

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, JULY 8th, 2014
CHAIRMAN MARVIN PERRILLOUX
VICE CHAIR MICHAEL WRIGHT

The Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session in the Rudolph Soraparu Chambers, Edgard, Louisiana on Tuesday, July 8th, 2014, at 6:30 PM.

CALL TO ORDER:

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

ABSENT: Ranney Wilson

Councilwoman Millet led the Prayer. Councilman Gauff led the Pledge.

Legal Counsel Jeff Perilloux and Carl Butler were present.

INTRODUCTION OF BUSINESSES

Lucien Gauff/Natalie Robottom - Proclamation - (Carry Over 6-10-14)
Judge Madeline Jasmine

Natalie Robottom and Lucien Gauff presented Judge Madeline Jasmine with a proclamation. All of the council members

Marvin Perrilloux/Eliza Eugene - Presentation - Blessed to be a blessing - back to school give away

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

Consent Agenda

Items: Approval of Minutes - June 24th, 2014, Regular Meeting; Permit Approval - Rising Star Baptist Church - Fun Walk/Run Saturday, July 12th beginning at 9:00 AM; Natalie Robottom - Appointment of James Wagner to the Civil Service Board

Councilwoman Hotard stated, *"I just wanted to have a point of clarification that I will be abstaining on this item. I would like to see the council at some point get a little involved in the Civil Service Board recommendations and we haven't done so with this appointment so I will be abstaining from this vote."*

MOTION: Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Snyder seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda consisting of Approval of Minutes - June 24th, 2014, Regular Meeting; Permit Approval - Rising Star Baptist Church - Fun Walk/Run Saturday, July 12th beginning at 9:00 AM; Natalie Robottom - Appointment of James Wagner to the Civil Service Board. The motion passed with 6 yeas, 1 abstaining (Hotard) and 2 absent (Gauff & Wilson).

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:

14-28 (Tabled 6-24-10) An ordinance for the adoption of the 2014 millage rates (N. Robottom)

The administration request this item remain tabled at this time.

14-31 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance to add the nomenclature "James T. Wilson, Sr." to the existing Balsam Street in LaPlace. (A. Smith)

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Gauff seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 14-31. The motion passed with Councilman Wilson absent.

14-32 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance granting approval to re-subdivide Lots 7, 8, & 9, Square 14, Glencoe Plantation into lots

herein designated as Lot 7A & 8A, Square 14, Glencoe Plantation situated in Sections 14 & 15, T-11-S, R-6-E, Garyville, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (PZS-14-1090) (N. Robottom)

Angelic Sutherland, Director of P&Z, stated, *"The Planning Commission approved this re-subdivision at its June 16th meeting and administration recommends approval."*

MOTION: Councilman Gauff moved and Councilman Smith seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 14-32. The motion passed with Councilman Wilson absent.

14-33 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance granting approval to further extend the valid period of time of Conditional Subdivision approval for an additional twelve (12) months for Belle Terre Commercial Subdivision, Phase 1, Parcel A, Lots 1-13, Parcel B, Lots 1-22, Parcel C, Lots 2-9, Parcel DS-4; Phase 2, Parcel B, Lots 23-49 and Parcel C, Lots 10-44 and Phase 3, Parcel D, Lots 1-39, Parcel E, Lots 1-42, Parcel DS-2, and Parcel DS-3, situated in Sections 69 and 70, T-11-S, R-7-E, Southeast District of Louisiana, east of the Mississippi River, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (N. Robottom)

Angelic Sutherland stated, *"The developer requests an extension due to economic reasons and administration recommends approval."*

MOTION: Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilwoman Hotard seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 14-33. The motion passed with Councilman Wilson absent.

14-34 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance granting approval to further extend the valid period of time of Conditional approval for an additional twelve (12) months of River Oaks Subdivision, Phase V, Lots 205-239, 245-252, 264-282 and Parcels H-11, H-13, C & D, located south of proposed Woodland Drive right-of-way, west of Vicknair Canal, east of St. Andrews Boulevard, and north of River Oaks Subdivision, Phase II and III, in Sections 66 and 67, T-11-S, R-7-E, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (N. Robottom)

Angelic Sutherland stated, *"The developer requests an extension due to economic reasons and administration recommends approval."*

MOTION: Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilwoman Millet seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 14-34. The motion passed with Councilman Wilson absent.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Snyder stated, *"I would like to ask for a motion on my behalf to accept the recommendations of the finance committee."*

MOTION: Councilman Smith moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to accept the recommendations of the finance committee. The motion passed with Councilman Wilson absent.

DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:

Lennix Madere - (Carry Over 5-13-14) Homer Joseph Center

Councilman Madere stated, *"I would like to carry this item and the next three items over to the next council meeting."*

Lennix Madere - (Carry Over 6-24-14) Railroad Issues

Please see above.

Lennix Madere - Update on Hickory Street drainage

Please see above.

Lennix Madere - (Carry Over 6-24-14) Update on grass cutting violations

Please see above.

Lennix Madere - Update on the completion of roads in District III

Mr. Savoie stated, "We're still putting in the shoulders as I told you last time. They had a problem with getting material, because the material was coming from the River Bank, because we were putting a lot of soil on the edges, and that road got, not because of this past week, but because of the week before of all the rain, the road got blocked off, it was too muddy, it's a dirt road that they're going to pick it up and so Barriere stop trying to get it and so they're now getting it again, and they started up again, they ended up, they had, they completed 7 roads, and they still have the rest of them to finish the shoulders."

Councilman Madere stated, "The problem I'm having is, I'm pretty sure you're aware that I'm going to go and check, I ride or I walk, and what I see on East 19th St., East 31st St., East 12th, it's not good. I will tell you the problem. On East 19th St., some areas of the road are paper thin and some areas of the road are 3 or 4 inches thick. In fact, on East 19th St. exactly where I live at, on the corner, the road actually have a sink in it, and the guy had to come back and repair the road they fixed, had to come back and actually repair the road that he fixed before any vehicle ever went down it. On East 12th St., I was under the impression that they were going to repair the entire street. They didn't do anything than but from the crossroad back to the track on East 12th St., and the front of East 12th St. is not in good shape, and I don't know why they did from the crossroad to the track, and not the whole entire street, because on the paper it listed East 12th St., it didn't say anything about partial, or from the crossroad to the track, plus the part that they repaired, is once again paper thin, and there's a pot hole in the middle of the new street they just repaired, and the pot hole is about this big, and the reason why it's that big, I'm not an engineer, but I'm pretty sure the bottom wasn't leveled and putting that thin piece of black top on it when someone rolled over it, it caved in, so there's a hole on East 12th St. in the new spot that they repaired. So, East 19th that was supposed to be repaired had to be repaired. East 12th St. that was supposed to have been completed and repaired has to be repaired. East 31st St., they repaired East 31st St. and once again the thickness of the road is not consistent. Its thin in some spots, thick in other spots, and I compared it to the section, other part of Reserve around St. Peter and the other street, and everything is the same, nice, no mess up, and I don't know, just like when we did the infiltration, we had to get another group that was top notch, the best group, and then we had the bad group. So, look like in my section, we have the bad group again. Also, I think that's something the engineer and Public Works have to get together when they repair a new road, how long does it take that tar or that surface to harden? Because, 31st St. has been down at least a month, almost a month, and a guy went to pick up some tree branches with the Parish truck, and when he put the arms down to pick it up, now we have 2 holes, the tar actually moved like it was still hot, and that was several weeks after it was down. So, once again, we have to add that street to a new street that have to be repaired, so where do we go from here? Do we come back and pick it all up and do it again, or we're going to have new streets that are supposed to be brand new with repair spots?"

Mr. Savoie responded, "I can't answer all of your questions because I'm not standing out there looking at them, but I'll go and investigate the questions that you have. I'll call you and we'll go and investigate them, but the street does, when they're placing the asphalt down you do have, it's a leveling, there's a certain amount of leveling that goes on where it does get thicker on one part and thinner on another part, so that does happen, but the minimum thickness should be an inch and a half."

Councilman Madere stated, "Well, I can tell you. I can show you, about 4 inches, 2 inches, 3, then down to like this. I can show you. My thing is, if this is the surface of the road and I cut 3 inches down into here, and I put another 3 inches, I will be back at the same level I was at."

Mr. Savoie stated, "That was what we were attempting to do"

Councilman Madere stated, "Well it didn't happen. We'll take a look at it, but it didn't happen."

Mr. Savoie stated, "Well I've written them all down and I'll have to go and investigate them, and we're certainly going to get it straight."

Councilman Perrilloux asked, "Before we start with the streets, we all do a substantial completion before they are paid, so we'll go and check all the streets correct?"

Mr. Savoie responded, "Correct"

Councilman Madere asked, "If this thing is not done right or if it is exactly like I said it is are they going to be held accountable to come back and do it right?"

Mr. Savoie responded, "Yes they are. You have a certain amount of retainage that you're holding. It's over \$100,000, so that street might have cost, none of those should cost anywhere near that to correct, so I'm going to tell you yes, you have plenty of retainage there to correct, but I'm sure the contractors, if we have an error, they're going to want to correct it because they're want to continue to work."

Councilman Madere stated, "When they correct it, they call themselves correcting that spot on..."

Mr. Savoie stated, "I know where you're going with this, you're getting ready to say yes, is it going to look like a patch over. Let me go and see and come back and I'll get with you and we'll take a look at it. If everybody's not satisfied, we'll have to either put another overlay on top of that."

Councilman Madere stated, "Well that's just going to bring it higher. In some spots it's already 4 inches. When we raise it that high, now you're trapping water on the other side of that road where people have houses at. Now we're putting a little levee. If that thing is already 5 inches and we put another layover...."

Mr. Savoie stated, "I know just about every street. We've cut them down in order to come back and put the back that maintains the level of where they were, and some cases we've even lowered it in order to handle drainage problems."

Councilman Madere stated, "Well I can tell you, I can't speak about East 12th and East 31st St., but I can definitely speak about East 19th, it didn't happen. It's much higher than it was and a lot thinner in other spots than it was, so I can tell you about East 19th St., they didn't do a great job on East 19th St. I can speak for that one."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Do we use the same quality of asphalt on all the streets or do we change quality depending on the number of cars?"

Mr. Savoie stated, "We've been giving the same standard mix. It's the same standard mix applied. All of these streets, the asphalt that we're using on all of these streets is a good hard asphalt, and I'm not going to sit there and tell you if you take a particular piece of equipment that may have high PSI because it has a shoe or something from a machine pushing down in there that you're not going to cause a problem, because its asphalt, it's not concrete, and it simply may not be able to take that, but and that's even whether it sits there 6 months or 6 years, so I can't guarantee that, but, in general this is a good riding surface asphalt."

Councilman Madere stated, "That street, East 19th St., the last time it was done was 1990 around that time, and at that particular time the Parish came because on that servitude on my property they had 42 trees, that I got the Parish to cut down and they left the stump. I had to come to this council meeting to tell them you're not going to leave 42 of your stumps by my property so they had to come back and cut them down. They came, they had just repaired that road back in 1990 or 1989, and that asphalt it was down there maybe 2 or 3 weeks, and the guy had come with him with a backhoe, and it had a lot more pressure than what that truck had, and that road stood up to it, it didn't push like this asphalt did, so I don't know if the quality of asphalt that they use back in the 90's was better than the one they're using now, but they pulled 42 trees out and they used that backhoe on that road with those big pedals down there, and it didn't push that asphalt like it did on 31st St. Well, it actually just pushed it then rolled it."

Mr. Savoie stated, "Well, and it may have had better lateral support at that particular location. I don't know because I'm not looking at it. I'll try to get you an answer to all these. I assure you we're going to

try and get them all. We're going to see if we can keep everybody happy."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Set up a meeting with Mr. Madere and we'll move forward and see if we can correct the problem. Thank you."

Jaclyn Hotard - Street lights on Madewood Drive

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I've put some constant communication with Administration on this item, and I'd like to get an update. The lights are still out on the 1300 block of Madewood."

Brian Nunes stated, "Right, and that was the one we discussed with you about waiting for a boring contractor. We signed a purchase order Monday morning for that one."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "Now that we've signed a purchase order, how long do you think it'll be before the lights get fixed?"

Brian Nunes responded, "I'll have to check with the contractor. It depends on weather, but I think the entire process....I think by the time he gets out there, it'll take him a week to do the work, so we just got to get him out there. I don't want to put a time line on it at this point, but I know they're ready to get out there. I can talk to him in the morning and give you a better idea."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "Does he have any other street lights that need the same type of work that has to be done at this location?"

Brian Nunes responded, "Actually, it's the same contractor that's doing the boring at Exit 209, so he's going to be in the Parish doing both locations."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "If we can have them really look at, it's really dark at night, it's a residential street, and residents have called about it a couple of times."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "I, along with Ms. Hotard have had many calls regarding these lights. They have been out for quite some time. I was told from Administration is rather than tear everyone's yard up we were trying to bore so that they wouldn't have any damage to their property. Am I correct in that? Was that the reason we were waiting for the boring?"

Brian Nunes responded, "That's why we're boring, we're trying to go with the need instead of tearing everything up."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "What I don't understand is this is a long series of lights, why does it take so long? We're talking like over a month now, possibly even two that these lights have been out, and it's not just one light, it's a series of lights. This whole block is dark at night and the residents are very uncomfortable, and I'm just trying to figure out why do we have this much time delay."

Brian Nunes stated, "Well a lot of it is, it's a specialized process getting a machine out there that can bore under all this, and then later redo it or what not. Additionally, we have to public bid law so if it comes in a little over a certain amount it could get re-contracted to submit on it. It's a matter of following public bid law the right way."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "If we had dug the yards up, they'd be grown back by now, is what I'm trying to say. To keep our residents in the dark this length of time trying to secure a contract instead of just doing the work and getting them their lights and we'll deal with repairing the property. We have lots of rain and the grass picked up and everything grown in this much time is what I'm saying, and I understand if it may have been a week or two, that'd have been one thing, but a week or two turned out to be six to eight weeks."

Brian Nunes stated, "Right, we're talking yards also driveways, and there's a lot of things that whatever needs to be torn up, whether we have to go under the roads. It's easier to just bore from an inconvenience to our residents perspective, boring is better, but from the safety I understand getting the lights on that's our goal."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "That's our job, is to make our residents feel safe, and that's my concern more than the additional expense. They don't care about the expense, they care about being safe and having street lights, and I would like to see this not continue at this length of time if that's at all possible."

Brian Nunes stated, "Yes"

Councilman Snyder asked, "Mr. Nunes, that street that, have we, you, looked at that, someone in your department look at that street and see that there was a problem underground and not in some of the fixtures. I hear you talking about boring, so do we have some wires that done burn up underground someplace?"

Brian Nunes responded, "There are some problems. I'm not on the streetlight team itself, I didn't go out there underneath, but we started trouble shooting that area as soon as we got reports the lights were out, and there's just things we couldn't fix, and my electricians can diagnose those things when they try this try that and it doesn't work then they know what the problem is, and its underground and we just have to fix things."

Councilman Snyder asked, "So what do they think the problem is? I know it's underground, but what do they think the problem is? Busted wires? Wet wires? Most electrical work, either is some junction box or it's a fixture, 99% of it, especially wiring like that."

Brian Nunes responded, "That wiring was underwater two years ago, so something could have broken with all that."

Councilman Snyder asked, "So that's what we think it is then? The piping done bust, tubing done bust, and we have some bad wiring underneath the ground. Isn't that said that we could by-pass the bid law because this is an emergency or safety hazard?"

Brian Nunes responded, "A lot of times in emergency situations we can."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Can we look into that part of it"

Brian Nunes responded, "This one is all set. This one was signed yesterday, but in the future if it's an emergency situation and we can deem it that way then yes, we'll absolutely move for safety."

OLD BUSINESS:

Ranney Wilson/Lennix Madere - Drainage and Drainage equipment

Councilman Snyder stated, "I just want to thank the Public Works department for doing the work back there on Woodland. They found some drains back there where drain cracks this wide, 40 inches, 50 inches, 60 inches in diameter, and the thing hardly had any drainage coming out of it. I don't know how you all found it, but I know you did a good job on cleaning it out, and a lot of water left from back in that area back there, so thank you guys for that, that helped out."

NEW BUSINESS:

There was no new business.

There was no executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

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

Lennix Madere - 205 E. 30th Street

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

Parish Buildings - Security

Water bill issues

Lennix Madere - St. John the Baptist Parish vs. Myrtle F. Victor, Roba

Inc., and Adair Asset Management, LLC, 40th JDC, #63827

Lennix Madere - Code Enforcement

Any and all pending legal matters

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

14-35 An ordinance providing for the exemption from certain sales and use taxes levied in the Parish of St. John the Baptist on the same items and for the limited time as provided for by the State of Louisiana from its State Sales and use Taxes when granting a "Tax Holiday" from said State Taxes (C. Millet)

14-36 An ordinance to amend Section 28-2 (m) of the St. John the Baptist Parish Code of Ordinances to read as follows: (m) On-premises signs (N. Robottom)

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:30 PM, Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Millet seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilman Wilson absent.

/s/Marvin Perrilloux
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
Council Secretary