

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2009
CHAIR RONNIE SMITH
VICE CHAIR CHERYL MILLET

The Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session in the Rudolph S. Sorapuru, Sr. Chambers, Edgard, Louisiana on Tuesday, July 14, 2009, at 6:30 PM.

CALL TO ORDER:

PRESENT AT ROLL CALL: Haston Lewis, Councilman District I, Charles Julien, Councilman District III, Cheryl Millet, Councilwoman District VII, Steve Lee, Councilman-at-Large, Div. B, Darnel C. Usry, Councilwoman District V, Jaclyn Hotard, Councilwoman District IV, Richard "Dale" Wolfe, Councilman-at-Large, Div. A

ABSENT: Ronnie Smith & Danny Millet

Councilwoman Usry led the Prayer. Councilman Julien led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Bill Hubbard, Parish President, was present.

Legal Counsels Jeff Perilloux & Kerry Brown were present.

Consent Agenda

Items: Approval of Minutes June 23, 2009, Regular Meeting

Councilwoman Usry stated, *"I would like to remove the minutes from the consent agenda please."*

MOTION: Councilwoman Usry moved and Councilman Lee seconded the motion to remove the minutes from the consent agenda. The motion passed with Councilmen Smith & Millet absent.

Councilwoman Usry stated, *"I would like to change my vote on the motion where we voted for Choice Title and the unnamed firm."*

Council Vice-Chair Millet asked, *"Could you read that motion Ms. Landeche?"*

Jackie Landeche, Council Secretary, stated, *"MOTION: Councilman Wolfe moved and Councilman Lewis seconded the motion to grant half of the contract for the establishment and implementation of policies and procedures to sell adjudicated properties to Choice Title, Inc. and half to a minority company that Mr. Wolfe will name at the next Council meeting, that being July 14, 2009 in Edgard. The motion passed with 7 yeas, 1 abstaining (Cheryl Millet) and 1 against (Lee)."*

Councilwoman Usry stated, *"I would like to change my yea vote to a nay."*

Councilwoman Millet asked, "Would you so note the record?"

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "I would like to get some clarification from legal counsel on the vote. When we made the vote did we or when I made the yea vote did that give Mr. Wolfe the authority to name someone? Is the council still going to have to approve the minority firm or did we just give the authority to Mr. Dale to pick one?"

Jeff Perilloux, Legal Counsel, stated, "The vote as adopted gave Mr. Wolfe the authority to name the minority firm."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "And not the council? Okay with that Madame Chair I would also like to change my vote from a yea to a nay."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "Madame Secretary would you please make that notation?"

Jackie Landeche stated, "Yes, Ma'am."

MOTION: Councilwoman Usry moved and Councilman Julien seconded the motion to approve the amended consent agenda consisting of Approval of the amended Minutes June 23, 2009, Regular Meeting. The motion passed with Councilmen Smith & Millet absent.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:

09-25 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance amending Section 33:20 of the St. John the Baptist Parish Zoning Ordinance to amend the definitions of "mobile home", "manufactured housing" and to provide a definition for "Modular Home". (B. Hubbard)

Mike Henderson, Planning & Zoning, stated, "We are basically trying to clear up some of the definitions that now exist or do not exist as part of the ordinance. A manufactured home is one that is put on site. It is manufactured off-site and is brought in. It has wheels. Once it is established the wheels are normally removed, built for code but that is what differentiates manufactured from mobile. A modular home is also built off-site. It complies with all the adopted building codes and it is actually brought in and set up whereas a mobile home maintains its wheels and those kinds of things."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "Mr. Henderson, so for the purpose of this ordinance it is only to address the definitions correct?"

Mike Henderson stated, "Yes only to change the definitions."

MOTION: Councilwoman Usry moved and Councilman Lee seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 09-25. The motion passed with Councilmen Smith & Millet absent.

09-26 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance amending Chapter 28 - *Utilities* - of the St. John the Baptist Code of Ordinances, to correct, clarify and amend certain Sections, as shown: (B. Hubbard)

Mike Henderson stated, "What happened is approximately sixteen (16) years ago there were some changes that were made to the existing ordinance to remove the words gas and what happened was the entire ordinance was

basically kind of wiped out. So when we went back and tried to identify what our meter deposit fees and some other things that have been collected all along were not actually still part of the ordinance. So this is basically to clean that up and to clarify and amend so that the actual charge for the individual fees are listed in the ordinance."

Councilman Lewis asked, "What is the water deposit right now?"

Mike Henderson stated, "For a 3/4" it is \$200.00, for a 1" it is \$350.00, for an 8" it is \$1,400.00. It depends on the size that they need."

Councilman Lewis asked, "Is that just the meter?"

Mike Henderson stated, "It is the deposit rate for the meters."

Councilman Lewis asked, "It isn't connecting the whole thing right? Let's say I want water at my house and you had to run it from the main line to my house."

Mike Henderson stated, "These are just the water meter deposit fees. That I believe would be charged differently. Those would be cost that would be charged individually to the home owner. These are for your deposit rate fees. Your irrigation meters are separate."

Councilman Lee stated, "In discussion just to assist Mr. Henderson perhaps here and remind Mr. Lewis, you and I and Mr. Wolfe that is back when we sold the gas system. Obviously when it came back on line the ordinance left some of the verbiage out that needed to be there. That is my understanding."

Councilman Lewis stated, "I don't think I was here at the time that we sold the gas system that is why I was asking."

MOTION: Councilman Lee moved and Councilwoman Usry seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 09-26. The motion passed with 7 yeas, 1 nay (Wolfe) and 2 absent (Councilmen Smith & Millet).

09-27 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance granting approval to further extend conditional approval of River Oaks Subdivision, Phase V, being a portion of LaPlace Plantation, located south of proposed Woodland Drive right-of-way, west of Vicknair Canal, east of St. Andrews Blvd. and north of River Oaks Subdivision, Phases II and III, in Sections 66 and 67, T-11-S, R-7-E, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana till July of 2010. (B. Hubbard)

Mike Henderson stated, "This is basically a result of an oversight. Your current ordinance calls for when someone doesn't complete a project on time that they are supposed to ask for a twelve (12) month extension. This particular subdivision got a little bit behind. They have come back and asked us to extend that. So this will give them the twelve (12) month extension that they would be qualified for under your ordinance."

MOTION: Councilman Lee moved and Councilwoman Usry seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 09-27. The motion passed with Councilmen Smith & Millet absent.

Hugh Martin, Bond Attorney, stated, "The way this came out on the agenda and this is my fault I didn't give instructions on how it should've been placed on it. We have two (2) Resolutions under new business that actually have to come before the ordinance. What I would like to do is to have a vote to suspend the rules to take the two (2) Resolutions before this one and then adopt the ordinance."

MOTION: Councilman Lee moved and Councilman Lewis seconded the motion to suspend the rules to take up R09-15 & R09-16 under new business on the agenda and then go back to Ordinance 09-28. The motion passed with Councilmen Smith & Danny Millet absent.

Hugh Martin, Bond Attorney, stated, "As you know the parish applied for ratings through Moody's Investor Services, who has rated bonds for a long time and also for the first time Standard & Poors. A presentation was made to both of these rating agencies. As a result of that we got a very large upgrade from Standard & Poors. They went up two (2) notches above the rating which Moody Investors had given us the last time we had went out for bonds to an A+ rating. Standard & Poors rating is excellent and I think that resulted in some good bids being seen. Moody's confirmed the rating that they had previously gave us and said that although we had a lot of positives financially they didn't increase the rating but we do have the benefit of the higher rating. As a result of that we have received five (5) bids. It would be in order now to consider the first Resolution to open the bids."

Hugh Martin - Resolution R09-15 - A Resolution providing for the opening and tabulation of the sealed and electronic bids received for the purchase of Twenty Nine Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$29,500,000) of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2009 of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, approving the Official Notice of Bond Sale and Official Statement in connection therewith, and authorizing the Parish President and the Chairman and Secretary of the Parish Council to sign copies thereof as evidence of the approval thereof

Hugh Martin stated, "All of the bids received are all electronic bids from Paradis which permits bidders from all over the country to submit bids electronically. We received no sealed bids today. The bids are as follows:

<u>BIDDER</u>	<u>TIC</u>
Stern, Agee & Leach, Inc.	4.1523%
Robert W. Baird & Co., Inc.	4.2806%
Morgan Keegan & Company, Inc.	4.3891%
Merrill Lynch & Co.	4.4392%
Jefferies & Company, Inc.	4.1987%

What we got really was one (1) local bid and all the rest are out of state Chicago, Memphis and Texas so we received really broad bidding. As you can see these rates are pretty good. 4.15% for twenty (20) year bonds as compared to what has been bid. The bond buyer puts out an index for A rated bonds. The last index that came out for an A rating which is right in this category. It is a blend of lower and higher ratings than we have. It is 5.46% so we beat that by a great margin. I think it is because of the rating and the strong finances that we were

able to show."

MOTION: Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilwoman Usry seconded the motion to approve Resolution R09-15. The motion passed with Councilmen Millet & Smith absent.

Hugh Martin stated, "I would recommend that we accept the low bid from Stern, Agee & Leach, Inc. at 4.1523%."

Hugh Martin - Resolution R09-16 - A Resolution accepting the lowest bid received for the purchase of \$29,500,000 of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2009 of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana

Councilwoman Millet stated, "I commend administration, Vince and the finance department for keeping our rating this way. It is a wonderful situation for us to be in."

MOTION: Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilwoman Usry seconded the motion to approve Resolution R09-16 and accept the low bid from Stern, Agee & Leach, Inc. at 4.1523%. The motion passed with Councilmen Millet & Smith absent.

09-28 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance providing for the incurring of debt and issuance of Twenty Nine Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$29,500,000) of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2009, of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana; prescribing the form, terms and conditions of said Bonds; designating the date, denomination and place of payment of said Bonds; providing for the payment thereof in principal and interest; authorizing the agreement with the Paying Agent; and providing for other matters in connection therewith. (B. Hubbard)

MOTION: Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilwoman Usry seconded the motion to approve amended Ordinance 09-28 to include the low bid from Stern, Agee & Leach, Inc. at 4.1523%. The motion passed with Councilmen Smith & Millet absent.

Hugh Martin stated, "I would just like to emphasize, I don't know if everyone recognizes the significance of you having gotten a two (2) step increase on your bond rating. It is very significant. It is very unusual. Not unusual to get a one (1) step increase, but a two (2) step increase is extremely unusual. It bodes well to the stewardship that the council and the administration has exhibited here in getting the finances in the shape that they are. You should be very proud of it. I am very proud of you. I have been doing this for a long time. This is the first time I have ever seen a two (2) step increase from any of my clients in the River Parishes. You should be very proud of that."

09-29 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance granting approval to further extend the conditional approval of Belle Terre Commercial Subdivision, Phase 2, Parcel B, Lots 23-49 and Parcel C, Lots 10-44, Phase 3, Parcel D, Lots 1-39, Parcel DS-2 and Parcel E, Lots 1-42, and Parcel DS-3 situated in Sections 69 & 70, T-11-S, R-7-E, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana till May of 2011. (B. Hubbard)

MOTION: Councilman Lee moved and Councilwoman Usry seconded the motion to

approve Ordinance 09-29. The motion passed with Councilmen Smith & Millet absent.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

09-30 An Ordinance to levy millage rates in the Parish of St. John the Baptist for the year 2009. (B. Hubbard)

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Lee stated, *"At 6:15 this evening the finance committee met to conduct the finance business for the parish. At this time I would ask for a motion of full council to endorse the actions taken by the finance committee."*

MOTION: Councilwoman Usry moved and Councilman Lewis seconded the motion to accept the recommendation of the finance committee. The committee approved to award the bid for the Woodland Drive Bridge Project to BLD Services in the amount of \$423,000.00, granted Change order # 1 - Walnut Street drainage project in the amount of \$29,423.20, and granted administration authorization to execute a contract with the Division of Administration relative to FY 2008-2009 Louisiana Local Government Assistance Program (LGAP) grant for the Edgard water treatment plant raw water intake. The motion passed with Councilmen Smith & Millet absent.

DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:

Councilman Lewis stated, *"I would like for Mr. Savoie to bring me up to date on the Edgard water plant. There is something I need to talk about."*

C.J. Savoie, Parish Engineer, stated, *"Well you know this has been an ongoing battle with the Corps of Engineers with the Edgard water plant to get the raw water pump station rehabilitated because some year and a half ago the raw water pump station wet well collapsed on us. We have been since then trying to get a permit from the Corps to allow us to get a concrete wet well in front of the existing facility in order to facilitate pumping water back into the Edgard water plant. Finally they have changed their mind over the period of a year and a half. They have gone back and forth with different conditions. Their concern is in the settlement along the levee. Not getting into all of that we finally got down to where they have come to a resolve we think. We have had some adjustments made. We have gotten a contractor. We went out to bid. We received bids with Boh Brothers being the low bidder at \$764,000.00 to do this installation. We are still waiting on the permit. The final calculations were finally brought to the Corps. We think we are going to get a resolve this week, we hope. I know that the administration has met with legislators at the federal level. They also want to know if we don't have a permit by next week they are going to intervene. I think I understand that right. I wasn't at the meeting."*

Bill Hubbard, Parish President, stated, *"When we first took office in January, this has been going on since before that time. I am frustrated just like everybody else. Last week we did go up to D.C. and this was one of the things on our wish list again was to ask for their help to please help us get this Corps of Engineers permit. This is ridiculous."*

We are doing everything that we can. The next thing is just to get Wayne Jones to protect us and go out there and do it and forget about the Corps of Engineers."

Councilman Lewis stated, "What I wanted to tell the council is that this has been going on, I have been in office for a year and a half and this has been going on a year before I went into office, so it is two and a half years. I mean we have run out of water. Everything that could happen over there has happened. We just haven't had someone drown over there putting that pump back in the river. We have passed the storm. We have closed the courthouse and the schools. We have been through everything. What I am asking this council to do is ask the Corps of Engineers to be at our next meeting. It is time to put everybody to the table because St. Charles Parish passed a line underneath the river and we can't pass a line by the river. It is sad. Something needs to happen."

Bill Hubbard stated, "I am totally on board with you Mr. Lewis. We will invite the Corps of Engineers or a representative from their office. I'll invite Mary Landrieu, David Vitter and Charlie Melancon too."

Councilman Lewis stated, "Whoever we need to have here. It is time to bring this to an end. It is a shame."

Bill Hubbard stated, "I agree with you."

Councilman Wolfe asked, "I want to be included in that meeting. I have been left in the dark about that. I don't appreciate it."

Bill Hubbard stated, "Mr. Wolfe we are talking about the next council meeting we are going to invite them."

Councilman Wolfe stated, "I don't care when it is. It can be tomorrow. I want to be included."

Bill Hubbard stated, "It will be the July 28th meeting."

Dale Wolfe - Personnel Matters

Councilman Wolfe stated, "I have some problems with some of our policies and procedures in terms of our employees. I have some problems right now in the utilities department. We don't have openings but we have some employees that are being placed in positions. They have our employees with seniority and qualifications aren't being considered for that temporary placement. I will get with Mr. Ralph Bean tomorrow morning. I will get with you Mr. Hubbard and talk about it. The way we do business in the parish is not right in terms of our employees. We are either going to do it right or we are not going to do it at all. Some people may feel I don't have anything to do with the employees. I surely do. Every time we approve budgets we have something to say and something to do about it. I am just tired of sitting around seeing double standards when it comes to employees. It is about time to put a stop to it. I am ready to put a stop to it."

Dale Wolfe - (Carry Over 04-14-09) Discussion Code Enforcement Officers

Councilman Wolfe stated, "I understand this is all said and done. So I

will just take it off of the agenda. Hopefully I can get with administration and try to work this matter out."

Cheryl Millet/Eliana DeFrancesch - Clerk of Courts Office concerns

Eliana DeFrancesch, Clerk of Courts, stated, "The only reason I am here this evening is because there has been difficulty contacting the courthouse via telephone all of last week. I can't explain what the difficulties are but I am sure that someone here can. I was told that this issue was being addressed and that it will not happen in the future. That is to be seen. I want the public to know that all those in the courthouse, the DA's Office, the Sheriff, the Judges, the Assessor, the Registrar of Voters and myself, the Clerk of Courts Office, have been without telephone communications for over a week. I believe that the service is fully running as of 4:00 this afternoon. That means since Monday of last week till Tuesday of this week. That is it on the telephone. I am not saying anything else. I do have other issues to address but instead of taking anymore time I am going to be brief. I made a copy of a letter that was dated April 10th, 2008, which was sent to Murray Architects on the needs of the Clerks Office and the Courthouse. I have a copy of that letter. I cc'd the judges at that time and I don't remember if I copied the council or the administration so I am doing that now. I will leave you with that."

OLD BUSINESS:

Dale Wolfe - Naming of a minority company in conjunction with the establishment and implementation of policies and procedures to sell adjudicated properties

Councilman Wolfe stated, "My name (for the minority company) is Mrs. Geri Baloney. I will ask her to come up to make a presentation to this council."

Geri Broussard Baloney, Broussard Baloney Law Firm and Louisiana Property & Title Company, P.O. Box 116, Garyville, LA 70051, "I have my daughter here Abriel Baloney Sutherland who is also with the law firm in the real estate division."

Councilman Wolfe asked, "What name would you like for me to submit as the company?"

Geri Broussard Baloney stated, "Broussard Baloney Law Firm."

Councilman Wolfe stated, "Okay that is my recommendation. That is my name. Do we need to do anymore legal counsel? I want to make sure that this is signed, sealed and delivered."

Jeff Perilloux stated, "No."

Councilman Wolfe asked, "Bill are we using a real estate firm to take care of this portion of the business?"

Bill Hubbard stated, "Mr. Wolfe a real estate firm to take care of the portion of the procedures and policies?"

Councilman Wolfe stated, "What we are doing here."

Bill Hubbard stated, "It is a title firm, Choice Title."

Councilman Wolfe asked, "We aren't using anyone else but Choice Title and Baloney and Broussard?"

Bill Hubbard stated, "That is what it appears to be."

Councilman Wolfe asked, "That's it?"

Bill Hubbard stated, "It is Choice Title."

Councilman Wolfe stated, "That is it. Thank you Sir."

NEW BUSINESS:

Elois Joseph - Resolution R09-17 - A Resolution in support of the St. John the Baptist Parish Department of Health and Human Services to the United States Department of Agriculture for funding under Section 533 Housing preservation grant program in St. John the Baptist Parish

Angela Aubert, Department of Health & Human Services, stated, "This resolution is in support of a grant that we already have. We have grant 2008-2009 for the home preservation program. We did ten (10) homes in that grant application. We have completed eight (8) and we have two (2) in progress. The grant is for our 2009-2010 contract where we are asking for \$127,000.00 to complete some more homes with the program."

MOTION: Councilman Wolfe moved and Councilman Julien seconded the motion to approve Resolution R09-17. A resolution in support of the St. John the Baptist Parish Department of Health and Human Services to the United States Department of Agriculture for funding under Section 533 Housing preservation grant program in St. John the Baptist Parish. **WHEREAS**, St. John the Baptist Parish Department of Health and Human Services is submitting an application for 2009-2010 Funds from the United States Department of Agriculture; and, **WHEREAS**, the United States Department of Agriculture supports a resolution from the local governing body; and, **WHEREAS**, upon funding, the program will improve the quality of substandard housing by repairing and rehabilitation homes of very low-income homeowners of St. John the Baptist Parish. **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that we, the members of the St. John the Baptist Parish Council do hereby approve and support the St. John Parish application for 2009-2010 USDA Rural Development Housing Preservation Program. The motion passed with Councilmen Millet & Smith absent.

CORRESPONDENCE/COUNCIL BRIEFS

Councilman Wolfe stated, "I would just like to say to the general public and some of my council members, our attitudes must change in terms of minority and minority set aside. We have folks on this council whose attitude is that we don't need a set aside. I want to remind those folks with their attitude that minority folks don't count. We do count. We are minorities. We are in your districts. Come election you will feel the pain. We aren't to be taken for granted. I am very upset here tonight. I came here. I have been in the bed feeling bad. I came

here especially because I knew some of the attitudes would change in terms of having the minority split that contract. As long as I am sitting on this board you are going to feel the pressure and the pain from me, especially when you talk about and your attitude is minorities don't count. We do count. We are here in this parish all over. You can like it or dislike it. I could care less what your attitude is in terms of what I am saying. I could sit here and approve contracts week after week, month after month and it doesn't include minority and it is all right. You don't open your mouth but your attitude is whenever we talk about minority and minority set aside there is no such thing. We have an ordinance that says 25% must go to minorities. As long as I am here, as long as I am sitting here 25% will go to minorities. If you don't understand that we will pull the minority ordinance out and show it to you. As if you don't know, you know. So Mr. Hubbard I am asking you and your staff tonight all the monies that are coming into St. John the Baptist Parish take 25% of those monies and set aside for minority so that we don't go to sleep and spend all the money and we won't have any left for minorities. Now your attitude can continue. You can laugh about it. You can think that we aren't here. I am going to make sure that we are here. I am going to shake some bodies, some minority bodies and say hey look what they are trying to do us. I have taken up for whites. I have upheld the rights of whites and the rights of blacks. You can't accuse me of being just black. I am black but I don't think black all the time. I will never be black all the time. I will share. Whatever is right I will do it. Whatever is wrong I will be here just like I am here tonight talking about it. So your attitude needs to change and if not I am going to pull the cover and expose you and that is not a threat, it is a promise. You can do what you want to do. When it comes to minority set aside, Mr. President I am talking to this council, I am addressing them. I am not talking to you. So if you want to interject something in terms of what I am saying it is not directed to you but if your rebut is directed to me I am going to have to answer. We are going to take care of business here. We are going to take care of minorities. We are going to take care of all the folks that we represent here in St. John the Baptist Parish. We always ask shop locally but we don't take care of business locally. We take care of our friend's long distance. Minorities don't count. As long as my black hiney is here minorities will count. I am talking to the ones with the attitude that minorities don't count. If you don't like what I am saying rebut and I will have a chance to rebut again. I don't appreciate you all. That is that."

Councilman Julien stated, "I want to congratulate the Baloney's on receiving the contract also the council, as well as administration, for compromising the situation. I know that it was a tough situation for us. As Mr. Wolfe said we have to be conscious of how we are spending the money. One of the main things that we have to consider and what I want to tell the people of District III is that we make sure that we do a better job of keeping up our community. We have to police our community a little bit better. As a matter of fact I would say St. John we want to start a keep St. John clean campaign. Have a nice night."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I just have one comment. Also when we are looking at minorities too and we need to do that. Also in our ordinance we have a set aside for women owned business. As a woman and a business owner that we start making sure that we take care of the women in our parish that owns businesses also. So if administration can put a little

sticky note to that also."

Councilman Lee stated, "Just one quick comment. I am glad that this meeting was handled professionally and that our attorneys were here to assist us in making the decisions necessary to accommodate the motions that were made at our previous meeting which we did and it was just and it was passed by a majority of this council. As long as I sit here I am going to vote my conscious every time, not anybody else's conscious. I am not going to be manipulated. I am not going to be forced to vote any way. I am not going to be forced to have my conscious evaluated because I am going to evaluate my own. I will be happy to state finally once and for all what my no vote was all about last time and I will continue to vote no in that fashion if it is brought to me again. I believe that this council made a grave mistake by passing the motion that we did, in the form that we did at the last meeting. That was giving one of my fellow council members and a long time associate of mine and somebody that I have grown to trust over the years. To give that person the authority over all eight (8) other council members to name a person in the contract rather than going through with the procedure that we, this council member, has always done. That is allowing, not allowing, demanding that the administration do the due diligence to provide us with a bonified contractor and then ask for our approval. Had I not been blindsided like I was at the last council meeting, I would have been more than happy to accommodate that motion. If that is what is going to happen and this councilman and obviously other council members are going to be blindsided and I dare say the administration blindsided by a motion that wasn't included on the agenda, did not have time to think about nor discuss with fellow council members. I will bring to my attention my good friend Mr. Wolfe is that whenever he asks for some extra time to discuss a particular contract or a particular company or something because he hasn't had time to make a decision this councilman is always in support of that. This councilman was not given that same courtesy at the last meeting. That is why I made a no vote because I believed it was a mistake. I think we are setting a precedence. It has nothing to do with minority regardless of what my friend Mr. Wolfe wants to say. He cannot speak for me. He will not speak for me. I am glad that I have had my opportunity to share with him because he hasn't been willing or able to take my telephone calls so that I could explain my position."

Councilman Wolfe stated, "The secret word is blindsided. I don't think they know the definition of blindsided. I don't blindside. I come direct and to the point. If Mr. Wolfe sits here for the next two and a half years or whatever time we have left to serve on this council sit here and allow these folks that use the word blindsided, take care of their friends and my friends are left undone, they can say what they want to. I don't duck. I don't dodge. I am here tonight. I am going to answer every statement that is made, derogatory statement, that is made towards me. I don't blindside anybody. When they need a favor they come and do it sometimes up and above board, sometimes underneath. I can tell I can go around this council and name everybody and know exactly what they are all about. There have been some deals made that you will never know about. No problem because it will come out in the wash. So when you use the word blindsided Steve, I don't blindside folks. I come direct and tell you what I have to tell you. Whenever you want to take care of your friends it is okay. They take care of it. When Dale Wolfe wants to take care of his friends it is blindsided. I am here. I

will answer any question. I will deal with blind sidedness or whatever you want to say about it. I am here and I am going to be counted. You can call it what you want. If you don't appreciate it I didn't ask to be the only individual. As far as I am concerned, everyone that voted for the motion named that person. Not me. Not me. I don't want to be the person to name one person. We all voted for that motion that named Mrs. Baloney. So don't come up with all that commotion and try and deceive the public because I am here to set the record straight. You are not going to take advantage of me by using choice words to try to deceive the public. I am here. I will be counted when it comes to minorities. Some of you all can care less about minorities. I am here. They will be counted as long as I am here. I don't take any pleasure in coming to the meeting sick. I take pleasure in defending what is right. You all can do and say what you want to, I can care less. As long as 25% goes to minorities and it will as long as I am here. Some folks say there is no such a law. Check the records. We have a minority set aside. We are going to treat minorities as they should be treated. I am not going to sit here and let you all spend all the money. When it comes and I ask where is the minority money at? Oh we spent it. I am not doing that."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "Mr. Wolfe I don't normally get into a discussion with you..."

Councilman Wolfe stated, "Don't call my name just talk to the public."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "No I am talking to you because you spoke to me..."

Councilman Wolfe stated, "I am going to answer you back now."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "And you can, that is perfectly okay. When you ask me to approve a contract that has no name on it I can't do that. I won't do that for any council person. I need to know whom I am awarding a contract to. Minority or otherwise I need to know the name of the company that I am giving the contract to. That is all. That is all I need. There is only one comment that I do need to make and this kind of changes the venue a little bit on the mood tonight. On July 25th I have been elected to be the celebrity server at New Orleans Hamburger and Seafood Company. I would certainly appreciate support for my favorite charity. So please come out and join me between 5:30 and 8:30 on the 25th of July, Saturday night. Thank you."

Bill Hubbard asked, "I have a question. Are you cooking that night?"

Councilwoman Millet stated, "No Sir. I am serving."

Bill Hubbard stated, "We might go then."

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Bill Hubbard stated, "Alright, thank you for a wonderful council meeting. It was very entertaining. I enjoyed every minute of it. I am not going to comment on all of the dialogue that went on tonight. I don't think now is the time or the place for that. We will just save that for another rainy day behind closed doors. Just to kind of let you

know Mr. Haston, here on the West Bank we have some striping at the courthouse that is getting ready to start this Friday. Our kids are getting ready to go back to school in the next couple of weeks. I would just like to encourage everybody to shop St. John. We have Wal-Mart. We have different stores throughout the parish that sell school supplies. Let's try to keep our tax dollars here in St. John the Baptist Parish. Also for the last several months we have been updating our EOC policies or plan for hurricane preparedness. The final meeting is next week. We are going to make sure that all the council members are invited. We want you to attend. We will get that word out to you and let you know exactly the time and the day. I want to let you know that some very important people, President Obama's secretaries are coming to town July 20th on Monday between 11:00 and 12:00 in Reserve at the National Guard Center. President Obama's secretaries, next Monday between 11:00 and Noon in Reserve, Airline Highway at the National Guard Center."

MOTION: Councilman Lee moved and Councilwoman Usry seconded the motion to go into executive session. The motion passed with Councilmen Smith and Millet absent.

MOTION: Councilman Lee moved and Councilman Lewis seconded the motion to go back into regular session. The motion passed with Councilmen Smith and Millet absent.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Dale Wolfe - Personnel Matters

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

Any and all pending legal matters.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:47 PM, Councilman Lee moved and Councilwoman Usry seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilmen Smith and Millet absent.

/s/Cheryl Millet
COUNCIL VICE-CHAIR

/s/Jackie Landeche
Council Secretary