

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS**  
**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL**  
**TUESDAY, JUNE 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018**  
**CHAIRMAN LENNIX MADERE**  
**VICE-CHAIR LARRY SNYDER**

The Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist Parish, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session in the Joel McTopy Chambers, LaPlace, Louisiana on Tuesday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 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, Jaclyn Hotard, Councilwoman-at-Large, Div B

**ABSENT:** None

Councilman Wright led the Prayer. Councilman Snyder led the Pledge.

Legal Counsel present were Keith Green, Jr., and Law Clerk Kennilyn Schmill.

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

There were no public comments at this time.

**INTRODUCTION OF BUSINESSES:**

There were no businesses to introduce.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**ITEM:** Approval of Minutes - June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Regular Meeting; Permit Approval - 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Independence Day Celebration Tuesday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6:00 PM at St. Peter Catholic Church; Permit Approval - St. Hubert Church Annual Festival Wednesday, July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018 from 11:00 AM until 9:30 PM; Natalie Robottom - Appointment of Ms. Iman Montgomery to the Civil Service Board

**MOTION:** Councilman Becnel moved and Councilwoman Remonet seconded the motion to approve consent agenda items to include: Approval of Minutes - June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Regular Meeting; Permit Approval - 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Independence Day Celebration Tuesday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6:00 PM at St. Peter Catholic Church; Permit Approval - St. Hubert Church Annual Festival Wednesday, July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018 from 11:00 AM until 9:30 PM; Natalie Robottom - Appointment of Ms. Iman Montgomery to the Civil Service Board. The motion passed with Councilman Snyder and Perrilloux absent.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:**

**18-10** (Public Hearing Held) (Tabled 05-08-18) An ordinance naming the West Bank Recreational Park - the "Juan Anthony Joseph Park" (K. Becnel)

The above item remained tabled.

**18-18** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance requesting approval to further extend

the valid period of time for Conditional Subdivision Approval for an additional twelve (12) months, as per SJB Code Sec. 113-117(c) for Tiger Landing Subdivision, including the re-subdivision of an undesignated tract of land into Tract A, Lots 1-3, 5, and 7, Block 1; Lots 4 and 6, Block 2; Lots 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, and 23, Block 3; and Lots 8, 10, 12, 1, 16, 18, 20, and 22, Block 4, Tiger Landing Subdivision, Edgard, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana and the dedication of Jes Drive and Breeze Way Street, which was originally approved on August 9, 2016, as part of preliminary/conditional approval for Tiger Landing Subdivision and further extended on July 11, 2017, and to grant a one-year extension of the Construction Agreement with J.E.S. Construction, Inc. for the installment of all associated improvements (N. Robottom)

Alex Carter stated, *"This request is to allow additional time to complete approved plans. According to the developer, water and sewer lines have been installed and construction of the street will begin soon. Administration recommends approval."*

**MOTION:** Councilman Becnel moved and Councilman Sorapuru seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 18-18. The motion passed unanimously.

**18-19** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance amending St. John the Baptist Parish Code of Ordinances, specifically Chapter 16 - Fire Prevention and Protection to modify standards for the construction and ignition of Bonfires (Parish wide) (N. Robottom)

Travis Perrilloux stated, *"This amendment provides the Department of Public Safety the authority to regulate bonfires near heavy industrial sites, marine uses, or activities occurring within or around the batture when weather or other changing conditions pose a threat to fire prevention and public safety. Administration recommends approval."*

**MOTION:** Councilman Sorapuru moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 18-19. The motion passed unanimously.

**18-20** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance introducing the annual budget for the GOMESA Fund for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2018 and ending December 31, 2018 (N. Robottom)

Robert Figuero stated, *"As funding from Phase II of GOMESA (revenue sharing funds) is distributed to Louisiana recipients, this ordinance establishes a new fund for the grant money. Administration recommends approval."*

Councilman Snyder stated, *"GOMESA, why is it that we're trying to get a new fund established and we can, we already got a fund that can house that like our levee protection, our restoration..."*

Robert Figuero interrupting stated, *"In my opinion for the sake of clean financials, in order to not to miss appropriate funds and so forth and utilize it for other things that aren't supposed to be utilized for. We felt or I felt it was just cleaner to create another account through Capital One, create another fund, so the money that's given by or through GOMESA is deposited through that account. Thereby making it very clean so, the public can see it, the moneys' there, and it'll be utilized only for projects authorized by GOMESA."*

Councilman Snyder stated, *"And I do agree with that, I think this Council should look into that and determine what they think might be the best place to put that money. We need to think that and I, what kind of fund we going to put it in? We*

*just going to call it GOMESA Fund?"*

*Robert Figuero stated, "Alex, can elaborate a little bit more on GOMESA? It can only be utilized for certain projects. There's a certain criteria..."*

*Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "For protection and restoration..."*

*Alex Carter stated, "Right, restoration exactly, you're exactly right. So they are eligible activities that you have to fulfill and there are requirements on how the funds can be spent. And because of those restrictions, we wouldn't want to spend the money on something and then not having it be reimbursed or be approved for spending. So I think, this is what Robert was elaborating..."*

*Robert Figuero interrupting stated, "It's just from a financial perspective and accounting perspective to make it very clean, that way we know or the public knows exactly where the monies gone, um we see the deposits coming in from GOMESA and we can make sure that you know every dime that was given to us through the GOMESA Project is allocated properly..."*

*Alex Carter stated, "Right and each one of these forms has different eligible activities, so it could be difficult to keep track of all of them, so it's just to help simplify these processes that together can be very complicated..."*

*Councilman Snyder stated, "Well I still think we ought to have some input to this, and we need to think about it a little bit what might be the best place for that money. We're taxing our people right now, with money for levee protection, flood protection, we know we got erosion problems with the Coastal Erosion, we got problems back there. That's why I'd rather see it put in one of those funds if we can only use it for things like that. And I know that's what we can only use if for anyhow..."*

*Robert Figuero stated, "And I don't think Administration would be against that either way. Initially, it was deposited into Roads & Bridges, that's just the way the funds were set up, we're not sure exactly why, that's just what the Federal Government decided to do. So we wanted to get it out of Public Works, out of Roads & Bridges and make sure that it was put into its own account/own fund, that way we can make sure that we can see the money. Again, don't misappropriate the funds..."*

*Councilman Snyder stated, "Yeah that's from what I you know, I just..."*

*Robert Figuero stated, "Yeah again, I mean I don't think it wouldn't be, we wouldn't be against putting it into a different fund if that's the way you all decided to do it. We just wanted to for the sake of transparency make sure things were clean and clear..."*

*Councilman Snyder stated, "Well we can always switch it back around..."*

*Robert Figuero stated, "Yeah absolutely..."*

*Councilman Snyder stated, "Thank you sir..."*

*Robert Figuero stated, "Just as long as utilized appropriately per the grant..."*

*Councilman Snyder stated, "Exactly!"*

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Just one question Mr. Robert. Is this an annual deposit that's made or it's made based on us putting in an application for these funds?"

Robert Figuero stated, "I am not quit certain, however I do know in the past since 2013 we actually even allocated funds, one year it was a couple of Hundred Dollars. Another year it was like a Thirteen Hundred Dollars (\$1300). So what we're going to do is probably on the next set of budget amendments, we're going to take that money, I think it was a total of about Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) over the past from 2013-2017, that GOMESA distributed to us and we're going to move that money once we realize that that money was coming in to different funds, cause for some reason it gets deposited into accounts that we just have to find sometimes, cause it's not very clear coming from the Federal Government unfortunately but...but it has been it's been small amounts this is the first large amount that we've received, so therefore, we wanted to separate the funds."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Thank you."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Do we know how much it's going to be yet?"

Robert Figuero stated, "Yeah the original allocated, it's in here it was a deposit of Five Hundred and Fifty-Nine Thousand, Five Hundred and Thirty-One Dollars (\$559,531.00)."

Councilman Snyder asked, "That's what St. John gets?"

Robert Figuero stated, "That's correct. That's what we received, and again that went to Roads & Bridges and so wanted to make sure quickly remove that and put it into its own fund, to make sure it didn't get misappropriated."

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

**MOTION:** Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilwoman Remondet seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 18-20. The motion passed unanimously.

**18-21** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance amending ordinance 18-06 relative to the Annual Operating budgets for the St. John the Baptist Parish Economic Development Fund, Fire Department Fund, Isaac CDBG Fund, 2009 General Obligation Bond Fund and the 2015 General Obligation Bond Fund for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2018 and ending December 31, 2018 (N. Robottom)

Robert Figuero stated, "Thank you sir. These amendments reflect changes to estimated revenues and expenditures for 2018 and Administration recommends approval."

**MOTION:** Councilman Becnel moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 18-21. The motion passed unanimously.

**18-22** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance amending ordinance 17-50 relative to the Annual Operating budgets for the St. John the Baptist General Fund, Animal Shelter Fund, Department of Health and Human Services Fund, Communications District Fund, Public Works Fund, Recreation Fund, 2010 General Obligation Bond Fund and the 2014 General Obligation Bond Fund for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2018 and ending December 31, 2018 (N. Robottom)

Robert Figuero stated, "Thank you sir. These amendments also reflect changes to

estimated revenues and expenditures for 2018 and Administration recommends approval."

Councilman Snyder asked, "These estimate, they went to the positive or to the negative?"

Robert Figuero stated, "Most of them are just transfers. Line item transfers, there are a couple of them that were under budgeted, some that were over budgeted. For example: One of the Grants, they came back and gave us more money, but now since the cost of the project went up, naturally. So it's just an adjustment of the revenues to be more accurate cause again, with our new system we can no longer go over our budgeted line items. So we have to come to the Council in order to adjust those so, either as we just see things throughout the year we move money around for the necessary you know events and so forth to cover the cost."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Okay."

**MOTION:** Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 18-22. The motion passed unanimously.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "I would like to make a motion to accept the minutes from the finance committee."

**MOTION:** Councilman Sorapuru moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to accept the finance committee. The motion passed unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Larry Sorapuru - (Tabled 05-08-18) Council withdrawal from the River Parish Tourist Commission**

The above item remained tabled.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Natalie Robottom - Authorization to enter into an Indemnity and Hold Harmless Agreement with the Pontchartrain Levee District for the Annual Independence Day Celebration**

LaVerne Toombs stated, "Thank you Mr. Chairman. This Agreement is required by the Levee Board to host our Annual Fireworks Show in Reserve and Edgard. The Agreement was reviewed and deemed to be legally sufficient by Legal Counsel and Administration recommends approval."

**MOTION:** Councilman Sorapuru moved and Councilman Malik seconded the motion to grant administration authorization to enter into an Indemnity and Hold Harmless Agreement with the Pontchartrain Levee District for the Annual Independence Celebration. The motion passed unanimously.

**DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:**

**Larry Sorapuru - (Tabled 03-13-18) Council's possible withdrawal from the River Parish Tourist Commission**

The above item remained tabled.

**Lennix Madere - Update on drainage and road repair in District III**

Verdell Kindrick stated, "Good Evening Council. The following roads have been completed: Ash Street, Landeche Lane, W. 3rd Street, E. 23rd Street, E. 26th Street, Melius Drive, Perrilloux Drive, Sweet Lorraine Drive, Farlough Drive, Roccaforte Avenue, Stout Street, E. 6th Street and Rue St. John. Clean-up crews are working daily dressing all completed streets. Once all costs are reconciled, plans for the 2019 Road Improvements Program will begin."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay first of all I want to start out by thanking Mr. Verdell, Ms. Toombs, and Mr. Chuck Savoie, for assisting in this whole site of the road repairs. I think the roads pretty much have gone pretty smooth, still have some things that we have to clean up, and I think me and Mr. Chuck, Mr. Savoie will take a ride through Thursday to take a final look at some of the things, especially in District III. I'm not going all over the parish, I'm going to ride in District III. The other Council people look and take care of their own, but no I'm just doing District III. But I want to thank Ms. LaVerne for acting quickly when I pointed something out to her on the front of 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, where we repaired the road and then we actually dug the road up our self, looking for a valve. Okay and I do believe moving forward anytime we do construction of streets, and we know there's valves possibly in the front of some of those streets, that we clearly mark them and I think it's a 50/50 problem that happened this time. The contractor should of seen the valves, and I think someone from the parish end should have marked them to, okay so that don't happen. So they actually covered the water valves and then they had to go back and dig them up, and instead of digging the whole thing across, they made a patch. Okay and so the whole idea of fixing the street is not to have a patch. So that's why I want to thank Ms. LaVerne and Mr. Kindrick for acting quickly and they're going to remedy that problem and take that section out and completely repair the whole thing for it to look brand new again. Okay so I want to thank yawl for that. One thing I wanted to ask you, you have an update from the previous project? Remember we found that sinkhole on 27<sup>th</sup> Street?"

Verdell Kindrick stated, "No we haven't..."

Councilman Madere interrupting asked, "Having any feedback from them yet?"

Verdell Kindrick stated, "Daron still working on those issues that was brought to our attention."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right, and I and I you know I think that company there you know they need to get out here quick, you know it took them 3 years to get out of here, okay no they have a sinkhole developing and I want to hold them accountable for that sinkhole because I think we may have some more with that sand. Okay so I want to make sure they don't get away. And I think the obligation run out in October or something I think?"

Verdell Kindrick stated, "Yeah they have a whole year, right."

Councilman Madere stated, "A whole year okay, I just want to make sure we take care of that before they get out here. Okay?"

Verdell Kindrick stated, "Correct."

Councilman Madere stated, "Thank you, that's it."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Mr. Kindrick, I mean yeah Landeche Lane they did a good job, cause I think that's right District IV and Kurt and I split that Lane. It's really a short lane, like from that wall to that wall, it's not that long but did a good job on it, its not long. But Mr. Madere said something, when we come across these valves cause he and I talked about it. When we come across these valves and we not know the area we dig them up and see them, don't we would respond or send something to Rebecca so see could put that in the system, so we know next time? Isn't that done?"

Verdell Kindrick stated, "Yeah, we're going take care of that."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Ok good, that's what I want know. Thank you."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yeah, I'm sorry Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to say, what Mr. Perrilloux is saying is exactly right, but what I was referring to was valves that we already know was there, okay? And they wouldn't clearly mark them and the contractor went over it. So that's why I called them a 50/50 split, cause they should have seen that themselves before they asphalt it. You know I think Utilities should have got out there and actually put a red (X) mark or something there. Okay now I think what Mr. Perrilloux is referring to is when we find additional valves that have been lost, we need to document those. I think that's what he's saying, but I don't want cover up any existing valves."

Verdell Kindrick stated, "Correct."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right ok!"

Councilman Becnel stated, "Listen, I want to thank you for a job well done on the West Bank, but we have one exception then I need six and I appreciate what Ms. LaVerne told me, and it would be in everyone's best interest and this Administration in the Parish interest, cause it's a road that cuts across in front a resident. And that's where we go to this lift station or whatever and we use it on a daily basis and the tire marks are going in one of those resident's yard, and it's cutting up that road. So I hope and pray, that we find some money to fix this, I mean to just asphalt that area. I do understand we might be over budgeted, but take that into serious consideration, because we need to take this opportunity right now and do this because all it's going to do is; we're going to come back do hot mix and so let's get this thing asphalted as we can. I appreciate the effort you're making Ms. Toombs. You said when Ms. Robottom come yawl will have that discussion?"

LaVerne Toombs stated, "Uhhh."

Councilman Becnel stated, "So I just want to let it/put it on record that we really need to do this."

Verdell Kindrick stated, "Yeah well we're talking about it on a daily basis. We're going to try and get it done."

Councilman Becnel stated, "Ok well like I said, just you know...just wanted to put it out there."

Councilman Madere stated, "Thank you."

**Jaclyn Hotard - Junk yards/abandoned vehicles in Division B**

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Thank you Councilman Madere, and I passed out the pictures, I'm sure Alex has seen it. And this is actually the front of the truck here, you can see the grass that's growing around the tires and the vehicle. And the second page is the trailer that is attached and these are the pictures here (holding photos up to show) I guess for the public. And this location has been one, I mean I've had this on the agenda I think for years, and at one time I believe the resident was moving or something, but that's been years, and I passed over maybe two (2) weeks ago at the home and this is what's in front. And I was told that this is currently not in any violation of any Ordinance, any code that the parish has. So I just want to express on Administration that if this isn't in violation of anything, then make a recommendation to us that will allow us to take care of this. Because I promise you, that if you park a vehicle looking like this for the period of time that it's been sitting like this in St. Charles Parish, or in Jefferson, you're going to be in/you're going to have problems on your hands. And nobody wants to be living next to this with the grass that high around the truck. So if it's correct that there's nothing that we can do about this, there's nothing in our code that will claim that this is unsafe, un-hazard, a nuisance, anything like that, then come to us with a recommendation to make sure that something like this. To me this is a worst case scenario, you know a vehicle that maybe is unsightly, two (2) flat tires okay this, is not even close to that. So I don't know if you have any comments you want to add, but definitely if we can't do anything about this, we got to figure out what we can put in our ordinances, and I know that if anybody knows better about how to make our ordinances deal with something like this, it's you! But...

Alex Carter stated, "I have good news for you okay! So, I actually have a stack of inspections from the last year, we've inspected this site 27 times, since July 2017, and I can pass it around if yawl want. But the first picture we have from the last inspection is actually matching what you have. So we know, we had previously tried to write this up or process it as a zoning violation cause we had complaints that it was a mechanic shop. Every other week we would inspect it to see if we document evidence of a mechanic shop working. It's really difficult to prove that. We still went every other week to check. Knowing that it was a nuisance, we actually addressed it in the parking study. So it wasn't just the complaints from you, we also received complaints from Councilman Snyder, Councilman Perrilloux, Councilman Wright, dealing with parking in residential districts generally. So over parking residential sites, heavy commercial vehicles, parking in residential districts, so with the parking study, we actually included definitions for vehicles that included: boats, trailers, anything that moved on wheels, and we included a prohibition on heavy commercial vehicles, so that big trailer that you show, that would be something that would be prohibited. And then also included a prohibition that said, look you can't have more than 75% of your property that's visible from the street, occupied by parked cars because that's essentially a temporary parking lot or an informal parking lot, not rating in a residential district that's designed primarily for single family homes. So looking at it from a use perspective, we don't want informal parking lots throughout our residential districts. And like you were saying, these aren't really junked vehicles but they are stored long term, or short term on residential sites. So we have that in affect as of yesterday, so the parking study was approved at the last ~~Planning~~ at the last Council Meeting, we've met or contacted Jackie and find out you know, it's effective 5 days after it's been in the paper. So this week we have a list of sites that are similar positions as this but we're aware of this one as well, that we're going to look at and evaluate against the new code. So it's already been done, I think we can address it with this, this particular site has had a range of either 9 to 12 to 4 to 3, it shifts how many cars are on site, so...but I do have some additional

information about in terms of the actual property ownership that may be changing, but I won't put that on the public record. But we are aware of it, I'm happy to say that we are going to be able to address it as of yesterday, so this week we're focusing on that, and if any of you all are aware of similar sites, let us know because previously you really weren't able to address it. But we did look at it in the parking study."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Alex let me ask this. So with just what's being stored in here, why can't we address this under junk yards and things like that? I mean as far as tires, empty gas cans, it's been sitting there, you know I don't know, I passed it over a month like, why do we have to only attack this from that perspective? Because let's say this was just a trailer with this in there and there wasn't a vehicle or it didn't cover 75% of the front yard like; why wouldn't just this in itself in the front yard just stagnant sitting there, not even be covered under junk yard, something like that?"

Alex Carter stated, "Junk yards typically are like really over run with like trash, debris, barrels, grass growing, old machinery, old cars, junk..."

Councilwoman Hotard interrupting stated, "I almost need a picture example, because everything you said..."

Alex Carter interrupting stated, "I can do that, I'll do that for you..."

Councilwoman Hotard interrupting stated, "Is what is in this yard. Everything that you just said is right here in this lawn."

Alex Carter stated, "And what we have documented are a series of cars and vehicles that over park the site and then have like three (3) cars one week, four (4) cars the next week, twelve (12) cars the next week, and we always approached it as a mechanic shop. Junk yards are like land uses, they're selling and storing like hoarders, you know and so it's a different classification, trash is a different thing to. And there are minor and major cases that we address and we have been addressing. But this particular case, it is written up for high grass, so it should be caught relatively seeming by the property owner or the contractor, but you know we are aware of it, we've been monitoring it for some time now and I'm relieved to see that you know yawl approved the parking study and will be able to look at it from a different angle."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "So will that parking study allow it to enforce this from a code perspective?"

Alex Carter stated, "It's my understanding that we will be able to."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Ok. Keep us posted with this, because like I said, if this was is, if we don't have anything on the books that can do anything with this and/or if the implementation of the parking change/parking study changes don't allow us to, then we know we need to get something in place to..."

Alex Carter stated, "Now that I know you have an interest in this, I'm more than happy to keep you informed on this one."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Ok thank you."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "And I want to thank Ms. Hotard for putting that on that it, because Ms. Carter and I had a discussion today with some of these items

and that's what I wanted. Some teeth in the Ordinance that we can adopt and say go after it and make another tune sweet. Because I told you I got a potential on Tiffany Drive in New Era, and plus Grove Park in the Grove. I don't want it to get worse, so we need to correct that. And over by the Sonic by, I think that's Longwood in that area, you may pictures of that. That's a potential there to as a mechanic shop. So whatever you want to bring to the Council to adopt to correct that, let's do it! Because we need to clean-up the parish, taxpayers don't need to live aside these problematic areas. People storing these junky cars all day. Keep us posted."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Ms. Alex, and Ms. Hotard thank you. Just so happened today, I don't know if this is the same place, I was talking to a guy he say, why do you guys make rules that we can't, that you can't haul junk cars anymore? I said what you mean? We didn't do that! We did something better than that you know! He said, no he went to the Code Enforcement Office and they told him that as long as the car got air in the tires, you can store it there as long as you want to."

Alex Carter stated, "I would caution against..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "He said, the Council they told him the Council did that."

Alex Carter stated, "You know how many people have you talked to and how does that message change since the original speaker. You know we try to emphasize to the public that there are many characteristics of a junk car, it could be burnt, it could be rusted, it can have a broken window, a flat tire, a could be just abandoned for a series of days, and so it yeah it can it could be as simple as a flat tire, it could be as complicated as a complete wrecked vehicle parked in your front yard. And there are different ways of approaching them in the Code based on circumstances. So if you just got in a wreck and you parked your car in the driveway, we're going to give you 7 days to figure out what to do with it. Right, but if you have a vehicle repairs that you're working on, on your own car, we'll give you 7 days. But after 7 days you got to put the jacks away and you got to find somewhere to put it. You know so, there's different ways of approaching it but there are, and I can send you know if there's someone in the public that's wants to know more about junk vehicle ordinance, there is a common questions and answers on the website, that says about junk vehicles, I would direct them to that and it has the definition of a junk vehicle on it, and you know we do get a lot of complaints or questions about, like you know what if my car is just a little bit rusted, does that mean it's junk there's just a couple of spots, then no! But if it's really rusted, yes! And it deals with blight, right! The end goal is that, we don't want someone to drive down the street and notice something that would degrade the character of the neighborhood."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I think I really think that the only way to get around this is to tag them, give them a ticket put it on their water bill."

Alex Carter stated, "Oh wait well that's impossible."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I'd love to see it happen. That's the only way this thing is going to work. You know we can make all the laws we want to, but if I put a tag on that car, if I warn you one time, the next time I put a tag on it you're going to see it on your water bill."

Alex Carter stated, "Yawl aren't going to convince me to touch the water bill."

Councilman Madere stated, "Nobody want to mess with water right now."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Just one more comment please Alex. Our Ordinance, does it cover 18-Wheeler Cabs storing in neighborhoods overnight? You need to enforce that."

Alex Carter stated, "It does. Anything with a modified body, heavy commercial vehicle, it deals with height, length that would be over 7 feet, yes!"

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Well I think we need to change our Code Enforcement Officer may be able to work a few days a week or maybe one day a week 4:30-8:30. Cause they'll store it at that time after you get off and pass through the neighborhood, 4:30-8:30, maybe once a week a Code Officer should do that."

Alex Carter stated, "We'll put our heads together and see how we can manage that better."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Yes, because 18-Wheelers are being stored in neighborhoods, and it shouldn't be."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Yes, since we're on abandoned vehicles, when a vehicle is towed away, we pay for the storage of that vehicle?"

Alex Carter stated, "We do not, we do not. So the tow truck company they're under like the state statutes on how they have to operate, pick-up, notify the property owner of the vehicle, where it is, any tow expenses, if it's not claimed they have to follow a specific procedure on how to discharge the vehicle. So we don't pay towing rates, the only thing the parish really manages is the fines, and the fines and the penalties associated with having it being in violation. The tow truck company is responsible for communicating to people whose vehicles are towed, what that rate might be, and what the cost of recovering the vehicle will be with them."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Thank you."

Councilman Madere stated, "On that property Ms. Hotard showed you, you said it was written up how many times?"

Alex Carter stated, "It wasn't written up. It was inspected."

Councilman Madere stated, "Inspected. Okay so...inspected for what?"

Alex Carter stated, "It was inspected, we were monitoring it for a mechanic shop for a zoning violation potentially. Which..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "Okay so, my question is: We don't have an Ordinance about trash and blight? Cause this thing definitely is trash and blight."

Alex Carter stated, "What I can speak to is what's in the actual inspection reports..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "Well what I'm saying is, if a Code Enforcement goes out there, they should be able to recognize trash and blight. Okay so they went out there possibly looking at a mechanic shop and you see blight and trash, why didn't you write that up? Okay you see what I'm saying,

don't go over there, don't go out there riding blind, just because they say somebody say about grass and you pass by blight, or you pass by an abandoned vehicle. You see something and it's a violation, you stop and write it up. Okay now that thing was written up 26 times and it's clearly trash it's clearly blight, they should have been written up for that to on that spot!"

LaVerne Toombs stated, "You wouldn't have a blight car sitting..."

Alex Carter stated, "Right! And I'll just speak in generally, most of the inspections that I'm seeing are just pictures of the cars parked in the driveway and there really isn't any trash on the site. When there was high grass it was recently written up, but I will make sure that our Inspectors are reminded that, should the complaint be about one thing, they shouldn't be ignoring potential violations while they're at the site."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yeah show them this picture and show them what trash look like. Just one other thing to, I making like a comment like those abandoned cars and junk vehicles. Okay the only one that complains about this rule, are the ones who actually have the junk vehicles and the trash. Okay, the people who are law abiding citizens that don't have, that don't break these laws, they don't complain. The ones who's complaining about the law are the ones who are actually breaking the law. Okay and I had one person told me, he understand it's his property, and I said yeah but you don't own the property next door, or the one across the street from you. So those people don't have to live the way you want to live. Okay and this whole thing is about making the Parish better! Okay and we have two (2) times a year when we have parish wide clean-up. Okay so it shouldn't be just twice a year, its everyday! It's an everyday process. Okay and I definitely agree with Mr. Perrilloux about those 18-wheelers, okay I just had some streets that we fixed in my District, and it's made for SUV's, cars, ambulance, police cars okay, but not 18-wheelers. Okay thank you."

Councilman Perrilloux excused himself from the meeting at 7:46 PM.

**Thomas Malik - Discussion regarding the terms and conditions of the proposed low interest loan, including the payback**

Robert Figuero stated, "Thank you Councilman. Through the LDEQ Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) program, the Parish has been pre-approved for up to \$6M in a low interest loan for new Smart Meter Technology with Leak Detection. It is a 20-year loan at an interest rate of 0.95%. It will be repaid through the 1% sales tax with annual principal and interest payments of \$330,840. Once a decision is made to move forward and the site certificate is signed by the DA's Office, the loan application for closing will be submitted. Once the loan is closed, the project can be advertised for bid. Principal and interest payments on the loan begin two years after closing. Only interest payments will be due for the first two years."

Councilman Malik stated, "Thank you very much for that, at 1700 today we had a meeting specifically on this, however, there's still a lot of people that wouldn't have been able to get home in time to watch it, but I just wanted to have the Administration read that in, just to answer any questions. And more specifically, what the length of the loan and the interest rate, what the interest rates are. I appreciate that, thank you very much sir."

Robert Figuero stated, "I just for further clarification, this is a current tax. I know we had that question earlier in the workshop, this is not a new tax this

is a current tax that is currently in place."

**Julia Remondet/Larry Sorapuru - Update from the Parish Engineer on canal permits**

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "Yes I'd like for Mr. Joseph to step forward and give us a report on that please."

Joseph Savoie stated, "Well I am finally pleased to announce to you that we have obtained the necessary permits for the Canal snagging and clearing. That is both the Army Corp of Engineer permit and the Department of Natural Resources permit. That is for the 36 canals listed for clearing and snagging. I have also obtained the Department of Natural Resources permit for the 6 canals that under dredging. I am received correspondence late this evening about 4:30, I checked my email I had gotten a response back from the Army Corp of Engineers, regarding that permit and they said they are working on it, and it should be issued shortly. They did not indicate a time, but she did say she would get back to me within the next couple of days. So I'm anxious to await that permit, but to let you know we do have the permits, and we are ready to move forward as far as anything (in other words) parish canal move forward with prioritizing and then of course, budgeting and all would have to be set before anything could be done. But the permitting is in place."

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "Thank you. Ms. LaVerne, just wanted to ask about that, can we, we have the equipment to do most of this ourselves, don't we?"

LaVerne Toombs stated, "Well as a matter of fact, Mr. Savoie and I had that conversation earlier today, and so what we're going to do is meet and look at the you know the canals, prioritize, and evaluate what equipment that may be able to do it in house, if not, then we have to look at going outside for it, maybe bid out a contract for the services could be done."

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "Ok."

LaVerne Toombs stated, "Well hopefully we will get together soon, and of course we'll keep you all involved and to what's going on."

Joseph Savoie stated, "And we will be meeting with Administration as there are some stipulations in the permits with regards to certain equipment being used, and if the parish does not have that equipment available or the manpower available to meet those requirements within the permit, then it would have to be contracted out, either by bid or some type of selection process."

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "I know the last time we dredged canals, I believe there was an issue with what the floods that came out of it, what we could do with it, I think there was problems with that in the District II area, so."

Joseph Savoie stated, "Correct. And that's all addressed in the permits themselves..."

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "Ok."

Joseph Savoie stated, "I will let you all know these permits are good for a period of 5 years from the day of issuance, which I believe they dated them (I'll double check) but I believe the actual dates that they put on them was June 6<sup>th</sup>, so they're good for a period of 5 years from them, it is recommended that you allow Administration to pursue extensions once you hit the 4 year period. These

permits can be extended multiple times, and therefore you don't have to keep going through this process. But you must request the extension prior to 6 months of their expiration or you're then forced to go through the entire permit process again. And one of the reasons we wanted to do it this way is that we now have only 2 permits to track for all the canals that are listed. And I will keep you updated, I copied you on the email that I received late this evening, as soon as I have approval on their remainder I will let you know."

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "Ok thank you."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Joseph you touched on my next question, when you mentioned about the equipment that we're going to need?"

Joseph Savoie stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I think rules then changed on that a little bit? What are the news rules as far as the equipment we can use? "

Joseph Savoie stated, "It varies, because it depends on the actual canal depth itself on specific canals where either only clearing and snagging is done, and if it's in a heavily wooded or heavily wetland area, they want only specific types of vehicles, whether that be a type of floatable marsh buggy, is listed in some instances on canals where dredging is to be done, they're saying that it has to be done by a barge floated in, in other words they don't necessarily want a tracked vehicle going through the woods per say, for these particular permits they did ask that we indicate specific access routes for equipment to get in and out, as well as loading sites or removing of the material (as Ms. Remondet said). So there's some specific stipulations that they have now put on these permits. All within reason I think to get it done, but they just don't want to allow you to say, okay I'm going to take Canal A over here and I'm going to approach it from any and all angles and just to get it done, they want a specific in and out to getting to that canal, as well as minimizing the impacts you do when you clear and digging."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well most of our inland, inland canals, what category would you think at this time what they might come under? Like for instance, like the Vicknair Canal, Lasseigne Canal, or Haydel Canal..."

Joseph Savoie stated, "Well the two (2) basic stipulations that they put in here in general overall is; they don't want on the clearing and snagging, they basically want that by a floatable excavating machine..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting asked, "Is cleaning and snagging?"

Joseph Savoie stated, "Yes clearing and snagging, yes sir. Generally they want that done by a floatable excavator to come in the canal and bank, they would have simply have a specific area to bank the spoils, load them and then haul it out via the access route, indicated as well as we have loading sites indicated. On the dredging canals they specify that it can be done with a floatable excavator and/or a barge, as long as the depth of that set barge doesn't exceed a certain amount. I believe in this case it's about, I want to say somewhere around two and a half foot of draft of the actual barge itself that nature. That's the two (2) general stipulations that they've placed on us in this case, but that's typical for these types of permits and dredging of this type or even clearing an excavation of this type."

Councilman Snyder stated, "So the excavator itself got to be on a barge?"

Joseph Savoie stated, "Yes in some cases, but if it's a what they consider like I said, a floatable excavator, that's a tracked machine that actually can enter the canal and float into the canal itself and once they get to the point where they want to dredge, they basically fill the barge with water, it sinks to stabilize itself and then it does the excavation in that manner."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Okay and the reason why I was asking this question I know we're in the market for a machine, and I think we got bids out or we've got the bid...Am I right here somebody? Public Works, a marsh buggy or something like that?"

LaVerne Toombs stated, "No, not for the marsh buggy we did that for the bucket truck."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well the bucket truck, okay well that marsh buggy. Okay because I understand we was thinking about getting another one of those or a large one."

LaVerne Toombs stated, "Yes that is correct."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Okay, so I guess we're going to keep all that in mind though, you know with these permits if we got 5 years on them and you I guess when we get the bang for the biggest buck, as far as which one we're going get..."

LaVerne Toombs interrupting stated, "Mr. Kindrick and I and Purchasing & Procurement Director, looked at some marsh buggies, of course it was kind of new at what we were looking at because it's an excavator and marsh buggy and the way he explained it, and Mr. Kindrick you can come in elaborate a little bit more if you like. In reference to what Joseph is talking about is particular machine actually floats, but it is quite expensive, so I've not really, I can't remember how much, but it is a very pricey piece of equipment."

Joseph Savoie stated, "As Ms. Toombs indicated, that's something when we meet with him to prioritize the canals we can indicate which ones you know, which ones and if the parish has the manpower or equipment to do the work, then fine, we can prioritize it that way if it's something that they deem and they don't have the manpower nor the facilities to do the dredging and that's something we can categorizes, that wouldn't have to be bid out."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well I understand that, but I'm saying we're about we're looking at buying a marsh buggy, and I want to be sure we can get something we can use with these canals, we got 5 years on them, then we got to do some more the next 10 years, we still got use the same under the same rules, as far as that is concerned with the buggies themselves."

Joseph Savoie stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Just make sure you know, get the biggest bang for our buck that's all."

LaVerne Toonbs stated, "Yeah the marsh buggy from my understanding and the excavator together would be almost a lil bit, almost Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000)."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Yes Joseph you said canals, what are the 6 canals?"

Joseph Savoie stated, "I apologize, I don't have those 6 canals with me tonight, but I will get them and email them to you I'll email it to you. I have a list of the 36, I can call those out if you like."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Ok."

Joseph Savoie stated, "I'd be remised to say yeah I've got..."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Okay I understand."

Joseph Savoie stated, "I've got 47 names in my head, so to tell you which one of those 6..."

Councilman Sorapuru interrupting asked, "And those were pending for approval pretty soon?"

Joseph Savoie stated, "They are pending approval from the Corp only at this point. We have approvals from DNR in place."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "Okay and you have any estimate number what it's going to cost to dredge those canals?"

Joseph Savoie stated, "At this time no I do not."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "So who's going to be responsible for doing the overall spec on dredging?"

Joseph Savoie stated, "That's going to be something that once we meet with Administration, they can make that decision."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "Okay, have Pontchartrain Levee Basin ever assisted us in dredging canals since you've been here?"

Joseph Savoie stated, "They have done so in the past."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "So we could look at possibly partnership with Pontchartrain to do some of that work without going out for public bids to save some money?"

Joseph Savoie stated, "I don't see why that couldn't be requested..."

Councilman Sorapuru interrupting stated, "I'm asking I don't know because this is my first rodeo."

Joseph Savoie stated, "It has been requested and done, and partner shipped with the Levee District in the past, yes."

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

**Larry Sorapuru - Request all RFP and Bid Documents to be reviewed and approved by Legal Counsel and Council before publication**

LaVerne Toombs stated, "Thank you Mr. Chair. These are functions of the Executive Branch, specifically the Director of Purchasing and Procurement and any

additional reviews would only serve to complicate and delay an already lengthy process. When needed, guidance is requested and provided by state agencies whose job is to provide that guidance. The DA's Office is one of three options for providing legal advice to Parish Government and that role does not include approval or disapproval of Administrative operations and procedures. There is a need for someone other than existing department staff who works cooperatively with Administration on a daily basis to draft or amend legal documents, resolutions, and ordinances. If you are attempting to assist Administration, creation of a Legal Department or approval of full-time special counsel to provide legal guidance to the Executive Branch would go a long way toward facilitating the work being done for the Parish. As previously noted, the amount of work required to conduct the business of the Parish has increased and requires a full-time person who could provide more time and effort on a regular basis. We will gladly draft a job description or compile a list of duties and responsibilities needed to provide legal guidance on a daily basis."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "The reason I put this on and I need to make sure we fully, everybody fully understand, this is not just because the grass contract was rescinded. I've been wanting to put this on for a number of times, but the RFP, I think as Councilman we are asked to vote on RFP, I think we should have some input, I think we're the ones that's talking to ~~the~~ some of the business people that's putting bids in, some of the people that want to do work the parish and the community, I think we should have some input and I'm not saying legal is going to tell us what's right or not right, I think it's just a guidance, it's a way of having some input and a form of unity within the Administration and this Council. I'd like to submit a motion that we give Administration direction to carry out these orders."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "He needs to get a second, or it fails for lack of a second."

Councilman Madere stated, "I have a motion on the floor by Mr. Sorapuru, okay...well that motion fails for a lack of a second. He wants discussion, he just want to discuss it."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "So, second and offer and have discussion and..."

Councilman Madere interrupting asked, "And still vote on it? Okay, so you want a second?"

Councilman Becnel stated, "Yeah I second."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay, for discussion? Second for discussion. Okay use your lights then."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Motion, was to give a directive to Administration, so the second cannot be for discussion. The second cannot you know be for discussion. The second can be to Mr. Larry's motion and then we discuss it, that would be proper, or just simply you know discuss it. But, if you have a motion on the floor you have to have a second, or some subsequent action to make that still a live motion."

Councilman Madere asked, "Yes so what it is that you want to do with it?"

Councilman Becnel stated, "I just wanted to add comments to it that's all."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "But after we second it we can have discussion, we don't need to vote on that motion. It would be proper to have a discussion first."

Councilman Madere stated, "Alright, so we have a discussion on it. Okay, Mr. Becnel."

Councilman Becnel stated, "Okay no, what I wanted to say is to with all due respect to Administration. It's not Larry is saying we want input in it no, as far as business man as far as I'm concerned, I think he just wanted us to like if you send the RFQ out or RFP, for the grass cutting, just let us review it. It's not like we're going to come and tell yawl; Hey, I think this clause is wrong that clause is wrong. I think it's just a right to let us just review it, that's all it's for, reviewing purpose. I guess, I guess like I say, I don't think input to much, cause I don't want to step on administration toes as far as how they do their business, but he just wanted us to have the right to just look at it before you put it out. I don't know, you understand or confused?"

LaVerne Toombs stated, "I'm not understanding. When you look at the RFP or bid if you would understand the actual RFP."

Councilman Becnel stated, "Yeah."

LaVerne Toombs stated, "To be able to make what decision, that's my question."

Councilman Becnel stated, "Well that's what I'm saying, yes."

LaVerne Toombs stated, "I don't understand that."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Thank you. I'm going to address that comment first, because I felt it was condescending, I didn't appreciate it (that's my personal opinion)..."

LaVerne Toombs interrupting stated, "Oh no it wasn't!"

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "However, when I read the RFP documents and the Bid Documents, I often times find the mistakes. And I knew that we were going to have issues with the grass cutting RFP, when it went out. Because I actually knew what I was looking at, and I would like to believe that my Council, fellow Council members do actually know what they're looking at, and if they are not sure about what a clause says in an RFP or a Bid Document, they can pick up the phone and find out. So to make the suggestion that if someone on this Council did review it, that you're not sure if you would understand and know what we're looking at, that's just my personal opinion that's condescending. I actually believe that the administration, not everybody, but some of the members of administration probably doesn't know what they're looking at. Because I find problems in some of those documents all the time, and especially as a member of the Contractors' Licensing Board, and I'm very familiar with bid processing, very familiar with RFP process, I see many errors. And I don't believe it falls on our Purchasing Director right now, because a lot of the documents we do have are old, and so it's kind of reissuing some of those documents, but many of them are problematic. Grass cutting was just a scratch on the surface of all the problems and you know I'll leave that there. One of the questions I have and Councilman Sorapuru to your motion, the reason why I can't really support that motion as it stands, I don't really, I think adding a layer of us having to actually review, not review but approve a bid document, I think that would be a little bit cumbersome, we do

authorize the documents, every RFP and every bid document we authorize it. The good thing about Bid Documents, is they do have I guess a check and balance system, that if you do have errors or flaws in your Bid Documents, low bidders and second, everybody who's in the process has a right of a protest, if you will to challenge Bid Documents so there's a good check and balance. I think, I don't remember who it was, it may have even been mine a couple of years ago, introduced the Motion or the Resolution requiring Administration to actually get our approval before RFP's go out. So for a while we were always approving the RFP's to go out, then the Administration had discontinued seeking council approval and I believe it was my resolution, my ordinance, requiring them to come back them to come back to us to approve RFP's going out. That puts the council on notice; hey we got an RFP coming, you need to take a look at the Bid Document, I mean the RFP documents and if you see some problems in it then you can you know maybe talk to Administration about it. The good thing about Bid Documents is that, they're always required to come to us, we always have to authorize Bids. So whether is Bids and RFP's, we automatically have to do that. So requiring that extra step, especially if it's something routine like chemicals and things like that, we don't want hold up these annual bids on making us have to approve you know all of those documents when we actually authorize them to all go out, I think it's an extra step. Having Legal involved, I think it's a good option, it says here that the DA's Office is one of 3 options for providing legal, (I didn't know we had two other options for legal, but I'm sure Administration could answer that), and then secondly where it says here that if we are attempting to assist Administration in creation of a Legal Department, I just want to let the Council members know, and especially new Council members, the Charter is something else I do understand very well. The creation of a Legal Department would be the creation of a true department. And so, if the Council chose to do that, we would also get a Department Head at the Head of that Department, which would be a recommendation by the Administration, we would confirm a Department Head. The reason why we've never really done that, is because then could set-up a system where you have a Legal Department, the Head of the Legal Department, who is a member of Administration and we've always wanted to have Legal representation that wasn't bias. Naturally the way that our system is set up from the United States Government all the way down, is you obviously have a check and balance system. You've got a Legislative checking your Executive and checking your Judicial, to keep everybody in line. If you have your Legal Advisors to the Parish, Rep higher by and representing Administration, then I believe you lose some of that check and balance (it's my personal opinion), and that is what creating a Legal Department would do. Make it like Department of Public Works, Department of Human Resources same thing. What Administration could do, and they know this because the Council has done it! If they truly believe that they need to hire a Legal Counsel for one specific purpose, if it's drafting of contracts, the proper thing to do would be: come to the Council and ask for us to hire Legal Counsel for one specific delineated purpose. It could be drafting contracts, they would still work in conjunction with the District Attorney's Office, I'm not saying this is the way to go, I know that Administration knows all of the processes that are available. However creating a Legal Department, would be a disaster, okay because of the way it would have to be created. So I just wanted to give that background as well, but you can also if there's one limited specific purpose that you need legal assistance with, that option is available as well. So then you know that this person can only assist in drafting up the contracts, if Administration believes that this is where they need some day to day assistance on. So I just want to throw that out there but before I finish, if Ms. Toombs can answer the other two legal options that they have for providing Legal Advice. What are your other two options?"

LaVerne Toombs stated, "Sure, before I answer that question Councilwoman Hotard, you know I'm very respectful and I did not mean that to be condescending, I carry myself in a very professional manner and I respect those that are in authority. What I meant by that and in a way of belittling anyone intellect, basically is to say that the RFP Bid process is very difficult. If you don't do this on a daily basis you may not understand the documentation that you have in front of you. I did not mean that to say that you or your colleagues aren't knowledgeable or don't know the process, it is somewhat difficult, so that's my purpose for that comment. In reference to your question, the other options is that we do follow the Public Bid Law, so if we have some questions regarding that, we do call the State Agencies. We also work with a number of Federal Agencies as you are well aware, like CDBG and LCDBG, there's a process there, so if we don't understand, there's also policies there, so if we don't understand we also reach out to those agencies as well to give us some guidance. So that's, I believe in reference to those two options, that's what I meant."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "To follow-up with that and I'm not certain, maybe that'll be a question for our actual Legal Advisor. It says here that, that's one of the three options for providing legal advice. I'm not sure if state agencies or any other agency can provide legal advice to the Parish. That would be something I'd lean on our District Attorney's Office. Can they advise you as to what language needs to be in a document those types of things, but legal advice, I don't believe you can get any legal advice from anyone other than the actual legal authority of St. John the Baptist Parish."

LaVerne Toombs stated, "And I believe that the legal advice that we've received previously from State Agencies and Federal Agencies we have forwarded that to the DA's Office for their review."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Thank you."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay I'd like to thank Ms. Hotard for clearing that up for everyone. And as far as that Legal Department, she's absolutely right, you want to create another department because that department would be under control of Administration. Because as like all departments, Public Works, as a department the Parish President has complete control over those departments as far as the day to day operations of it. So adding a Legal Department would be in conflict of the Charter. Okay cause your Legal Department is separate from Administration, so that's going to be the problem with having a Legal Department."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "And I just want to clarify my intent and what I mean, I'm only asking something so very simple for review of the RFP before it goes out and have Legal to review it. Now we got all the technology in the world, every Tuesday before I come to this Council meeting I get almost a thousand (1,000) emails of information that's going back and forth to Administration, Legal and everybody else, or I got to take a half of day to read up on some of this stuff. And you mean to tell me we can't as a Governing Authority here, that we can't look at and review documents and give you some comments, we need to shut this whole operation down. I didn't ask for a Legal Department, I asked for a simple review of a document. Once document, whatever RFP, whatever bid go out, to give us that consideration. I'm not trying to direct somebody how to do a job, I'm asking for input, that's all I'm asking for."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I guess I'm the last one to speak on this right? Appreciate that. You know Mr. Sorapuru was talking to me about this earlier today before the meeting start, and the first thing I thought about was the fact that

the problem we got with Royal Engineering right now. I don't know if it's been brought up. Why do we have problems with them because of RFP system? Our RFP say for 5 years we give them a 6 year contract. So now we got people sitting out there, can't get their house fix because we don't have anybody to facilitate the program. Because of what? The RFP! So just keep that in mind when Mr. Sorapuru with what he's trying to ask us here. We can look at it, we can make sure things are in order but I think it might be good for our legal people to just look at it and make sure things are where they're supposed to be and we're saying what we want to say. And we might not of have gotten that problem with Royal Engineers that we have right now going on right now. So I agree with you, we can look at those things and why not?"

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Just really quick, and I agree with that and Mr. Sorapuru we do get all of the RFP documents and the Bid Documents before they go out. The only concern I would have is that if the Council has to actually approve it, before it's gone out. It would take, we would have to yeah it would take so much time for us to approve those documents. But we do actually receive the RFP's and always the Bid Documents before they go out and as it stands right now, we have to authorize any RFP or Bid Document before it goes out. So you have all of that information available to you before it goes out now, we receive them."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Where do we receive them at?"

Councilman Madere stated, "Hold on, hold on, hold on. Let's not get out of hand. Okay, you're finish Ms. Hotard?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "I was just wondering if an RFP may have some specs in it, am I right? Don't they have specs in a RFP? Do we get the all the specs for everything we send our RFP's on? Maybe somebody, maybe either I read it and didn't know what I was reading."

LaVerne Toombs stated, "Thank you Councilman Chair. I agree with Councilwoman Hotard, our Purchasing Procurement Director always forward all that information over to the Council for your review."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Well then why are we having this issue then? With this, going out and get our own legal system? Why can't we just say that?"

LaVerne Toombs stated, "Well also Councilman, Mr. Green can elaborate on that conversation he and I had regarding this item. And we will welcome the DA's Office to review our RFP process as far as a templet, as he did in reference to our Professional Service Contract. Just to review it, make sure we are following it accordingly, legally. So he and I did talk about that briefly, we didn't come to any agreement but we did have that discussion."

Councilman Snyder asked, "So you're saying he could look at the templet?"

LaVerne Toombs stated, "He can create a templet that we can follow just as he did with the Professional Service Contract."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "We're getting RFP's before they go out or we get them after they go out? Or when at the same time, when they go out then we get a copy?"

LaVerne Toombs stated, "It is my understanding that the Purchasing Procurement Director forward the RFP's to the Council before you all/before the Council

meeting or before you make a decision."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Okay, that's where the snag is."

LaVerne Toombs stated, "That's before not after, before."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Well that I don't have enough time to look at before I vote on it that same day. I'm asking to look at, approve it, and able to look at it and approve it. And I'm asking this Council for a motion, right now!"

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "You got a motion!"

Councilman Madere stated, "Wait you have a motion. We have a motion already. Wait hold on. Let's just get everything straight before we move on with this motion. I think what she's trying to say is that, we receive it the same day of the meeting..."

Councilman Sorapuru interrupting stated, "Correct!"

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay, you would like to receive it before, before, like a week..."

Councilman Sorapuru interrupting stated, "Whenever it's completed. Whenever it's completed, send it to us before it goes out to the public."

LaVerne Toombs stated, "Councilman, no we forward that to you beforehand. And actually, and a lot of times it's in your council booklet. And so your Council Secretary gives your council booklet where you have all that information in there, prior to the council meetings."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Yes, I get the booklet on a Friday afternoon. We have a Council meeting Tuesday."

LaVerne Toombs stated, "Councilman again, you know when it comes to the RFP process, this is a very lengthy process putting this together. And in reference to getting the scope of work and it's just a very lengthy process. And so, we get it to you when we complete it. And so, when we get it to you on a Friday, of course with all due respect, we would hope that you would have an opportunity to review it over the weekend and be prepared for the Council meeting on Tuesday."

Councilman Madere stated, "Let me try and clarify that what you just said. Okay it's a lengthy process so when you finish it, I think what Mr. Sorapuru is trying to say (you can stop me if I'm wrong), the fact that let's just say you finish it on Thursday, and you give it to us that Friday and it's for the meeting that's coming up that Tuesday, he don't figure that's enough time. I think what he's trying to get a point is; he's trying to get at least 4 or 5 days before it come to the Council. I mean if you finish on a Thursday, and the next Council meeting is that Tuesday, what he's trying to say is, it shouldn't be on that agenda for that upcoming meeting, because it haven't given him enough time to look at it. Basically that's what you're trying to say?"

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Exactly."

Councilman Madere stated, "Exactly! So what he's saying is, if you finish on a Thursday, then he don't expect you to try and pass that off to the Council that following meeting, which would be that Tuesday that following week. He would like

it to go to the next Council meeting."

LaVerne Toombs stated, "I can understand that as well. But again, you know we're trying to prepare for the next council meeting. So if we know there's a contract that or a RFP that is up, will take us at least 3 maybe take us 3 to 4 weeks to work on that RFP, based upon trying to get information. So again, we're trying to prepare for the next council meeting. And so of course we have a lot of other things going on, we have Bids going on, we got RFP's, RFQ's, I mean we having a quotes, all kinds of things that are going on in day to day operations. So again, we can try and get them as soon as we possibly can, but I can't make any guarantees that we can have it to him 3 days or 4 days before the next council meeting."

Councilman Wright stated, "Thank you. Mr. Sorapuru we already, I think it's more of again just reviewing, not approve. You said you wanted to put a motion in to approve, but we already have that authority when they come to us requesting it. And if the Council disagrees, we have the ability to amend before we even authorize them to send it out. So I think, you know I would be more incline to support the motion if it was more for review, but we already have that authority to approve. No we don't approve the actual document we authorize it, but we in essence are giving them an approval with a presented document. So we do have that authority to approve already. It's when we're authorizing Administration to solicit the RFP."

Councilman Malik stated, "The Administration sent out the grass cutting about 8 days ago to me, and I thought that was enough time. But my objection to it is, I think that this is this is the day to day running of the Administration, I think its irresponsibility. I don't think it's ours, I think that the process that we have now is sufficient and I think that it would bog the entire process down that it wouldn't move as quickly."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "And that's kind of where I was going. Many of the items that we do have on RFP and RFQ, I mean Bids, are just routine items. And if you look at the actual documents often times they're lengthy, but the scopes and things like that are the smaller portions. A lot of it is insurance requirements, and whatever, different E-verifying all these other Affidavits, Cooperate Resolutions and things like that. That's all standard. The scopes of work, it's really where the, you know the meat is you will in them. So asking to review them sooner, or having Administration when they do have them available, send them to us as soon, so we can review them but maybe understanding that what you actually have to read isn't as much as the entire document, I usually pull them all up online. But right, having a process where we have to approve RFP documents, or approve Bid documents would slowly, I mean it would pretty much take everything to a halt, so that would be a bit of a stretch. But requesting Administration to provide documents in a more, I don't even want to say more timely because sometimes it comes down to the end, or it could just be chlorine supplies, fuel, all this kind of stuff is the same thing from year to year."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Okay if that's the case, I'll withdraw my motion. I'd like to make an amended motion. I'd like to make a motion that we review all the RFP documents before they go out. To have Legal review the documents before they go out. Legal is not reviewing them before they go out! Legal! Can you come to the mic Mr. Keith?"

Keith Green stated, "Currently Legal does not review RFP's or RFQ's or any solicitations prior to the Administration advertising them."

Councilman Becnel stated, "Just in closing I just want to say you know with all due respect to everybody. But those RFP's, you know I deal with them on a daily basis with Fortune 500 Companies, and I think what we need to do is kind of like simplify some of these things. Because you see like this grass cutting one, I spotted that right away, right away. You're contradicting yourself, and you see when you got to keep doing addendums, that mean you didn't do it right the first time. Addendums, addendums, addendums means you don't know what you, I am not going to say you don't what you're doing but you didn't do it right. Cause you see that grass cutting thing, I spotted it right away. They had one clause said, you have to send your name, your address and a bid number and everything like that. Then the other clause said, make sure you send your name and the contract number. So you're contradicting yourself, so that's all Larry was saying. With us reviewing it, I can't tell the Administration what to do, but I be dog on if I wouldn't called and say, hey look yawl kind of like contradicting yawl self in certain things like that. And that's what I'm saying, I see these bids, I deal with Fortune 500 Companies and you know I'm not disrespecting nobody, I think Ms. Stewart is doing a great job, but even the Fortune 500 Companies we're dealing with now got the new system called (KISS), and that's not even insulting nobody. It's called 'Keep It Simple Stupid', and that's what you need to do. Simplify some of these things, and I'm not throwing this for the Administration, I'm just telling you. I went to a seminar a year ago, and it's called 'Keep It Simple Stupid'!"

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "And Ms. LaVerne, you know you said it was very lengthy, you know I'm thinking in terms of small business people out here trying to make a living and they got through that process. Let's like Mr. Becnel said, let's try to simplify it. If it's lengthy for them to go through it, it's lengthy for you to do it, take you 7 to 8 days, so I can digest it in 4 days if it takes you 8, that poor contractor got to go through all that. All I'm asking for is us to have another set of eyes and ears on what you're doing. And I mean I thought we were living in America, look like this is not America anymore."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay I think I'm a make a comment and maybe we need to try to close this out. I think what we're trying to get at right now is, possibly letting Legal also review it, okay and also like he said KISS and make it simple. Okay I think that's what we want right now, okay not necessary what, your first thing you made. I think we're adding Legal into it now, basically. Because right now, Legal do not review RFP's and RFQ's..."

Councilman Sorapuru interrupting stated, "Let's go back Mr. Madere. Um you know we have a lot of things that go on right now, and it's always good to get a second opinion, you go to the doctor you get a second opinion. Mr. Snyder made a good point, when Royal Engineers was hear trying to get together on this Grant thing here, I asked to halt the whole contract I asked to stop dead in the tracks. I didn't get one council member to support me on that. And where we're at right now? I'm asking us to stop, pause, and make simple like Mr. Becnel said, if we can't do that, well we don't need to be doing nothing in this community. If that's the way we want to operate, get going the way we're going, we're going back out for a grass cutting bid right now! That's all I'm asking for. Now we're all grown men and women here, and if we can't think like adults we're in trouble."

Councilman Madere stated, "First of all, okay I'm going to address that. Every council person is going to make their own decision on that. Okay and when they make that decision they're going to make that decision as an adult, and what they think is best. Okay so let's clarify that, okay everyone have a different opinion

about it. Okay Ms. Remondet."

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "I thought you wanted to use my maiden name, I wasn't sure. Okay I was just going to say, yet sometimes you're going to get it right and we're going to get it wrong. Everybody has those days when that happens, but to add another link and make an RFP go to the Attorneys who are already overwhelmed with our Legal Documents, I'm not saying RFP's aren't important, why burden them with another thing? We've never required a Legal opinion on an RFP, unless we're doing something that we shouldn't do. It should be within the guidance of the Administration to do those things. I don't want to do those things I've been on the inside. That's their job not our job. We do have that opportunity in the book, most of us are going to skim through these pages and look at that, all those little detail thing we're not going to read. Here Kurt said he caught things with the grass cutting, I read it I didn't really know, but I'm taking his opinion since he's dealt with that before. So to add another level of approval takes away the authority of the administration and ourselves. And I think there is a good space between us right now, you sometimes want that you want to approve every little thing? We'll never get Government moving ever! We'll be on dead center every time, it's burdensome enough, it's just an opinion but that's how I look at it."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay last comment and then we're going to take a motion/vote or whatever. Last comment is, Administration is responsible for the day to day operation of all these things we're talking about, RFP's, RFQ's. Okay that's they're job, okay our job is when they bring it to us either we're going to approve it or not approve it. That's when our authority come in, so we already have that authority to stop it, to stop it and say no, Okay we don't need to pump the brakes twice, we have the brakes and the ability to do it when they bring it to us. Now we don't want to get in there and start doing Ms. Robottom job for her, or anyone else job in their department. When they bring it to us then it's our turn to do our job if we see a problem 'Stop It', okay a make it go back. So already have that authority to stop it, okay so I don't think adding another set of brakes is going to change anything. We still have that authority as individual council people, if you see a problem or you don't think you had enough time, Stop It! And we can stop it with a simple vote at the Council meeting. Thank you."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "We have a motion and a second on the floor."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay and we have a motion and a second on the floor. Okay, no more questions?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Just explain to me what we're voting on here again."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay, Mr. Sorapuru you can do that better than I can."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "We're asking for a motion for all the RFP and Bids that go out, before they go out to the public, that we have a review draft to the Council and to Legal."

Councilman Madere asked, "Okay you heard what he said?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yes, so that's no approval or anything..."

Councilman Sorapuru interrupting stated, "No it's not approval it's not approval."

Councilman Snyder asked, "So if I see something on there, I can call Administration or if Legal see something that they can call Administration, but they don't necessarily have to call Administration? Is this the intent?"

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Yes!"

Councilman Madere stated, "Well hold on now!"

Councilman Snyder stated, "We don't have to approve it."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "I'm not asking for approval. I'm asking for a draft of the RFP for us to have before it goes out to the public."

Councilman Madere asked, "Okay don't we get that draft already?"

LaVerne Toombs stated, "Yes, yes, yes. May I ask a question?"

Councilman Madere asked, "So you want just legal to get that draft also?"

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "I want legal to get that draft also!"

LaVerne Toombs stated, "May I ask a question I'm not clear. In reference to the RFP, is he speaking of the actual document? I'm trying to...I'm not clear. Are you speaking of all the RFP's when people submit the RFP's, those are what you want legal to look at?"

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "RFP that you send out to the public."

LaVerne Toombs asked, "For them to submit their information? So the actual document itself?"

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Correct."

LaVerne Toombs stated, "Okay the actual document."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "I'm not asking for a Legal Department, I asked for a review of the documents. Now where the Legal Department came in Ms. LaVerne..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "But, well hold on. If legal review it, you expect a response from legal don't you? I mean cause it don't make any sense for them to look at and don't give us a response. Okay I mean why look at it, if they don't say yes or no? Okay I mean just look at it, if it go to legal they're going to have to say we approve it or disapprove it."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "That's basically what he's asking for."

Councilman Madere stated, "That's what you're asking for but you just said you..."

Councilman Sorapuru interrupting stated, "I'm asking legal to look at it, there's something legal sights in that document they can bring it to our attention for our approval or disapproval. But legal could you step up to the podium Mr. Green? If Administration sends you a document, an RFP or a Bid, and ask you to look at it and you see something that's not right in the document. What would you do?"

Keith Green stated, "I would shoot an email like we do currently..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "Like you do now!"

Keith Green stated, "To Administration and to the Council, just advising every one of what we see as potentially problematic and perspective remedy."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Okay thank you!"

Keith Green stated, "From what Mr. Sorapuru explained, it seems that we'd be looking at the actual documents that you all would advertise prior to them being advertised. So the actual solicitation, if I'm understanding you correctly."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Correct. So if there's a correction to an error..."

Councilman Madere interrupting asked, "So yawl don't look at that?"

Keith Green stated, "No we do not."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay so all he's asking is for yawl to look at it? Okay and just make a recommendation if it's...okay but once again, once again it's not an approval from you, it's just a recommendation that you may see something, just like your legal opinion."

Keith Green stated, "Correct, like with the contracts. Exactly..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "Just like with the contracts."

Keith Green stated, "I tell you, anything that legal has provided, when we look at it, we will give you feedback because we understand that that is the purpose that is our role."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Like what would be required that you all would have the time to digest it, give the feedback, make the recommendations, it could change, all of those types of things before we get out a simple RFP for fuel and chlorine, and concrete replacements. It seems like another unnecessary layer of bureaucracy."

Keith Green stated, "Now that part I don't know."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Right!"

Keith Green stated, "But I do know, if you all send it to us we will give you feedback. Now as far as the...of what sort of (how can I put this um) the weight that feedback is given, I mean that's strictly under the purview of the Council. You guys decide that."

LaVerne Toombs asked, "May I make another comment. I know the struggle that we're having now with contracts, and not that we're doing much better in getting contracts to the DA's Office in a timely manner for them to get back to us with an approval prior to Council meeting. So if we're having challenges just with contracts and trying to get that to them to get approval prior to a council meeting, I can only imagine what it would be like for RFP's, and Bids, and RFQ's."

Keith Green stated, "Well it isn't with contracts that we consistently wait for Administration to provide additional documentation, like we're doing now so I don't think fair assessment. You've already provided one option that we gave you

guys a templet and that is something we would definitely consider, we've given you all templets for contracts, but you seem to deviate from those as well, but that's beside the point. The point is, if the Council should decide that you're Legal Counsels are going to review your RFP documents, or RFQ's prior to your advertisement, then that's what we will do if they decide they don't want to that that, then we won't do it."

LaVerne Toombs stated, "If I can comment on Mr. Green's unnecessary comment. In reference (May I Mr. Chair?)"

Councilman Madere stated, "Yeah go head."

LaVerne Toombs stated, "Mr. Green, again you know I thought we were trying to work together and you know submit the documents to you and in a timely manner, in reference to what you just stated. A lot of times when we have to get information to you Mr. Green, we're waiting on other people to get it to us, so that we can get it to you. So it's not that we're being intentional in reference to not getting documents or not following the DA's instructions. The Parish President make it her business to make sure that we follow what the DA tells us to do. So I don't know where that's coming from."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "If the discussion is over, I definitely don't want us to get into that back you know, I will call for the..."

Keith Green interrupting stated, "Thank you."

Councilman Madere stated, "For the questions okay. So you can use your lights."

**MOTION:** Councilman Sorapururu moved and Councilman Becnel seconded the motion to direct Administration to have all the RFP and Bids that go out, before they go out to the public, that we have a review draft to the Council and to Legal. The motion failed with 3 yeas, 4 nays, 1 abstaining and 1 absent.

**MOTION:** Councilman Malik moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Cape Horn Investments, Inc. vs. St. John the Baptist Parish, Case #72013. The motion passed with Councilman Perrilloux absent.

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

There was no action taken as a result of executive session.

Councilwoman Hotard excused herself from the meeting at 8:59 PM.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Cape Horn Investments, Inc. vs. St. John the Baptist Parish, Case #72013

Parish Buildings - Security

Any and all pending legal matters

#### **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:**

**18-23** An ordinance approving the rezoning of property belonging to Perry M. Bailey et ux (proposed Tracts 1 and 2 of the Perry M. Bailey et ux Tract), located in the area generally bounded by

Hwy. 18, Hwy. 640, and East 4<sup>th</sup> St., containing municipal address 2293 Hwy. 18, Edgard, LA from the Residential District One (R-1) and Commercial District One (C-1) to the Commercial District Two (C-2) zoning district, as shown in Exhibit 1 attached (PZR-18-1107) (N. Robottom)

**18-24** An ordinance approving the resubdivision of property belonging to Perry M. Bailey et ux into Tracts 1 and 2 of the Perry M. Bailey et ux Tract, located in the area generally bounded by Hwy. 18, Hwy. 640, and East 4<sup>th</sup> St., containing municipal address 2293 Hwy. 18, Edgard, LA, as shown in a survey prepared by Kenneth L. Rembert, P.L.S. on April 17, 2018 (PZS-18-1190) (N. Robottom)

**18-25** An ordinance approving the rezoning of a portion of Lots A1, A2, A3, A4, B-1, and B-2 of the Bonnet Carre Crevasse Tract (proposed Lot A4-B), located in the area generally bounded by Jouty Ln., Hwy. 3217, Garden Gr., and Hwy. 628, LaPlace, LA from the Residential District Four (R-4) to the Commercial District Two (C-2) zoning district, with the exception of that portion of the Subject site that is within 100 feet of the property line Abutting Garden Grove, which is to remain zoned Residential District Four (R-4), as shown in Exhibit 1 attached (PZR-18-1105) (N. Robottom)

**18-26** An ordinance approving the re-subdivision of Lots A1, A2, A3, A4, B-1, and B-2 of the Bonnet Carre Crevasse Tract into Lot A4-B of the Bonnet Carre Crevasse Tract, located in the area generally bounded by Jouty Ln., Hwy. 3217, Garden Gr., and Hwy. 628, LaPlace, LA as shown in a survey prepared by Louis C. Hartmann, P.L.S. on March 29, 2018 (PZS-18-1189) (N. Robottom)

**PRESIDENT REPORT:**

LaVerne Toombs stated, "Good Evening. The Summer Food Service program for school aged children will run through July 20th, Mondays through Thursdays. Breakfast and lunch are being served at East St. John High School and Emily C. Watkins Elementary School, and lunch is served at Lake Pontchartrain Elementary School, New Wine Christian Fellowship and West St. John Elementary School. Breakfast is served from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and lunch is served from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. For more information or questions, please visit the Health & Human Service webpage or call (985)536-4955. Business owners and residents interested in starting a business, changing a business name, or moving business locations within the Parish, are advised to attend tomorrow's lunch and learn on Occupational Licenses. It will take place at the River Parishes Community College Media Center located at 181 Regal Park Road in Reserve from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM. Special thanks to Ms. Evelyn Cade Campo, CFM, Parish Floodplain Manager and Ms. Phyl Corman, Parish CRS Coordinator, for successfully facilitating the closeout of the Parish's Community Assistance Visit or CAV. Their diligent and thorough work has helped the Parish maintain full compliance with NFIP and continues the Parish's participation in the Community Rating System or CRS. As a direct result, policy holders will continue to receive premium discounts in recognition of the fact that the Parish is pursuing floodplain management efforts that are above and beyond the minimum criteria for NFIP. As we approach the hottest months of the year, we are asking that you prepare for the high temperatures that are anticipated in our region. We are also making preparations for our employees that work outdoors. Public Safety officials will continue actively monitor and advise of any and all heat advisories by the National Weather Service. Residents and

*businesses should learn about and watch for the symptoms of heat illnesses, and take proactive steps to protect yourself, fellow workers and others. We also want to remind everyone that Hurricane Season is here and everyone should finalize their hurricane plans. Please review your plans and go to our website to register to receive e-news releases and Emergency Notifications to your cell, email and text. Belle Terre Ramps closures are taking place through Friday. The project is slated to be complete in mid to late July. Also tomorrow, Wednesday, June 27th, 2018, alternating right and left lane closures will be in effect on Belle Terre Blvd. from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 a.m. (weather permitting), for asphalt work. Thank you for your patience and be mindful of the road work. The 13th Annual St. John Parish Veterans Luncheon will be held next Tuesday, July 3rd, at 11:00 a.m. at REGALA Gym in Reserve. A video tribute to pay homage to St. John's veterans and service members will be featured again this year during the luncheon. The video will also be played later that day during the televised broadcast of the Independence Day Fireworks Celebration. We hope you can join us for the 18th Annual Independence Day Celebration and firework show to be held on the evening of July 3rd on the grounds of the St. Peter Catholic Church, and the St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Edgard at 6:00 PM. The Televised broadcast will start at 7:00 PM. REMINDER - St. John Parish Government Offices will be closed on Wednesday, July 4th in Observance of Independence Day. We wish everyone a Happy Fourth of July and we hope to see you at our Independence Day Celebrations on Tuesday!*

**ADJOURNMENT :**

At 9:07 PM, Councilman Malik moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Perrilloux absent.

/s/Lennix Madere  
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche  
Council Secretary