparish.com.

Councilman Perrilloux excused himself from the meeting at 9:24 PM.

MOTION: Councilwoman Hotard Gaudet moved and Councilwoman Remonet seconded the motion to for a 5 minute recess. The motion passed with Councilman Perrilloux absent.

MOTION: Councilman Becnel moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to return to regular session. The motion passed with Councilman Perrilloux absent).

Lennix Madere - Discussion regarding the upkeep and maintenance of Recreational Parks Parish Wide

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes, like Ms. Harvey said okay they had some concerns earlier, couple of weeks ago a week ago, and those problems were addressed. But I went over to the park myself and I pointed out a few things to Mr. Watkins that I saw, and I also know Mr. Watkins was ill for about four (4) months and when I went back to the facility today, all those other items most of those items I mentioned was taken care of. You know so like they say, you did a good job getting the pool back in shape, and taking care of the bench. There's still a couple of things that need to be done over there, and one thing I wanted to address is the amount of workers that we have at that Recreation Department. Mr. Snyder mentioned something about hiring people to cut grass, I think they only have about four (4) individuals that actually work at the park, and if one (1) sick or two (2) sick, that leaves two (2) with thirteen (13) parks. Okay, you need to have you need at least 8-9 employees to have a chance to keep up with the maintenance problem everything you have with those facilities over there. So definitely those facilities need upkeep, they need employees you need help! Now, let me get back to that pool in that particular area, they had a water cooler that was on side the wall and by the pool. Okay and you told me that was broken, and they never replaced it. It should be replaced, also we have a lot of block work that's damage and I think we have people in house that can repair those things. You didn't see those Ms. LaVerne?"

Laverne Toombs stated, "No I did not."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay Mr. Watkins can show them to you cuz I pointed it out to him. Right in front the pool. Okay you know that area I told you about?"

Kerry Watkins stated, "Talking about the barrier that surrounds the backflow area. Along the street, onside of the road."

Laverne Toombs stated, "You're going to have to show that to me."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right! Now they have about I think it's three or four damaged blocks that need to be removed and replaced and that need to be painted. Okay I also mentioned about the rules for the pool, alongside along the fence that need to be raised it's touching the ground, and also the stuff that's holding it up its wire and we should use a zip ties, because I mentioned to you someone could get scratched on those wires. Remember that?"

Kerry Watkins stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right! Well other than that I think everything was in place and taken care of, and I think the major concern is that we need some more help, you need some more help over there. You know, for the day-to-day maintenance of those parks. Four (4) people, I'm about right? How many you have?"

Kerry Watkins stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay, four (4) and thirteen (13), I mentioned to you before, if four (4) people get in a fight with thirteen (13), I know who going win that fight."

Kerry Watkins stated, "Talking about maintenance."

Councilman Madere stated, "Maintenance. You only have four (4), I'm not counting Ms. Poche, or her Secretary, cuz I don't want Ms. Poche doing any maintenance work. Okay, she have a big enough job already we need additional people, you cannot have four (4) maintenance people to take care of thirteen (13) parks. It's impossible. Okay! And I want to thank you for being responsive as a Director, to a request that was made legally by Council. Thank you!"

Councilman Malik stated, "Quick question for you. How many people, what is your budget allow you to have as far as how many personnel and maintenance?"

Kerry Watkins stated, "I think that the budget requires to have four (4) to five (5) maintenance personnel. We had a Supervisor, which we didn't replace, but we have temp workers that we normally carry during the summer time during the peak season. But for the most part, we've been sustaining you know what when if, when we're fully staffed."

Councilman Malik stated, "I'm sorry, did you say 'Pig'?"

LaVerne Toombs interrupting stated, "You have 5 people."

Kerry Watkins stated, "Five (5). I'm sorry!"

Councilman Malik asked, "Did you say 'Pig'?"

Kerry Watkins stated, "Peak season."

Councilman Malik stated, "Pig season?"

Kerry Watkins stated, "Peak."

Councilman Malik stated, "Peak, I'm sorry."

Kerry Watkins stated, "Peak. Like summer time..."

Councilman Malik stated, "Makes a little more sense. Thank you for that clarification."

Kerry Watkins stated, "Yes."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yeah. Look, I just want to pass on and kind reintegrate some of the things that Mr. Madere just said. And one of the things that, I wrote up some request to, to get some things done over there and it was done on time, and it was done in accordance to you know, to the sports and things that were being played over there so. I just want to thank you and thank Ms. Debra, Debra cuz I think you was out at the time, and she took care of all of those things. So, I just want to thank you there as far as that is concerned. He mentioned that we only have a budget for four (4) people?"

Kerry Watkins stated, "As far as maintenance people. Maintenance personnel"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Okay, okay."

Kerry Watkins stated, "As far as it's myself, Ms. Poche, we had a Coordinator that we're going to replace, and the Secretary. And also I think we had a line item for Professional Service, which we use to hire temp workers during the peak season during the summer time when we need of additional employees."

Councilman Snyder asked, "We're not going hire a Supervisor you say?"

Kerry Watkins stated, "No sir."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Okay so. So, so! Who we going use to look at all of our facilities and see what's got to be done year round you know?"

Kerry Watkins stated, "Between Ms. Poche, my Assistant Director and myself, but she is in-charge of the maintenance crew. Ms. Poche, the Assistant Director is over all the maintenance throughout the park, and I assist her with it you know in times of need. So, I have no problems with that I'm out in the field you know 90% of the time. So she's in task with it, but I definitely help her out with it."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Okay, thank you."

Natalie Robottom stated, "And if you guys see stuff, you know I would like to and we have this all the time, I expect the people that work there to see you. Okay, that's my expectation. If you go to a park and we have checklist, and you're checking supposed to be checking off what you see and everything's safe. Then, I expect you to see the problems at the park. But, people you know make mistakes they don't see them, so if you guys see stuff, all we ask is just get it to us. Get it to us so we can address it, you know safety is all of our concern. However we are beefing up the checklist, and making sure that they're being reviewed annually and it's clear or weekly, it's clear what it is we're looking from them, a checklist is no good if it's just checks, and nobody's really paying attention to it. So I think we need to sure that system up, because that system is in place, they all have a checklist for every park they go to, which they should be identifying either safety concerns or things that are broken, things that need repairs, things that need painting. That's what we expect the people who are cleaning the parks to be able to come back and tell us. And then if whether it's them, it's a scheduled work or we have to call in a contractor, we can do that. But part of our problem is you know and I know people get sick, but you know we're limping in Recreation. Even though (I wasn't finish), even though Kerry and Ms...

Councilman Malik interrupting stated, "Mr. Becnel. Took those pauses long enough!" [CROSSTALK]

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "Even though Kerry and Ms. Debra are back, we have some other people who are out. So when Ms. Debra's out and Kerry's out and two (2) more of your workers, we're limping. But we're still paying them, so keep in mind, we'd love to have as many staff as possible, but as we've continued to hire we continue to have problems with people coming to work. So it just, it hadn't resolved itself but we do hire a large number of temps in the summer to help us, because that's when the parks are the busiest they're being used the most and we can use the additional help with trying to keep pace."

Larry Snyder - Charter review update and discussion

Councilman Snyder asked, "Yes. Ms. Robottom did you ever get a chance to talk to that Consultant?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "I did. And she's putting together proposal, but I thought I had requested it and I'm not sure if all of you agree with this. But there are at least three (3) Charters that's in the area that are very similar,

and I'd asked maybe if ya'll staff could go through and compare them, at least highlight the major areas that ya'll might want to look at that are significant in different, I mean they know the ones we have problems with all the time, that you know might be something worth changing. So that was my suggestion to have some type of systematic way of going through the Charter, it's at least to identify the areas that are significantly different from you know are similar neighbors and start there, and of course you guys know some of the areas that ya'll already have concern for but, I think it would be better to go through it systematically then just hop all over the document."

Councilman Snyder asked, "I think Ms. I think we had our Secretary, do that for us and she should've sent it or put it in somebody's/everybody's box!"

Jackie Landeche, Council Secretary stated, "Everybody has copies, yes sir."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Everybody have a copy of it three (3) I think."

Jackie Landeche stated, "You asked me to do that, yes sir."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Right."

Natalie Robottom asked, "Of the three (3) different Charters?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Three (3) different Charters..."

Jackie Landeche interrupting stated, "Three (3) different Charters from three (3) different parishes. I put a copy in everybody's box."

Councilman Snyder stated, "So if you get a chance anybody or if you just got some ideas on what we need to look at in the Charter, you know it's nothing, I have something I'd like to get people to look at. But it's nothing personal I'm trying to get done here, I just it's just something I'd like for Charter Review Committee to look at so you may have some things also. So Ms. Robottom what you asking now is that we send you a list of things that we'd like to have this our Consultant look at or formulate some kind of plan or something like that?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "And she's done it before, so she has a proposal that she's done for other Parishes. So there is a basic way of going about doing it, but you definitely want to address your concerns, not necessarily what Ascension or Terrebonne did."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Okay, okay. So I'd just like to ask the Council here, if you see anything you want to look at, anything, anything at all, in that Charter, or anything in one of those Charters, if there may be some things on top of your head, one or two things, send it to Administration. Thank you ma'am!"

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "So Mr. Snyder, didn't we talk about having a workshop, a Charter Workshop?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well, what we discussed a tentative plan if you remember, according to the Parish President. We want some of these things first you know, and then she make contact with the Consultant and we may need somewhere to start at more or less, and this can be handed to her in case she decide to go along with this, then we can start there. We can have a workshop, and start from that, but we just don't want to start having a workshop and what we're going to talk about in the workshop?"

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Well I totally agree, but when I say 'Workshop', we need to have public input into what we're doing."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well listen to what I'm saying..."

Councilman Sorapuru interrupting stated, "I hear you but I'm only concerned that we going to be a small group putting our ideas on the table, let's hear what the/let have the public have some input into this. Cuz we not, this not a one (1) man show Mr. Snyder."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I'm not a one (1) man show we got nine (9) of us up here, we represent the public."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "But the public don't perceive us like that sometimes. That's all I'm saying."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Ok!"

Natalie Robottom asked, "Mr. Snyder, did both of yawl come together? I don't remember, I met with yawl. Yawl had the conversation yawl had a workshop, it was pointless. People got up and talked about what they want or hollowed about what yawl want. Nothing was done. Okay, that's not efficient. So, we need to target something, we need to have a Facilitator, and go through a systematic process. So again, weren't not trying to exclude anybody, because the public has to provide input, they have to vote on this. But you can't just show up with nothing, and no..."

Councilman Malik interrupting stated, "It has to be an agenda!"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Right and no plan, and think you're going to get somewhere with a Charter change. You know somebody had to lead the process, and all we were trying to do is get together some ideas, cuz some of your constituents might come and say 'NO' I don't want to change that! You'll want to change it I don't want that. But at least have a plan, you guys deal with the Charter all the time. You know where the problems occur, you're staffs' looking at comparisons from neighboring parishes. You ought to have a basis for calling a Charter review, and you can't do that, just open it up for conversation."

Councilman Snyder stated, "And I agree with you, and that's what I was trying we had the same discussion last time. You're right, and with a Facilitator in place, they're going set all those things up. That's their job to set all that up. You know they set those committee meetings up, and have the public come in and give their input, deal with the Administration deal with us you know, so that's what it's all about. You're right."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "And listen, I'm not saying anything is wrong with it, I'm looking at the fact that the fact is if we're going to take the time, if you're going to bring someone in from outside of the parish to have no connection to what's going on and history of what we have here. That's very important, to get feedback at the table upfront. Because what work in Philadelphia might not work over here. That's all I'm saying."

Councilwoman Hotard Gaudet stated, "Thank you really quickly. I did see the other copies of the Charters in there, but I think it is a good idea President Robottom suggested maybe Jackie and Donna, if ya'll can go through and look at some of the/look at those two (2) Charters that you have compared to ours, not you know

line by line, but subject matter by subject matter to see how they deal with different things, and maybe highlight some of the similarities and highlight some of the differences so that can give us some other suggestions. And maybe even speaking with those parishes when we see some of the differences to see if those were thing or if those are things that they would change to be more in line with our Charter, or if those are things that are actually working for them. You know some of the, you know and it's broken up by sections so it should be easier to kind of see it and that would help us instead of having to read through word, you know for word on each one of those Charters. You know I know ours very well, but not the other ones but I did see the copies. So if that's something ya'll can work on. Thank you."

Julia Remondet/Lennix Madere - Update on CN Railroad Station concerns

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

Larry Sorapururu - Update on the West Bank Wastewater Tanks from C&S Consultants

Kevin Derby, C&S Consultants was present to provide an update on the West Bank Waste Water Tanks. To see the complete presentation, visit the website at www.sjbparish.com.

Larry Snyder - Update on the status of the CDBG for the Hurricane Isaac Program

LaVerne Toombs stated, "There are fourteen (14) construction projects at various stages of completion remaining. To date, there are 43 Duplication of Benefits reviews pending and all re-verifications are expected to be completed and submitted to the Office of Community Development by June 28, 2019. Due to high river stages impacting construction of some of the projects, all funds should be expended by the official close-out date of September 30, 2019. All other aspects of the program are completed."

Larry Snyder - Update on the lifting of the electrical components at the Ruddock Wells

Please visit the website at www.sjbparish.com for the update on the above item.

There was no Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Parish Buildings - Security

Board of Commissioners of Sedgewick County, Kansas v. AmerisourceBergen Drug Corporation, et al., No. 17-CV-01313 (D. Kan. Dec. 21, 2017)

Nolan Carmouche vs. Shell Oil Company, et al.

Any and all pending legal matters

There was no Executive Session.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

19-22 A millage ordinance - an ordinance providing for the levy and collection of ad valorem taxes in the Parish of St. John the Baptist, to be spread upon the 2019 Assessment Roll (N. Robottom)

- 19-23** An ordinance approving the re-subdivision of Lot 2, 25' of Lots 3 and 3A of the Jules Villemont Tract and J.G. Madere Tract into Lots 2A and 3A-1 of the Jules Villemont Tract and J.G. Madere Tract, located in the area generally bounded by West 5th Street, Apricot Street, Lane B and the Y&MV Railroad, LaPlace, LA, as shown in a survey prepared by Stephen P. Flynn, P.L.S. on February 25, 2019 (PZS-19-1213) (N. Robottom)
- 19-24** An ordinance approving the re-subdivision of Tract A, Hemple Estate Subdivision into Tracts A-1 and B, Hemple Estate Subdivision, located in the area generally bounded by Highway 18, East 11th Street, and East 13th Street, Lucy, LA, as shown in a survey prepared by Galen Bollinger on December 11, 2018 (PZS-19-1214) (N. Robottom)
- 19-25** An ordinance approving the re-subdivision of Lots 342 and 343, Lac Des Allemands Cove Subdivision, Phase 2 into Lot 342-A Lac Des Allemands Cove Subdivision, Phase 2, in the area generally bounded by Des Allemands Boulevard, Parc Promenade, and Tahiti Trail, Vacherie, LA, as shown in a survey prepared by Patrick M. Haley, P.L.S. on June 17, 2019 (PZS-19-1215) (N. Robottom)
- 19-26** An ordinance approving the re-subdivision of Lot 18-A, Woodland Plantation Subdivision into Lot 18-A-1 and Lot 18-A-2, Woodland Plantation Subdivision, located in the area generally bounded by Woodland Drive, LaPlace Lane, and Sawgrass Dr., LaPlace, as shown in a survey prepared by Stephen P. Flynn, P.L.S. on March 21, 2019 (PZS-19-1216) (N. Robottom)
- 19-27** An ordinance approving the re-subdivision of Lots 1B, 2B, 3B, 4B, 5B, 6B, 7B, 8B, & 5A of Cole's Landing Subdivision, Phase 1 into Lots 1B-1, 2B-1, 3B-1, 4B-1, & 5A-1 of Cole's Landing Subdivision, Phase 1, located in the area generally bounded by Belle Pointe Boulevard, South River Pointe, and West Airline Highway, LaPlace, as shown in a survey prepared by Stephen P. Flynn, P.L.S. on May 2, 2019 (PZS-19-1217) (N. Robottom)
- 19-28** An ordinance approving the re-subdivision of Lots 870D, 871D, 872D, 873D, 874D, & 875D, of St. Andrew's Boulevard Extension, into Lot 870E, St. Andrew's Boulevard Extension located in the area generally bounded by St. Andrew's Boulevard, Belle Terre Boulevard, and Portrush Drive, LaPlace, LA, as shown in a survey prepared by Seth Mosby, P.L.S. on May 1, 2019 (PZS-19-1218) (N. Robottom)
- 19-29** An ordinance authorizing the acceptance of improvements and granting final subdivision approval of Coles Landing Subdivision, Phase IV, Section 1, Lots 157 through 168, Lots 178 through 200, and Parcel D1, E, R, G, H & I, as shown in a survey prepared by Stephen P. Flynn, P.L.S. on May 7, 2019 (PZS-06-039) (N. Robottom)

PRESIDENT REPORT:

Please visit the website at www.sjbparish.com for the Parish President's Report.

CORRESPONDENCE/COUNCIL BRIEFS:

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Remondet seconded the motion to suspend the rules to add to the agenda - to give the parish employees off on Friday, July 5th, 2019 in observance of the 4th of July Holiday. The motion passed with Councilman Perrilloux absent.

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Becnel seconded the motion to give the parish employees off on Friday, July 5th, 2019 in observance of the 4th of July Holiday. The motion passed with Councilman Perrilloux absent.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 10:34 PM, Councilman Snyder moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard Gaudet, Councilman Sorapuru, Snyder no vote, and Councilman Perrilloux absent.

/s/Thomas Malik
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
COUNCIL SECRETARY

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