

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS**  
**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH**  
**TUESDAY, JULY 26<sup>TH</sup>, 2016**  
**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 Sorapuru Chambers, Edgard, Louisiana on Tuesday, July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016 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 Remondet, Councilwoman District II, Lennix Madere, Councilman District III, Michael Wright, Councilman District V, Larry Snyder, Councilman District VI, Raj Pannu, Councilwoman District VII, Jaclyn Hotard, Councilwoman-at-Large, Div. B

**ABSENT:** Marvin Perrilloux

Councilman Becnel led the Prayer. Councilman Madere led the Pledge.

Legal Counsel Bridget Dinvaut, District Attorney and Geoffrey Michel were present.

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

**INTRODUCTION OF BUSINESSES:**

There was no introduction of businesses.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**ITEMS:** Approval of Minutes - July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016, Regular Meeting

**MOTION:** Councilman Snyder moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda items: Approval of Minutes - July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016, Regular Meeting. The motion passed with Councilman Perrilloux absent.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:**

**16-33** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance ordering and calling a special election to fill the Vacancy of Council District 7 of St. John the Baptist Parish, State of Louisiana, and taking other matters in connection therewith

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to accept Ordinance 16-33. The motion passed with Councilman Perrilloux absent.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "At this time I would ask that the council accept the recommendations of the finance committee."

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Sorapuru seconded the motion to accept the recommendations of the finance committee meeting. The motion passed with Councilman Perrilloux absent.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

There is no old business.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Natalie Robottom - Resolution - R16-43 - A Resolution approving the application for grant funds from the FHWA RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM FOR LOUISIANA (FRTPL), as established by CFDA 20.219**

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes I think we're asking at this time to remove the item from the agenda. We were originally requested to pass a second resolution to continue the project, but it's my understanding that the first one will suffice."

**Natalie Robottom - Authorization to seek the engagement of Jules A. Carville, III as specialized legal counsel to address property and tax law issues for the Office of Fire Services**

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes this is in reference to a problem that was brought to our attention, I think everyone was copied on the email regarding some of the property issues with the Fire Departments. Based on that letter and recommendation from the District Attorney's Office to seek guidance in how to deal with it, which we did, we met with our Bond Attorney and the Attorney assigned to this. And a recommendation was to hire someone with that specific skill set. Mr. Carville's name was recommended to us and we met with Mr. Carville to see if it would be something he's interested in, as he had familiarity with some of the previous transfers, so I request us to engage and based on the Attorney General's rate, to look at and try and help us resolve the current issues."

**MOTION:** Councilman Snyder moved and Councilwoman Pannu seconded the motion to grant administration to seek the engagement of Jules A. Carville, III as specialized legal counsel to address property and tax law issues for the Office of Fire Services. The motion passed with Councilman Perrilloux absent.

**DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:**

Rhonda Lemons, Health and Human Services Department, "Good evening Council. I would like to share with you all some information regarding summer programs being delivered by Health and Human Services Department. The Summer Feeding Program is very successful, it provides school aged children in St. John opportunity to receive nutritious meals during the summer months. The program operates 23 days on Mondays - Thursdays, from June 6<sup>th</sup> - July 14<sup>th</sup>. There were 3,355 breakfast meals served, 24,569 lunch meals served and 1,088 adult meals served for a total of 29,012 meals served in the program this summer. Buses were provided to transport for children to and from the feeding sites. Health and Human Services Department also utilizes grant and state funds to employ high school students in St. John and other personnel to help operate the summer feeding program and this year we employed 43 individuals. Currently the summer program another summer program is the Cooling Zones, they are intended to provide summer heat relief to our residents who are out and about during the day. Health and Human Services staff keep Cooling Zones stocked with water to help patrons stay hydrated. Survival tips for hot temperatures and heat tips for heat exhaustion and heat strokes. The Cooling Zones are supervised areas located in safe and air condition buildings, already providing various

type services to our residents. These buildings are all of the St. John Parish Libraries, Council on Aging and Teche Action Clinic, East and Westbank, Homer Joseph Center, The Health Unit and The Health and Human Services Department. We began the program July 5<sup>th</sup> and to date have purchased 58 bottles of water and delivered 1,232 bottles to the food and cool zone sites. In closing we want to remind you to follow our website to review educational classes and activities being offered at the Homer Joseph Center, next month features job readiness clinics, girl empowerment workshops, complimentary blood pressure and glucose screenings and a snacks representative who will be delivering tips on healthy fitness for all ages and gender. Thank you.

Councilman Wright stated, "Thank you Ms. Lemons, this is why I commend you and your department for the excellent job. Comments and questions from the council?"

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Ditto!"

Rhonda Lemons stated, "Thank you!"

#### **Natalie Robottom - Breach of Belle Terre Ponds maintenance agreement**

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes this has been an ongoing issue and I thought, we pretty much resolved it with the support of the council and legal counsel actions in agreement with Belle Terre. We're just about what we think it's done, but we were seeking legal guidance on how to finalize this project, received final payment from the Country Club and a mechanism to make sure that it continues to be maintained. Shortly, we all know that shortly after the work was done it was much improved, but in the nearer months it start to go back you guys started to get complaints and part of the agreement was that they maintain it after this one time cleaning. There is some concern about whether or not, which would be Hole #16. Previously Mr. Perrilloux who was working with us on this agreement, suggested that what they were requesting was outside the scope of the original agreement. Although there needed to be some work done there, required digging and not necessarily what we had agreed to, so we're still trying to work out that aspect. Everything else we feel was done and done to satisfaction, we had a video camera, still pictures, we had onsite visits and at this point we're just trying to finalize this project with regard to what the parish has paid for, what the club is supposed to pay for and then moving forward with them in maintaining their property."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "Thank you. Are you asking for any action from the council or what do we need to do at this point because we do know that like part of the agreement with Belle Terre was that they maintain a contact after we clean them and we know that they're part of the agreement is not being upheld, so maybe I'll ask legal, what do we do at this point? I believe Jeff was sending them a letter, do you know if the letter went to them?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "He did. He sent a letter, we sent a letter, they responded back and that's where we are."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "And what was their response?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "That they didn't think it was finished. But some of the, we actually I think the staff met with the manager of the properties, who indicated again that it was, majority of it was done, there was one section that was described to us at the time that the water wasn't high enough for him

to complete it. Of course Mr. Perrilloux did take a site visit out there and suggested that area was not part of the scope of the contract, which is why we didn't pursue it. There were a couple of other items, I spoke with Dr. Wadhwa myself immediately after the work was done because we received no payment, and he suggested that there were three items remaining; one, he was recommending that we add a boom next to the interstate, which was done but we don't think that's working, so we're looking at another option there, but it was done. That a second round of spraying be done, which was done and that this Hole 16 be addressed and that was when Mr. Perrilloux went out and said he did not feel that that was part of our scope. So we're still on Hole 16, trying to resolve that, but ultimately the final payments will be paid by the Club."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "So what do we do at this point?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "The request is for legal guidance and I think, we thought it would be Executive Session but obviously we're going to discuss it in public so."

Bridget Dinvaut, District Attorney stated, "No it not, at this time a legal demand has been made. We are in the process of contacting legal counseling for the other party and it is our, we anticipate legal demand. Once we get a legal demand in place, then we'll be able to discuss any strategies with the gorse of perspective litigation."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Okay thank you."

Councilwoman Pannu stated, "I did speak with the Wadhwas' and I also spoke with the residents because the resident (I don't know if I should even name them, I don't think I should) but they have been sending me text messages and they're asking that the pond behind their home that's closest to Country Club, is not clean at all. And they've even showed me pictures where the green stuff is still floating in there. And when I spoke with the Wadhwas' and I did mentioned to them that I was told that you'll have not been maintaining it, they told me that there's some money that is owed to the contractor, so there's a lot of confusion that's going on and as the council now, I would really like to sit with the, you know whoever is charge over there so at least I know Belle Terre Civic Association did try our best to intervene where we helped to bring them together..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "Right and there's nothing owed to the contractor. The contractor was paid in full or there was an agreement with Belle Terre when they did not pay us in full. So here are photos of the work as I said, there are videos of the ponds after they were cleaned and but immediately afterwards, obviously it's a maintenance issue, I think Ms. Hotard and actually Mr. Boe started to receive pictures of debris that's growing back, I actually rode it, I think during the Dinvaut Tournament and you know I had another purpose and it was checking out the ponds and they were not being maintained. So our issue is to fold, which is finalizing the payment and two what are our abilities to make sure it is maintained. It is an ongoing issue that must be maintained to keep it from getting back up to the condition that it was. But I'll circulate these photos of the holes that we're talking about and you can see that they were actually cleaned."

Councilwoman Pannu stated, "Ok, is it possible for us to look the contract because I'm not even preview to the contract..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "I think everything is online and I think Jackie sent it to you, but as the District Attorney said she'll be working with us on a demand letter to finalize this, but I am very confident that we upheld our end of the bargain and probably did a little bit more. And the bottom line is that it was a step and a stretch for us to do this work and we need to conclude this project."

Councilwoman Pannu stated, "And I just want to you know publicly thank the parish, as well as Dr. Wadhwa to come to the agreement because it means a lot for our residents. They have been complaining for several years and I'm glad that you know something was done, it looks much better now. Thank you, appreciate that!"

Natalie Robottom stated, "I can share these."

Councilwoman Pannu stated, "Yeah, you know maybe I need to get back with yawl, with the parish as well as Dr. Wadhwa, because they called me and then the residents of course called me and I really don't want to give the wrong information. I would rather have everything laid out on the table and let's look at everything and see where we stand. Because I'm hearing from you that the payments were made, but Dr. Wadhwa, Mrs. Wadhwa is telling me that there is an outstanding payment that has not been delivered to the contractor and the contractor refuses to do it."

Natalie Robottom stated, "First of all and I'm not sure maybe Ms. Dinvaut would like to speak to this. But there is an attorney working for the Wadhwas and we have an attorney, so probably this discussion doesn't need to continue taking place. And we're going to let our attorneys direct us and direct our steps, as I'm sure the Wadhwas will do as well. So probably the best thing to do is to allow the attorneys to work through their clients to resolve this issue."

Councilwoman Pannu stated, "Ok whatever yawl do that's fine with me. I have no problem with the attorneys taking care of it. But I tell you what the residents are really fed up. And the residents needs something to be done because constantly they're worried that the, you know it doesn't look nice, the ponds are filled up and it really need to be taken of. Whether the parish takes care of it or Dr. Wadhwa takes care of it, either one of them I think the residents want some action to be, to be taken care of. Thank you."

Bridget Dinvaut stated, "As a side note, whenever there's a controversy, each side has their position. Of course the parish takes position, the Wadhwas, Belle Terre with their attorney they have a position. And at some point and time and this is the reason why we're working on a demand level, because at some point and time you have to put all your cards on the table and it's got to be played out in a different arena, if you're not going to come to a amenable or agreeable consensus on how to attack this. So at this point it doesn't, it looks like there's a line in his hand and so we will take position that's in the best interest of the parish and the attorney toward the other party, will have to do what he has to do. And so, that's where we are at this point in time. Not to say that we're not open to some additional discussions to remediate or to resolve this situation, but it is our position that we are looking at actually submitting a demand letter. Yes!"

Councilwoman Pannu stated, "Thank you!"

Councilman Madere stated, "Ok when we made this agreement we all understood everything that was proposed in it and exactly what you said is exactly what I remember. That we were initially were supposed to clean it, in other words to get the ball rolling and they were supposed to maintain it. And now that we did our part, it seems as though they want us to maintain it forever and that's not going to happen, okay not going to happen. Because we have I have thousands, hundreds of people in my district that have ditches, have problems in standing water and things like that. And if we're not doing it in everywhere, we're not going to do it there. They came off good, they came off real good, now it's up to them to maintain it. If they think we're going to maintain it year after year, month after month because they have some green standing water in it."

Natalie Robottom stated, "And I think that was included in the agreement and Ms. Pannu, I'm sure Ms. Jackie will get you a copy of that document, I thought you had it, it may be in your box. But it's very specific as to the holes that we are responsible for and I don't want to mislead people into thinking we're just cleaning the property, we were cleaning the ponds that were impacting our drainage. There were internal ponds that had not, so the percentage is we divide it based on what had public impact versus what was strictly private. So you know it took quite a bit time, lots of work between attorneys, lots of photos, maps to work out this agreement but ultimately it was very clear in the agreement, it was a onetime agreement, the parish would make the investment and clean it, however maintenance would be for the property owner and that is where we're trying to move."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right and I understand how they might feel, but I also understand how the residents in my district feel about it. So we're not going to be maintaining that on a yearly basis for them."

**Jaclyn Hotard/Larry Snyder/Lennix Madere - 156 River Pointe Drive Sewer issues**

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Thank you. I placed this item on the agenda I received a call from the resident at this address about a sewage backup and actually she sent photos, I believe I sent the photos in. I sent the photos over, so called about the sewage backup that has been taking place for a while. I see on the agenda that says here: That this was an isolated issue related to severe weather and Reed I know you know I've sent, we've had sewer backups at this location for the past few years."

Reed Alexander stated, "Yes mam, it was actually a mechanical issue that we had at that location, it was during a severe weather event, so one pump failed and the other pump just couldn't handle it because of the iodine. So we did have one pump that was running and it couldn't handle it because of the iodine."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "So what are we going to do to prevent this? Because this probably is the fifth I'd say if I go back to the emails, the fifth time that this resident either is coming home or leaving home and I mean the sewage and I sent the photos, the sewage is in her driveway."

Reed Alexander stated, "Unfortunately I want to say that point is the lowest area in that location. If you have a failure it will back up to one specific area of River Pointe. We do have telemetry installed to lift stations, so we will get far warning if there is a problem there, unfortunately with the weather event the telemetry was kind of down, so we didn't get the

communications that we should have."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "So what good is the telemetry I guess in a weather event?"

Reed Alexander stated, "This was the first time it went down in a severe weather event. We are looking at it, the contractor is actually coming back from vacation next week to find out what is going on with it. This was the first time since it's been installed that we had a problem with it. Normally in a weather event, it alerts us, 50 alerts, that we have high water levels. Because we do get an alert that we have a high water level, we don't send anybody out because we know that it's due to the rain event and we do get the alerts."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "So let me ask this. If we know that maybe with a rain event that we may have a problem, is there anything that we can do to be proactive? I know that me personally and I don't know about you guys, but if I have raw sewage in my driveway, it would be a problem. It would be a real problem and I wouldn't want someone to tell me I'm at the end of the line, I mean the parish gave me a permit to build this house or either the builder a permit, and they allowed me to purchase this home. I just wouldn't want to hear all that if I had raw sewage coming out of my driveway, so what can we do as a proactive measure to prevent this from happening? If it weren't a onetime isolating thing, I would go with it but it's been several occasions over the years."

Reed Alexander stated, "We did some improvements there, we changed pumps like I said we had a, we did have a pump failure, it is a mechanical system. We actually changed the manual in front of the lady's home and it still backs up, it's a sealed lid, it still backs up and the manufacturer of the lid says he doesn't know how it's coming up right there. It's just when you have that failure it's going to back up to a point."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "Let me ask this. Do you participate in the Utility Board Meetings?"

Reed Alexander stated, "Yes."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "Okay and I guess my question would be this; if we know we're saying this resident is at the end of the line, whenever we're issuing building permits and things like that, are we looking at any of this to see okay maybe you're going to build in an area that we know that's going to be problematic and you're to experience sewer backups, and is that ever..."

Reed Alexander interrupting stated, "Fortunately none of the building codes was out on the lot. I got people complaining that there's a lift station on side of their property, the lift station was put there by builder of that property and they don't want to lose out on the sale of that lot so they will sell every lot they can."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "But when we approve a subdivision we get a plot plan and so we look at it ahead of time with all of the sewage, all of the drainage, everything built out on there so we know before we approve it, hey, why won't there be six right here, it's going to have repetitive sewage backups, we will approve this plan but not with this property here."

Reed Alexander stated, "

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "And I would ask, I mean at some point we need to you know, we're in the business of protecting the residents. Because at the end of the day when something like this happens, it's our responsibility to make sure that it doesn't, and we're talking about raw sewage ok! And so if you know our position is well it's the end of the line and we have a failure, this is what's going to happen, and we're having competitive failures, we can't quite get a handle on that, then I would like to see going forward that we're a little bit, you know more diligent on who we're giving permits to, what subdivisions were approved, and I know we haven't approved one in a long time but, we need to be a little more proactive in doing that. But still in the interim, what do we tell this resident about this problem here?"

Reed Alexander stated, "Really have no answer for that, I'm still thinking what to tell them. On a mechanical system you're going to have failures."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Okay so what are we going to do to prevent raw sewage in front of her yard?"

Reed Alexander stated, "That I can't answer."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Alright, I think somebody needs to think about what the answer is, because for the resident the next step is to get other folks involved and that's not what I would think we would want in our best interest. I would think that we would have some type of responsibility to not have raw sewage be on people's you know private property."

Councilman Madere stated, "Ms. Hotard called me about that because it's in my District. And I spoke to that lady about 3 years ago and that happened more than once more than twice and I spoke to you about it and basically you told me, nothing we can do about it, basically she got to live with it. And I mean that's not good and I definitely agree with what Ms. Hotard said, when we approve these things on these designs, we know this is the end of the line and you have a failure, everything going to back up right there. That's a lot, I don't care what this guy trying to sell, okay that lot shouldn't have been sold, should have been agreed upon. And that line should have been farther down, you could have ran that line all the way to the end somewhere. That house shouldn't have been sold that's just what I'm saying, cause I'll tell you right now, if I bought that house and that had that kind of problem, we have a problem big problem. Okay I went out there, that thing have been ran over so many times the cement around it is actually cracking, the ground is eating away around it I've been there. Around that manhole the cement is cracking away, crumbled and if this is going to continue year after year, when someone purchases a home you're looking at 30-40 years the rest of their life. So I have to smell this the rest of my life? And all I'm getting is; this guy want to sell his property, his lot? So basically, he's saying he don't give a hoot what's coming out there. So I mean, how do we address this? We have to find a way."

Reed Alexander stated, "Do be aware, we have 156 lift stations in the parish and 156 low line areas that will get flooded every time there's a mechanical failure."

Councilman Madere stated, "Well I understand that but we're talking about this one. Okay and this the one that we're concerned about, this one right here and

*this is the one that have the problems. I guy once told me he had 15,000 miles of ditch in St. John the Baptist Parish, that was before I was on the Council and I told him, I don't care about 15,000, I care about the one that's running down my street. The other portion of it is your problem, not mine. So what I'm saying is, this lady have a serious problem and the parish, Okayed him! That's all I'm saying."*

Councilman Snyder stated, "So Mr. Alexander, you're saying that the telemetry failed and the one of the pumps failed?"

Reed Alexander stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Snyder asked, "If those two things would have been in order, we wouldn't have had that problem?"

Reed Alexander stated, "The telemetry actually didn't fail, it was unable to communicate. He's looking at if it was a communication problem that the lift station had itself or if it was a communication problem that the communication system had with us. He's really not sure, he is on vacation and he will address when he comes back."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Well he didn't tell you that the pump was down?"

Reed Alexander stated, "No."

Councilman Snyder asked, "And if he would have told that the pump was down, we wouldn't had a problem, we could of still had a problem but we might of gotten to it a little bit earlier."

Reed Alexander stated, "We may have gotten it before it..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "Yeah, so I mean I understand mechanical failure those things happen. Happens to our cars, happen to our refrigerator happens to our washing machine you know. But I think if we're having problems like that, maybe one of things we could do is just, instead of sending out bids, go get the best product we could to put there and make sure we don't have the failures anymore. That may be one option, but I understand when you're talking with those mechanical failures."

Reed Alexander stated, "And we did do improvements to that lift station and we actually changed both pumps to what we currently have on bid, so we did do improvements like Mr. Madere said, we had problems there and I want to say we changed the pumps there probably about 3 years ago. So we did do improvements to the lift station and we also did an improvement at the home by putting a sealed manhole in front of her home. Unfortunately, that also didn't work."

Councilman Snyder asked, "So what was the problem with the pump?"

Reed Alexander stated, "I think it was the belt slipped."

Councilman Snyder asked, "The belt?"

Reed Alexander stated, "The belt had slipped, yes sir."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Ok thank you."

Councilman Madere stated, "Ok I do agree with one thing. Ok Communication, that lady was not communicated upon on when she bought that lot that this possibly could happen. It definitely was a communication problem, because I'm pretty sure if she was aware of that, that situation, she wouldn't have purchased that home."

Reed Alexander stated, "Any of the residents that had that situation..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "Right, right and that's why Ms. Hotard she made a good point, that we approve these subdivisions and these type of things shouldn't be happening. Okay, when someone purchase a home in a subdivision you don't expect, you understand you fill in the blank, to see that in front your yard. Okay and I definitely agree you know there was a communication problem because anyone, no one would buy that house if they knew that was a possibility. I don't think so, you wouldn't have bought it. Okay that's all I'm saying you know we have to do something together and any other one moving forward subdivision come in here, we have to make sure to look at those situations and make sure that none of those homes or lots will have that problem, will have that in front their door you know."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "Yes Reed, what would be the cost of relocating that lift station?"

Reed Alexander stated, "This is 12 lift stations, Mr. Savoie maybe you can help me on that. Section of the lift station would have to be relocated but where would you put the lift station at? We would have to reconfigure the collection system."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Well that's..."

Chuck Savoie asked, "What is your question, I couldn't hear you."

Reed Alexander stated, "He was asking the cost to possibly relocate the lowest section of a collection system."

Chuck Savoie stated, "Well that's a gravity line so I mean whatever it would take. When you say that but then you, yawl know exactly where she is so I have to see, I have to see it to come up and say what you could do this or you could do that, but probably to relocate a line like that it's not so easy cause you still have to provide service to it. I think that listening to the conversation and my thoughts are is that, I think what they're doing already is to improve your pumping system and let's get more attentive to our telemetry and so forth and if it needs more improvement then resolve the problem. I had a problem I remember years ago behind at, in LaPlace Park went on for almost 2 years and it turned out to be, what the problem was someone drove a shoe tile into a hoist main, we couldn't find it for years and I mean it was just a problem, it wasn't in fact that the pump station and everything else, they kept complaining, it went on and on and on, until we finally sent somebody got down there, 20 feet down in the ground, could see that sheet pile through that line, so we took the sheet pile out and they haven't complained since then. So it's just soot, sometimes we have a problem and we may not but when you're dealing with this number of lift stations and this much collection systems, these possibilities exist."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "So this has been on going on for 2 years now Jackie?"

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Probably longer."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "You were never called in to take a look at this?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Just quickly, I think if this is the home in Belle Pointe? As both of you have indicated, several years ago there was an occurring problem and pumps were changed and manholes were changed, so I think the explanation was it hadn't really happened since that time. But I agree with you all 100%, anytime it happens it's a problem. So we cannot solve this tonight, obviously we made a huge investment in trying to add telemetry to prevent these things from happening or it's alerting us, we can't prevent them from happening because as Mr. Snyder said it's a mechanical system things break. But having an alert system that works is why we invested in the telemetry system a little over a half of million dollars. So one, you know our pass forward is to want to access what's currently going on there, to access the pumps that are there, obviously to get with the contractor, who else with installation of telemetry and maybe there needs to be another process for monitoring. I can tell you our staff does go out and check these lift stations on a regular basis but as soon as you leave it could break. So give us an opportunity to review this one, this is not something and it appears this is the road you're going down that we know that this has been happening all the time and we've done nothing. That is not the case..."

Councilman Sorapuru interrupting stated, "That's not what I said Ms. Robottom. I didn't say you didn't do anything."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I didn't say you said. I just said seems like you're going in that direction and basically it was addressed 3 years ago, but something else is happening which means we need to go back and address it. And again, we can't resolve it tonight but it is an issue and we are going to go back and look at it and we'll provide an update to all of you. But we have made some changes, we did try to address it, obviously something else has happened this time and as all of you have said and I agree. If it happens one time it's unacceptable, so we definitely need to try and take a look at our problem stations and have a plan to address things, it's not going occur throughout the parish at least have a plan for those problem areas that we can even monitor them closer or have somebody check on them. Again, we have to be cautious that we don't control the mechanical failures, I do think, are you talking about pump? I think you know our next bid package, we're going to specify some better pumps, that's part of the problem, that our specs were not that good we get pumps that break, so you know those are things that happen unrelated to this one, but all of them. We need to have pumps that work, so we're going to be looking at some of that as well."

Councilman Madere stated, "Well I'm go to a, like Ms. Robottom said, there may be something else we have to go out there and take a look at another alternative that they can do or something else. They tried a seal manhole cover and that didn't work. So maybe there's something else and we look at it and maybe we can do. So we're going to take the time and take a step back and see what we can do about that."

Chuck Savoie stated, "I will get with Reed and let me start looking into it and try and see if we can come up with something."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right see if something else another option or something."

**Larry Snyder - Update on Ellerslie and Chatsworth street repair**

Brian Nunes stated, "Mr. Snyder we met about this item in my office, I told you I was going to get a quote on it but we have accessed that area and what we found, did get a quote from the contractor to repair the concrete in that entire area it's about twenty-six thousand dollars (\$26,000.00). Our issue is when that when we accessed it we think there's a problem with the sewer line and drain line that go under the road. So we're coordinating with Reed and his department to fix their lines and we're going to fix our lines before hit the concrete work, instead of breaking that again. In addition, we're looking some areas that were mandated back with Isaac, there's more road money and we think some of the infrastructure problems we're having now, may have been related to that previous damage, but 4 years ago everything went down so. There's a few things going on but that is on our list, we're going to start those repairs as soon as we fix the Melrose one, which is the next item you have on the agenda so I don't know if you want to move right into that and I could tell you what we're doing there."

Councilman Snyder stated, "We can get to that."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well first of all, what kind of assessment we did on this area as far as, found out if we have a drainage problem and a sewage problem besides going out there and looking at it?"

Brian Nunes stated, "Our Utilities employee went out with the camera put it in the hole and shot down with a light to see some issues."

Councilman Snyder asked, "What kind of issues he saw?"

Brian Nunes stated, "I didn't speak with him, I don't know. I didn't get an exact answer."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Now that's what I want to know if there is a need there, I don't see any need there, I don't smell any sewage there. But I do know that the road is terrible and it's the concrete. I see we missing repairs in other places, same type of situation and I think we're dragging our feet on this and there's something we can do about this cement, I know that. Right now if you looked at it you saw what's going on with it now, big blocks of concrete starting to do like this in the middle of the streets. And that's going to cause some problems, cause some major problems who knows, so that definitely need to be addressed. But I'm still concerned about this drainage problem and the sewer problem, there's drainage problem with it also?"

Brian Nunes stated, "The line I didn't see the camera work. So I don't want to tell you exactly what's wrong but sometimes those are old lines. So if the base material gets real wet or inundated for a long time, we start putting some heavy loads on it that can cause you know a joint to separate and then you know then the base material below starts falling in the pipe washing out which causes the road to collapse. So we'd have to fix the problem underneath before we fix the problem on the top."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well I agree with you there but I do know that area

right there on Chadsworth and Ellerslie and over there by Ridgelake, it floods. And I think I asked you to plug, I wrote up a work request to get those certain lines blown out, I don't know if you all had a chance to do that yet, but I did write up a work order I guess about 3 weeks ago to get that done. And that could be part of the problem to, that flooding like you said it's just the concrete that can't handle that water standing there for a long period of time. But I passed there yesterday or day before yesterday I see where there's a lot of markings out there. What's going on with that?"

Brian Nunes stated, "We have to call ONE CALL before we dig, anything before we break the ground, because we don't know what's underneath there, it could be water lines it could be sewer lines it could be gas lines. So we need to call all these companies, we'll call ONE CALL, they'll call the companies and they will come out and mark where their lines are. So we know where everything is before we put a shovel in the ground."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Okay, I did see work on all that. I know you told me something, what you call that when you trying to get the chance to find out what's underneath the ground dotted, dotted that's it and thought that's what it was. Yeah that is what it is. Okay thanks. Looks like something being done over there, I'm satisfied."

#### **Larry Snyder - Melrose - drainage issues**

Brian Nunes stated, "That's that other issue that we're talking about, that's that sink hole. So we were aware, that's another thing the dotted, we called it in, there was a gas line out there, we know it's out there. So we needed that marked before we put a machine and now with the last couple of days getting these afternoon storms, it's been a little wet for us, we don't want to tear everything up but right now that's scheduled, we'll have a machine there Monday morning and we'll start digging and fixing that one."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Thank you."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Could we talk about that one, well not just that one just some information. I know Brian is looking at this and those of us that were here and we need your help on this. I think we're starting to see our concrete basis fail now from 2012. On our street you know there's cracks at the joints, we originally applied for and I think we're going back to FEMA on this, just cause some of our neighbors had done years after, it may have not been evident at the time but if you notice in your areas you're starting to see more cracks at the joints, more sink holes and we think a lot of that is related to that standing water that stayed over those roads for a long period of time. If you have areas that you suspect that, please let us know but we are going back to FEMA, because we think we did not have these kinds of issues, they didn't surface right after the storm, but the way they're surfacing now in the areas that we know were under water, we think there's some impact. So you'll can help us on that but you know, sharing information that you know. I know my street all of a sudden all the you know the cracks started, of course there's another section that's being done on St. Andrews that again, when that standing waters there it just pops the water from the course all of that's cracked, you can see the road is split, the base is separating and what's going to happen is we'll have another sink hole. So again, you know we need to stabilize some of these issues but some of them we think are tied to the flooding the occurred in 2012."

**Larry Snyder - Code Enforcement issues District VI - inoperable vehicles and high grass**

Alexander Carter stated, "There has been an apparent "lull" in completing these types of violations due to employee turnover and training a new Code Enforcement Inspector for the area, I discussed it with Councilman Snyder. Two inspectors were assigned last week to proactively patrol the area to address these types of concerns. And then all concerns should be addressed within the next two (2) weeks."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Is that a promise or we're or we're just hoping?"

Alexander Carter stated, "Well as you know with violation it's different, you know so some of those don't get tagged for 60 days we're tagging them all now. So we have more Code Officers in your area now to make up for the lack of patrolling that occurred because we had the retiree and a gap, so we can do our best."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well that's all I can expect you know. You do your best but we need to stay on top of them. Especially time of year, I look around my community, I look around my district not just my community, my district and I'm in Mr. Maderes' district a lot also you know. And the thing about it is that, I see these people parking cars and they leave them there for 6 months and they're not doing anything with them, the grass you know 2 feet high, I mean and maybe in some areas that might be acceptable, but it's not going to happen on Cambridge Drive, that's not going to happen and then they have 2 lots next door to door, grass 2 feet high. And I know if I'm not mistaken, Ms. Hotard did an Ordinance, is it 10 inches Ms. Hotard?"

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "10 inches."

Councilman Snyder stated, "10 inches and you know the grass and look we need to do something about that. I know we're going through the process but see that one I told you about on Tammy Drive, that's been like that since, they haven't cut their grass this year, I don't think. That's a shame!"

Alexander Carter stated, "We're looking at a couple of areas. Well actually we're on the same page."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yes ma'am."

Alexander Carter stated, "We need to be looking at it very closely."

Councilman Snyder asked, "And you're looking at these cars? People moving in bringing junk cars and parking them on the driveway and they don't move them for 3 or 4 months."

Alexander Carter stated, "Both concerns."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Okay now, that's a promise ok! Thank you very much."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes I want to say something concerning the vehicles and the grass issue. We had that discussion I think a couple of weeks ago, now when it comes to these parked vehicles, that's been going on for years. I went from East 19<sup>th</sup> where I live at and I got as far as East 22<sup>nd</sup> Street and counted..."

Councilman Wright interrupting stated, "Mr. Madere, just make sure yours is referring to District 6, District 6."

Councilman Madere stated, "It's concerning, well what about grass cutting in District 6 then. I'll just talk about the grass Ordinance..."

Councilman Wright interrupting stated, "You can talk about inoperable vehicles and high grass in District 6."

Councilman Madere stated, "So grass don't grow in District 3?"

Councilman Wright stated, "It does, but on the agenda we're just District 6."

Councilman Madere asked, "Well can we discuss the ordinance? Okay can we discuss the ordinance?"

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "No."

Councilman Wright stated, "We can discuss inoperable vehicles and high grass in District 6."

Councilman Madere stated, "Well put it on the agenda for next week. Because we are definitely going to discuss. All of the above."

#### **Larry Snyder - Plymouth Dr. in Cambridge - speed bump/stop sign issues**

Alexander Carter stated, "Planning has contacted the applicant and the resident and the process has been explained in full detail. The resident advised us that he and other residents already planned to pick up the application from Planning and Zoning and have the petition completed."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Has the petition have been completed yet?"

Alexander Carter stated, "They're still missing some signatures."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Say that again."

Alexander Carter stated, ""They're still missing some signatures."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Oh yeah. Would you please communicate that with me through an email or something letting me know what's going on with that?"

Alexander Carter stated, "Absolutely!"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Ok thank you ma'am. But I'd like to dispute one other thing; Mr. Nunes don't put any STOP signs up, you're right they're up. Yeah thank you very much."

#### **Larry Sorapuru - Update on Fire Department - Administrations plan of action**

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Yes I put this on the agenda, we all received the email from the District Attorney's Office on the disconnect legal boundaries that put the private non-profit organizations we have in the parish Fire Departments, I want to thank the District Attorney's Office and Jeff Perilloux for putting this information before us. I know Ms. Robottom has acquired legal counsel but I'm still disconnected to; where do we move from here? We know all

*this information is incorrect, how do we solve this problem? That's my primary interest right now. How we're going to solve this problem?"*

*Natalie Robottom stated, "Actually it was something I think that started, some of the information was brought to District Attorney's Office and through research they found some additional concerns, which all addressed in the memo. We were directed to meet with some of the folks involved, which we did and all honesty that's what we're hiring legal counsel for, to direct us and how to correct it. And until we engage them we can't necessarily tell you that, we know the problems are identified I think we've gotten all the documents that were requested, all the title, all the articles, everything that's been requested but no one has actually started to work on it yet. So once they review all the documentation, they'll probably a recommendation for a path forward to us and at that point we can discuss that, I think at that point in Executive Session?"*

*Bridget Dinvaut stated, "Yes ma'am."*

*Natalie Robottom stated, "So once we engage somebody to look at it, I can't tell you how we're going to solve it, which is why we're hiring someone to help us to solve it."*

*Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Okay well I know you're going to hire somebody but, I have a concern about the private department, the volunteer department that were left out in to how this department is staffed. And I think, I heard this tax, we had a tax mileage that was passed back in 1984?"*

*Councilman Wright stated, "Mr. Sorapuru, ok I would like to YIELD to what the District Attorney and Parish President said. We did hire a consultant, I'm sorry and Attorney to address the issue and then it will be addressed later on, but we can't have further discussion as of right now there are a lot of unknowns."*

*Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Okay but in the meantime all I'm saying; they have input in the Volunteer Fire Department that's part of this organization, make sure they're included in that scope. In a matter of fact, I'd like to see a hearing, a hearing held with the private with the non-profit volunteers that's part of this. And listen, this have no bearing on the people that's fighting the fires right now, the people that's paid firemen versus volunteer firemen, you guys are doing a perfect job, and you save lives and you protect property. And I respect that, the community respects all of that but legal stuff that came before us right now was done 25 years ago or so, plus. So it's our job and responsibility to correct it. So we're not only going to correct the legal problem, we're going to correct the problem where we have volunteer people working side by side with paid firemen and there's some disconnect with that okay?"*

*Natalie Robottom stated, "Obviously we won't discuss this further, but as more data's coming, there's lots of problems and it's not just on one side. There's some requirements that have not been satisfied with regards to the Secretary of State and being in good standing and filing their Articles and having inactive boards and there's lots of problems. So again, we're going to lean on the legal advisor that is hired to review the documents, we'd like everybody to get on the right page and be in good standings and filing their Articles or update them as needed and make sure there are functioning boards to operate a Volunteer Fire Department. So again, these problems came to us the same time it came to you in an email that with documents that showed us and files that*

were there before us, they weren't always, we weren't all involved in that with the buildings and the property for years. What we're doing is taking those and so we're going to address them. And we're asking that you allow us to seek legal counsel to direct on how to address them and I can tell you it's not being approached at an adversarial manner. We understand that there are two groups of fire fighters. And our plan is to work with both groups, but clearly my ultimate goal is Public Safety and Fire Protection. And at this point, that should be all of our goal and we're going to start with that and we'll work around the rest."

Councilman Sorapururu stated, "Sounds good to me."

Councilman Madere stated, "Basically what I was about ready to say but Ms. Robottom just said; as a that's why we hired legal to lead us in the right direction and we will volunteer firefighters and we will paid firefighters and I respect both. Volunteers is a big part of the world, if we didn't have volunteers we would have been in trouble when they had these storms came in. So we definitely respect the volunteer firefighters and they're the one that volunteer. We also respect the paid firefighters and we're going to go through this step by step, very slowly to make sure it comes out right the way it should have been handled probably previously before Ms. Robottom ever became Parish President, before ever even ever thought running for Council, but we have to deal with this problem now and that's why we have to make sure we go step by step and correct the wrong that was done years and years ago and it's not going to happen overnight, it's not going to happen here, it's not going to happen now. So we're going to have to take our time, sit down look at it and get it right. And everybody depends on that you know, in St. John the Baptist Parish and we need to get it right."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "President Robottom, the attorney that we hired, so are they going to address not only the land issues but also the issues we know we're having with the...you know."

Natalie Robottom stated, "There's a couple of things involved. Obviously there's land and buildings and propositions and you know there are lots of things that, which is why we met with our Bond Attorney's, who are involved in the propositions, making sure we were clear on what was allowed, what wasn't. There's also some other components in agreements that were signed by our previous Council, with I think the Volunteer Chiefs had an agreement with the Council and Parish President on what their role would be at the time, so there's lots of agreements in place, they're not all being followed as intended, so we would like for that you know all of that to be addressed and possibly they need guidance, many of those volunteer groups don't have people. So they're just working on their own and maybe once some things that historically ok, but are not necessarily ok. So we're going try to work through all of them and make sure that if we're going to have Volunteer Fire Departments and they're going to function according to their By-Laws, according to their Articles and being in good standing with the Secretary of State and if they are to vote and make decisions, then they're going to vote and make decisions. If they don't have enough members to satisfy their Articles, well then that's a whole nother problem. So maybe we need to work on some recruiting to make sure that they can follow their By-Laws, but if they don't have the right number, and they can't fulfill their Board, therefore their decisions are limited."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Thank you and you know the firefighters that have

*you know it's going to take all of us to get together and get on the same page and like you said, I mean Public Safety is number one, we know we've got the best people, we just need to get this I think resolved and I think we took a step definitely in the right direction tonight by saying let's bring in some additional help to do guide us through all of it, so hopefully we're on the right path. Thank you."*

Councilman Snyder asked, "So with the Attorney coming in, he's just going to take care of the legal issues, am I right?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Right."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Dealing with the properties and thing like that."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I think we previously had some titles surface, so we have some information, but some of the information that we didn't have that was requested was okay, where are the articles, where are the by-laws, how are they supposed to be functioning, give us all the agreements that were previously made sometimes before you all, so look at you know we had to go in and find the documents for some of the donations of property and if there were any restrictions and so there's going to have to be some contact possibly with some other attorneys and clearly when we do that, we'd like attorneys to deal with other attorneys. So in a brief meeting, nobody seem to think it wasn't doable. Everybody thinks it's something that can be worked out, but it's going to be a process and we're going to need legal guidance to work it out."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Yeah well, do we have any volunteers responding to fires, if somebody can just give me some ideas on that?"

Natalie Robottom asked, "Mr. Snyder, you want to discuss that right now?"

Councilman Snyder asked, "What? What you say?"

Natalie Robottom asked, "Do you want to keep going with that?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "I'm just asking, I'm definitely, I'm just wondering what's going on."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I can't answer that."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Let me tell you something let me tell you something. Let me tell you this, I go a soft spot in my heart for the Volunteer Fire Department, ok. You know even when I was a little boy they were out there shaking cans trying to get money to buy fire stuff and I've seen them do some things when I was young, teenager you know, doing things some things out there that I thought they were getting paid for it. I know it was supposed to be a Fire Department, that's all I knew."

Natalie Robottom stated, "And that's all we had."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I know!"

Natalie Robottom stated, "That's all we had."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I know that! And you know what happens you know when you kick them to the curb? You know and you have some of the old ones in

there and I know how they feel. You know we all get kicked to the curb, am I right? Everybody been kicked to the curb once or twice in life."

Natalie Robottom stated, "We actually still have..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "I think they ought to be treated with a little bit more respect, I really do think that you know. And I got some other things on my plate that I'd like to see done to that's was done years ago you know."

Natalie Robottom stated, "We have some Mr. Snyder, if you'd like we could get you a list per Fire Department of how many at each. I can tell you the Westbank Fire Department you know is fully staffed, they have Jr. Firefighters, they respond and we're working on a full volunteer program. In the past, everything has been divided by District and sometimes you need to cross those boundary lines. So we're trying to volunteers who can help out throughout the parish. So we're not trying to kick anybody to the curb, but we also have to have reliable response when there's a fire. And those are documents that go into our fire ratings, so that's information that we have because over the last several years, we've had our Fire Departments come up for fire ratings and had to work really hard to keep from having your rates go up, because you know some of the response times and vehicle and things like that and the number of people. So this is an ongoing issue, but I can tell you we've not lost our rating in any area, but it's been a work in progress and it has taken a group effort to make sure that the data that's needed to keep our ratings is there and we're going to continue doing that. That's according to the residents because if the rating changes, then their rates go up and again that's a signal with regards to your protection level, level of protection."

Councilman Snyder stated, "We have a big Volunteer Fire Departments, we're building stations all over the place, that's what controls our ratings, trust me. Not necessarily all of this, we had decent rates when the volunteers were there, now you got stations in places whereas you know, I don't know like on both sides the tracks, that helps fire rating go down, we got big Volunteer Fire Department, that helps the fire rating go down. I'm sure some other things that do help the fire rating go down but we got quite a few fire stations and we got a paid volunteer fire department. What our fire rating now is about a 3 right now?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "It depends, each district is something different, but there's a lot of things a lot of components and the requirements change. So they recently changed so what was acceptable previously, it's about water pressure, it's about access, it's fire hydrants, types of vehicles, number of people to respond, the type your history of response. So you can't just say what you have, you have to be able to document that somebody actually went to the fire, you have to show that they've been trained. So all of those things get to points towards your rating and you know what ever the guidelines were initially, they since changed. And we have to change and make sure we're keeping up with those so that our rates do stay the same, but I can tell you in reading the documents and think you guys get copies to, there's pages of things that are scored that help to determine what your rating is. So it's a quite a few items that go into that rating and it's not a simple task to maintain the level where we are, nor is it simple to decrease the rates by increasing our rating."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well we do have a paid volunteer fire department. We all are professionals, am I right?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "And it takes both of them."

Councilman Snyder stated, "So that right there should help up with our rating."

Natalie Robottom stated, "It did it did."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well and I know it did, and building another fire station here, one there and strategic places, that's helping us with our rating also."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Right."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I know about some other things that go here but a paid volunteer fire department, those other things are peripheral, trust me and they're supposed to take, be able take care of that."

Natalie Robottom stated, "We can have that discussion because it's nothing that simple. You know we actually had to meet with the rater and they had to give us extensions and so..."

Councilman Snyder stated, "You got a professional system here. That would mean it is necessary to be professional."

Natalie Robottom stated, "We can have that conversation."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yes ma'am, I'm sorry I'm sorry."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "Yes Ms. Robottom you said you met with a group, you had a meeting with some of department heads for the Fire Department, you said you had a meeting?"

Natalie Robottom asked, "With Mr. Hugh, Mr. Ackers?"

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "I thought you said you met with some of the fire departments. Okay maybe I misunderstood what you said."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I don't recall saying that."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "I think Mr. Snyder was trying to bring across and I said it earlier. I'd like for us to have a meeting with the Volunteer Fire Departments."

Natalie Robottom stated, "We can allow Mr. Dufrene, they do meet. You know so no that huh you know that takes place, I didn't but I'm sure you know they have meetings."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Well I'm requesting that this Council have a meeting with the volunteer fire firefighter's period."

Councilman Wright stated, "Thank you Mr. Sorapuru, Ms. Dinvaut has a comment."

Bridget Dinvaut stated, "Just for clarity and full transparency if you look at

*the bottom of Page 2 beginning of Page 3 of the memorandum, on top of making a recommendation to Parish Administration to seek outside counsel to assist with the title issues with the various fire stations as well as the tax propositions, we are asking for a review and opinion from the State Legislative Office because of the expenditure of public funds. So that too is going to be happening as well and hopefully the entire situation could be resolved."*

**MOTION:** Councilman Becnel moved and Councilman Sorapuru seconded the motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Evette LaCarbo Anderson vs. The Hartford Casualty Insurance Company, Et als - 40<sup>th</sup> JDC Parish of St. John Docket #52225. The motion passed with Councilman Perrilloux absent.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Evette Lacarbo Anderson vs. The Hartford Casualty Insurance Company, Et als - 40<sup>th</sup> JDC Parish of St. John Docket #52225  
Parish Buildings - Security

Lennix Madere - St. John the Baptist Parish vs. Myrtle F. Victor, Roba Inc. and Adair Asset Management, LLC, 40<sup>th</sup> JDC, #63827

Any and all pending legal matters

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

Councilman Wright stated, *"As a result of Executive Session we do have action."*

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to authorize an additional twenty-thousand dollars (\$20,000.00) to go with the original thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000.00) for a total amount fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) and authorize legal counsel to settle St. John Docket #52225. The motion passed with Councilman Perrilloux absent.

Councilman Wright stated, *"Notice of Public Hearing - Notice is hereby given that the St. John the Baptist Parish Council plans to consider adopting an ordinance levying previously authorized ad valorem taxes within St. John the Baptist Parish at its meeting on Tuesday, September 13, 2016 at 6:30 PM at the Council Chambers, 1801 W. Airline Hwy., LaPlace, Louisiana."*

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:**

**16-34** An ordinance requesting approval to further extend the valid Period of time for an additional twelve (12) months for Preliminary Planned Unit Development (PUD) as per SJB Code Sec. 113-289, including amending the zoning map from the Residential One (R-1) to the Planned Unit Development (PUD) zoning district and re-subdividing four undesignated lots of record into lots A and B, Square 11, Lot C, Square 20, and Lot D, of the Glencoe Plantation, commonly referred to as the Garyville Parish Housing Authority (PHA) site, which is bounded by South Fig Street, Museum Street, Historic Main Street, and Blue Bell Street in Garyville, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (PZR-15-1041)

**16-35** An ordinance to grant preliminary approval and conditional

subdivision approval of an undesignated tract measuring approximately one (1) arpent by eighty (80) arpents 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, 14, 16, 18, 20, and 22, Block 4 Tiger Landing Subdivision and the dedication of Jes Drive and Breeze Way Street; in the area generally bounded by LA Highway 18, Sammy Court, East 9<sup>th</sup> Street, and the Texas & Pacific Railway; Edgard, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana and to authorize St. John the Baptist Parish, through the Office of the Parish President and Council Chairman, to execute a Construction Agreement with J.E.S. Construction, Inc. for the installment of all associated improvements (PZS-16-1146)

**16-36** An ordinance approving the rezoning of Lot 1-B and an undesignated lot, Reserve Industrial Park Subdivision; in the area generally bounded by Power Boulevard, the L&A/Kansas City Southern Railway, West 10<sup>th</sup> Street, and Rosenwald Street; Reserve, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana, from the Industrial District Two (I-2) to the Industrial District Three (I-3) zoning District (PZR-16-1051)

**16-37** An ordinance to amend Section 40-27(5) (b) and 40-27 (5) (c) of the St. John the Baptist Parish Code of Ordinances relative to Speed Bumps as follows: By adding the following to each of the above Referenced paragraphs after the word "owners": "Or tenants if property is a rental" (L. Snyder)

#### **PRESIDENT REPORT:**

Natalie Robottom stated, "Good evening. I would like to thank Ms. Michelle Higgins and the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program for the beautiful appreciation event for our senior volunteers. This year the luncheon was at the St. James Boat Club and St. John senior volunteers clocked in more than 32,000 hours valued a \$756,949.77. Among the longest serving St. John volunteers were Gloria Brignac, Jackie Labat, Alice Roussell, Nellwyn Torres and Betty Vicknair who were recognized for 20 plus years of volunteer service. Terry Labat and Velda Michel were honored for top hours. So we'd like to thank our neighboring Parishes of St. Charles and St. James for partnering with us for our first media day event in preparation for hurricane season. We'd also like to thank St. Charles Parish for hosting the event at their EOC and each Parish President, Director of Emergency Preparedness and the Director of Communications for their efforts. Specific thanks go to Baileigh and Jobe for their presentations. Each parish shared their emergency plan with each other and representatives from the state, media, non-profits and local elected officials. The purpose of the event was to engage staff from all 3 parishes and other partners prior to needing them during an emergency. Once again, the parish is partnering with Blessed to be a Blessing, Marathon Petroleum Co., the local chapter of Omega Psi Phi and a host of other sponsors to provide a Backpack Extravaganza. The event is scheduled for this Saturday, July 30<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the St. John Community Center. Free backpacks, school supplies & hygiene kits will be available to the first 700 children. A parent or guardian must be present with the child to receive supplies. For more information, please contact Sheryl Gaines at 985-359-9954. On the West Bank, the Community Action Panel will host the annual West St. John Festival and school supply give away. The event is also this Saturday, July 30th and begins at 1:00 p.m. at West St. John Elementary School. We want to remind everyone that within the next couple of weeks, schools will be opening and

roadway traffic will increase. There are also various road construction projects taking place Parishwide, including the Hemlock and W. 10<sup>th</sup> St. Projects. DOTD will be closing a section of River Road located 0.5 miles east of La. Highway 3213 and 2.2 miles west of La. Highway 54 beginning at 4:00 pm on July 27<sup>th</sup> and ending July 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 a.m. The Road closure is to allow Noranda Alumina to conduct testing of a chemical pipeline that crosses over River Road. Local traffic only will be allowed, as directed by local law enforcement. Please use an alternate route. We ask that drivers keep an eye out for school-age children who may walk or ride bikes to school as well as work crews and equipment. We also want to wish all of our students, teachers and support staff good luck as they head back to school—we wish all of you a safe, healthy and productive school year. Our summer programs are winding down and we want to thank all who were involved including our staff, monitors, drivers, counselors, lifeguards, volunteers and more. It was a record-breaking year for involvement and we look forward to seeing those numbers increase. Also, through the free Ashley Kelly Swim program 190 children and 45 adults learned how to swim. The Summer Feeding program was also a success as more than 20,000 meals were served. Beginning Monday, August 1<sup>st</sup>, the new garbage contract will begin. At this time, no route changes have been made and the company and parish will be conducting a service audit and analyzing the system to improve services and increase efficiencies. Metro Services is setting up an office in the parish and more information and contact information will be provided in the near future. Councilman Madere will host a District 3 Town Hall Meeting on Monday, August 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the Reserve Library. Residents are encouraged to attend to share concerns and ask questions to Parish officials in attendance. Rising Star Baptist Church at 620 Cardinal St. in LaPlace is also hosting one of its regular town hall meetings on Thursday, August 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. The public is invited to attend to express concerns and questions as well. A ribbon cutting ceremony for the Foxwood Drainage Project will be held Friday August 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. at the entrance of Foxwood Subdivision. Residents and the public are invited to attend.”

**ADJOURNMENT:**

At 8:35 PM, Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilman Perrilloux absent.

/s/Michael Wright  
COUNCIL VICE CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche  
COUNCIL SECRETARY