

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, AUGUST 11TH, 2015
CHAIRMAN MICHAEL WRIGHT
VICE CHAIR MARVIN PERRILLOUX

The Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session in the Joel McTopy Chambers, LaPlace, Louisiana on Tuesday, August 11th, 2015, at 6:30 PM.

CALL TO ORDER:

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

ABSENT: Marvin Perrilloux

Councilman Snyder led the Prayer. Councilman Gauff led the Pledge.

Legal Counsel Jeff Perilloux and Keith Green, Jr. were present.

Marvin Perrilloux - New Business - Cognitive Development Center

Tarkisha Wallace, Clinical Director for Cognitive Development Center is an accredited behavioral health agency who provides services such as; individual counseling, family counseling, anger management, job readiness, substance abuse and support services in the natural settings of your home, school and neighborhood. The agency is located at 576 Belle Terre Blvd., for more information you may call (985)359-2300 or visit their website at cognitivedevelopmentcenterla.com. The Council Members thanked Ms. Wallace for coming out and providing information on their new location.

Marvin Perrilloux - New Business - Pro-Promotions Plus/Embroid, Etc.

Mrs. Maria Ross Burke, Owner/Operator of Pro-Promotions Plus and a lifelong resident of St. John Parish and has been a business owner since 2006 and operates a marketing and advertising company. Her company supplies logo apparel and promotional merchandise to businesses and organizations. Since Hurricane Isaac she had to relocate her business from Belle Terre and is now operating out of her home at 2208 Country Club Drive. For more information you may call (985)233-9338. The Council Members thanked and wished Mrs. Burke great success and for providing information on her business.

Torri Buckles - Shop local drawing

Torri Buckles introduced Rodney Nicholas, EDC Chair; Eliza Eugene also with the EDC; Business Owners Earl Rodrigue, Roussel's Home & Gifts and Ms. Melanie Wright, A Storage Inn who were very instrumental in the Shop Local St. John Back to School Campaign which encourages our residents to shop in St. John Parish. The purpose of this campaign is to educate our community

about the value of our parishes locally and independently owned businesses. For every \$100.00 spent in St. John, \$68.00 stays in the parish. The Back to School Campaign was held from August 1st - August 8th, 2015. For more information please visit www.sjbparish.com or call (985) 652-9569 The Council Members thanked everyone for their participation.

Natalie Robottom/Larry Snyder/Jaclyn Hotard - Proclamation - Mr. Charles Wisher - Senior Olympics

Natalie Robottom read the proclamation and presented it to Mr. Charles Wisher who is a Senior Olympian, World War II Veteran and Retired Mechanical Engineer. Congratulations goes out to Mr. Wisher for his great success.

Natalie Robottom/Kerry Watkins - Recognition - St. John Warriors 14yr old team - Dizzy Dean World Series Champions

Natalie Robottom recognized St. John Warriors for winning the 2015 Dizzy Dean World Series Championship Title for the 3rd year in the row and presented team members with a certificate and thanked the coaches and players. The Council also congratulated the team for a tremendous win, great work and thanked the parents for supporting their children.

Natalie Robottom - Recognition - Alyssa Duhe - Play 60 Summit Louisiana Representative

Natalie Robottom recognized Alyssa Duhe for as the 2015-2016 Louisiana Ambassador for National Program, Fuel Up to Play 60 which helps kids to get good nutrition and 60 minutes of activity each day. Alyssa is a freshman at East St. John High School and is in the process of incorporating the program at her new school. Congratulations goes out to her from the Council.

Consent Agenda

Items: Approval of Minutes - July 28th, 2015, Regular Meeting;

MOTION: Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Gauff seconded the motion to approve the amended consent agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes - July 28th, 2015, Regular Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:

15-28 (Tabled 7-28-15) An ordinance to amend the Code of Ordinances of St. John the Baptist Parish, as follows: By adding to Chapter 113, Section 113-561 - Exemptions (signs) (N. Robottom)

MOTION: Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Snyder seconded the motion to remove 15-28 from the table. The motion passed unanimously.

Angelic Keller stated, "Yes 2 meetings ago I guess about 4 weeks or so ago I did hear your concerns, I did make an amendment to No. 1 which decreased the size and tied it to the size of the property and so at this point Administration would recommend approval of the Ordinance with that modification or amendment."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "Ms. Keller is there any time limit on this still or is it still open, open ended?"

Angelic Keller stated, "No there is no time limit that was imposed the last time I introduced the amendments."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "So it's still could be out there until forever and there is no restrictions as far as I can concern I mean is there any way we can go ahead and say that they have twelve (12) months or something and then apply for a permanent sign or something, I just don't want to see signs hanging around forever and not being maintained or just being there. You know every time we put an ordinance together there's no teeth for enforcing it and this is one of those open end ordinances I'm a little afraid about."

Angelic Keller stated, "The whole purpose for the exemptions was, so that people would not have to come to the office to get a permit for those signs that are there temporarily. There are some other exceptions that we will be bringing forth later, these were the two that we started with and so that was one of the main purposes of this not to have to get a permit not to pay for the permit. So if you put a time..."

Councilwoman Miller interrupting stated, "But there's no regulation on it then."

Angelic Keller stated, "Well if you put a timeframe on it then at that point also, how is it enforceable. Is it going to be complaint based, you know a sign could have been there for 6 months or a year already and then you know if you don't come in to get a permit then there is no way for us to track it at that point. However if you notice the sign has been there for a year, two years, three years and it says; Coming Soon and nothing has come then you address it at that point. If the sign is dilapidated or..."

Councilwoman Millet interrupting stated, "But you have nothing to address it you have no teeth to it, because it didn't require anything."

Angelic Keller stated, "I understand that and again I have the same, I guess the same response that I had the last two or three meetings we discussed this. This was our recommendation based on research that we did out of our office and other jurisdictions. Those jurisdictions did not have time frames and my educated opinion, if there were problems in these other jurisdictions with this particular ordinance they..."

Councilwoman Millet interrupting stated, "I don't live in another jurisdiction."

Councilman Wright stated, "Mrs. Millet let Ms. Keller finish please."

Angelic Keller stated, "They would have imposed a time frame on it, so again I don't think just passage of this ordinance will open a flood gate of people to start erecting all these signs that are not intended for a purpose which is to advertise your business or new construction that is coming soon or that is currently in the process of being built. I don't see that personally, again that's my opinion based on research from our office, again so what we're recommending is approval as is with the modifications that we did make

to decrease the size for Exemption No. 1."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "I appreciate your thoughts Ms. Keller okay. I just I see problems personally through the parish we've worked them very hard to trying and keep our overlay Districts not to become a problem with all these signs around. I'm not going stand behind and if anyone have no objection to it, I'm going to stand alone and vote no because I feel like it just doesn't have any way for us to enforce it. Anyone can, why get a sign permit when I can say Coming Soon and I need no permit and that's what's happening and I'm afraid that's the problem. There's a lot of our ordinances that need to be fixed and set up perfect and I don't this is one that's completely together and in my opinion it should be brought back with all the I's dotted and T's crossed rather than coming back to amend this at another time after it's been researched or challenged. I just see too many loop holes in it that are going to allow too many problems in the future and that's my problem with it."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Thank you and thanks Ms. Keller. I know we've had several discussions about this ordinance and I do support this ordinance the way that it is written, Councilwoman Millet to your point even without the time limitation there are signs in your District right now that have even exceeded a 6 month or 12 month period that are for the purposes of showing what's coming soon or plot plans or things like that, so if we put something of what you're suggesting in place to have a limitation then some of those signs that I believe are advertising good businesses in your District would have to come down and would have to get a permit and I think that part of the intent that we are trying to do is some of these sign ordinances is remove some of the bureaucracy and the burden that we place on our business owners when they're trying to erect new businesses. So you know we can see a problem in anything if we choose to look for one, I see this as a good thing, I see this as a removable of red tape for residents who are coming soon and there are some limitations in the ordinance itself, because it's for the construction of a new business, so you can't have a sign to advertise something that's already there you won't be able to abuse in that way. So you have limitations based on what these signs can actually be used to advertise. So it's not, I don't want to, I know you're saying that but it's not really true, this is not a free for all. This will not allow anybody and everybody to just go and erect a sign saying whatever they want. It will be for new businesses that are coming soon and again we talk about removing red tape, we talk about what's good for small businesses, we talk about undoing bureaucracy but we actually need to walk the walk, you know so I support this I'm happy the businesses won't have to come in and get permits to say that they're coming soon and in enforcement mechanism in there, if you're not advertising that you're coming soon well then you don't even fall into this ordinance so ready to move forward we've talked about it for several meetings nothing has been offered but conversation and so I'm ready to vote on this as it is. I thank you Ms. Keller for working on this I know we've talked about it several times, I think this is a good move for our business owner's thank you."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Exactly what Ms. Hotard said we talked about it long enough I support it and I'm ready to move on this ordinance."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well I feel like Mrs. Millet feel myself. I think

there should be a time limit on it and I did send you a comment to that point and you asked me for a comment what I suggest. It was your ordinance you do it, I don't have no problem with no permit for a sign, but I don't think it can stay out there for as long as it needs to stay out there and I agree Ms. Millet we should have a time limit on it. All this hog wash about this and about that it's a sign, this sign could be how many square feet 60 square feet, that's a large sign it could be out there forever. We have both of the signs the same size now?"

Angelic Keller stated, "No we actually I actually reduced the first one."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Reduced the first one. What size is the other one?"

Angelic Keller stated, "The construction sign is 64 square feet not more than 64 square feet and the Coming Soon sign is, it depends on the linear footage of your lot not to exceed 32 foot square feet."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Right and I don't know why we didn't just put both of them the same size, you know and you sent me a response back but that was a response. I was just actually suggesting something, maybe you may want to look at that but obviously like you said, you think it is right the way it is just because somebody else does it don't mean they're right you know. The way I look at it they should have a time limit on it, just like we put on temporary employees we can put a time limit on this and I'm not supporting it."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "Ms. Keller I would support it if you went ahead and I understand that your department has no way of determining when a sign is erected because no one goes out there to check it. There are ways to do that and you indicated yourself to get a no fee permit so now you have something that documents when that sign was put up. There's no red tape involved it's just it, it's just very simply saying when they came in and when that sign was erected. If it's there after a year and I think a year is a reasonable time they can always extend it. But I just think we need to have some kind of time limit on it so that we can have some kind of control over it and that's my only concern. So I would recommend that we would do something to amend it to include a time frame."

Angelic Keller stated, "I understand what you're saying and as Planning & Zoning Department and Administration, we brought to you what we recommended. You want me to make an amendment to an ordinance that some of the other Council Members said they don't want. So I think this is the ordinance I presented at any point a Council Member can make motion to modify the ordinance as you see fit. But you know if I change it at this point for you then you still have other Council Members which have voiced their opinion saying they do not want it. So you're welcome to make whatever amendments you want and have your fellow Council Members vote on it but this is the recommendation we put forth."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "Well Ms. Keller it would have been very nice if you would have brought this to the Council before you introduced that way we could have made those recommendations okay and I'm not going to get in the contest of one way or the other. The bottom line is I personally have an issue with it on the time frame and I would rather make..."

Councilman Gauff called for a question.

Councilman Wright interrupting stated, "Mr. Gauff, Mr. Gauff called a question please use your lights."

MOTION: Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 15-28. The motion carries with 6 yeas and 3 against (Millet, Snyder, Madere).

15-37 An ordinance granting approval to further extend the valid period of time of Conditional Subdivision Approval for an additional twelve (12) months for Coles Landing Subdivision, Phase IV, lots 148 through 208, and Parcels D, F, G & H, situated in Section 91, T-11-S, R-7-E, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (N. Robottom)

Angelic Keller stated, "This property owner requests an extension of conditional approval for 12 months due to slow sales in the real estate market. Administration recommends approval."

MOTION: Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 15-37. The motion passed unanimously.

15-38 An ordinance granting approval to further extend the valid period of time of Conditional Subdivision Approval for an additional twelve (12) months for Praise Place Subdivision, Lots 27 through 83 and parcels V-1, V-2 and V-3, on East 22nd Street, situated in Section 46 and 47, T-11-S, R-7-E, Reserve, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (N. Robottom)

Angelic Keller stated, "The property owner requests an extension of conditional approval for 12 months due to slow sales in the real estate market. Administration recommends approval."

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Gauff seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 15-38. The motion passed unanimously.

15-39 An ordinance granting approval to rezone a portion of lot 3 and all of lots 4, 5, and 6 in Square 7 of Woodland Estates situated in Section 64, T-11-S, R-7-E, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana, from the Industrial One (I-1) to the Commercial Three (C-3) District (PZR-15-1038) (N. Robottom)

Angelic Keller stated, "This rezoning is necessary for the proposed construction of two new hotels. The request was approved by the Planning Commission at the July 20, 2015 meeting and Administration recommends approval."

Councilman Wilson asked, "What street is this on?"

Angelic Keller stated, "This is on the corner of Woodland Drive and Hwy. 51 in LaPlace."

Councilman Wilson asked, "Both of them?"

Angelic Keller stated, "Yes."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "Can you tell me what the purpose of this rezoning is?"

Angelic Keller stated, "The rezoning is to from Industrial to Commercial, 3 as the allowed use for the hotel/motel."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "So they're zoning down?"

Angelic Keller stated, "They're zoning down."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "They're zoning down thank you."

MOTION: Councilman Snyder moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 15-39. The motion passed unanimously.

15-40 An ordinance granting approval to re-subdivide portions of lot 1 & 1-A & lots 3, 4, 5, & 6, Square 7, Woodland Estates into two (2) lots designated as lots 3A & 5A, Square 7, Woodland Estates, situated in Section 64, T-11-S, R-7-E, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (PZS-15-1116) (N. Robottom)

Angelic Keller stated "The previous ordinance you actually rezoned for of the 6 lots and in ordinance we're asking that you approve the re-subdivision, is also necessary for the proposed construction of two new hotels referenced in the previous ordinance. The request was approved by the Planning Commission at the July 20, 2015 meeting. Administration recommends approval."

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 15-40. The motion passed unanimously.

15-41 An Ordinance granting approval to re-subdivide & designate lot T, situated in Section 11, T-12-S, R-19-E, Edgard, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (PZS-1118) (N. Robottom)

Angelic Keller stated, "This re-subdivision request was approved by the Planning Commission at the July 20, 2015 meeting and Administration recommends approval of this request inclusive of a subdivision modification for lot depth."

MOTION: Councilman Gauff moved and Councilman Smith seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 15-41. The motion passed unanimously.

15-42 An Ordinance granting approval to re-subdivide & designate lot 1-EA of the H. Populus Tract, situated in Section 20, T-12-S, R-18-E, Wallace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (PZS-15-1119) (N. Robottom)

Angelic Keller stated, "This re-subdivision request was approved by the Planning Commission at the July 20, 2015 meeting, and Administration recommends approval of this request inclusive of a subdivision modification for lot depth."

MOTION: Councilman Gauff moved and Councilman Smith seconded the motion to

approve Ordinance 15-42. The motion passed unanimously.

15-43 An Ordinance granting approval to re-subdivide lot 1 & 2 of the Dennis Duhe lot; lot A, B, C, the remainder of the L.T. Scioneaux Jr. Tract, the rear portion of the Michael Becnel Tract, & the Alexis Millet Tract, all lying north of Airline Highway & South of the St. John the Baptist Oxidation Pond Site into lots 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A, 6A, 7A, & 8A, Becnel Millet Subdivision, situated in Section 48, T-11-S, R-6-E, Reserve, St. John the Baptist Parish (PZS-15-1120) (N. Robottom)

Angelic Keller stated, *"This re-subdivision request, which includes double frontage lots, was approved by the Planning Commission at the July 20, 2015 meeting and Administration recommends approval."*

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Wilson seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 15-43. The motion passed with 8 yeas and 1 absent (Snyder).

15-44 An Ordinance granting approval to re-subdivide lots 24A, 24B, & 25, Square B, New Era Addition, into three (3) lots designated as lots 24A-1, 24B-1, & 25A, Square B, New Era Addition, situated in Section 19, T-11-S, R-7-E, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (PZS-15-1121) (N. Robottom)

Angelic Keller stated, *"This re-subdivision request was approved by the Planning Commission at the July 20, 2015 meeting and Administration recommends approval of this request inclusive of subdivision modifications for proposed lot depth for lot 24B-1 and lot width for Lot 25A."*

MOTION: Councilman Gauff moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 15-44. The motion passed with 8 yeas and 1 absent (Snyder).

15-45 An ordinance to provide reduced rental rates for the St. John the Baptist Parish Community Center as follows: Established legal resident regular rate (M. Perrilloux)

MOTION: Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Gauff seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 15-45. The motion passed with 8 yeas and 1 absent (Snyder).

15-46 An ordinance to amend Chapter 105 of the St. John the Baptist Parish Code of Ordinances as follows: Demolition Permits (L. Gauff & R. Wilson)

MOTION: Councilman Gauff moved and Councilman Wilson seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 15-46. The motion passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilwoman Millet stated, *"On behalf of Mr. Madere and the Finance Committee I'd like to make a motion to accept the items that were approved in the finance meeting."*

MOTION: Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to accept the recommendations of the finance committee. The motion

passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Lucien Gauff - Resolution - R15-31 - A Resolution requesting the Parish of St. John the Baptist to reduce the current speed limits in the Pleasure Bend area on the following streets: Rue St. James, Rue St. John and Rue St. Charles from 25 mph to 15 mph

MOTION: Councilman Gauff moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to approve Resolution R15-31. A resolution requesting the Parish of St. John the Baptist to reduce the current speed limits in the Pleasure Bend area on the following streets: Rue St. James, Rue St. John and Rue St. Charles from 25 mph to 15 mph. The motion passed with 8 yeas and 1 absent (Wilson).

Lucien Gauff - Resolution - R15-32 - A Resolution requesting the LA DOTD STATE OF LOUISIANA to reduce the current speed limit from 35 mph to 25 mph on LA Hwy 643 (Which turns into Rue St. Martin and dead ends) starting at the Pleasure Bend Fire Station (1200 Hwy. 643, Vacherie) and continuing on through the Residential Area until Rue St. Martin dead ends

Motion: Councilman Gauff moved and Councilman Smith seconded the motion to approve Resolution R15-32. A resolution requesting the LA DOTD STATE OF LOUISIANA to reduce the current speed limit from 35 mph to 25 mph on LA Hwy 643 (Which turns into Rue St. Martin and dead ends) starting at the Pleasure Bend Fire Station (1200 Hwy. 643, Vacherie) and continuing on through the Residential Area until Rue St. Martin dead ends. The motion passed with 8 yeas and 1 absent (Wilson).

DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:

Larry Snyder - (Carry Over 10-13-14) Discussion Lions Water Plant Phase VIII design

This above item will be carried over.

Lennix Madere - (Carry Over 5-12-15) Homer "Boogie" Joseph Center timeline request for start and completion

This above item will be carried over.

Lennix Madere - (Carry Over 7-14-15) Update on drainage issues Hickory Street and E. 26th Street

Councilman Madere stated, "I need to know something about that."

Brian Nunes stated, "Hickory we haven't gotten to yet and we're still behind but when we drove the other day after the last Council Meeting we did look at 26th and talked to my Assistant Director we've been out there already, we've done some work and we were waiting to see if some more rain came to make sure it worked, we haven't had rain since then."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes I'm aware of the area that you repaired that work. What about the spot I showed you where I thought there was a possible

obstruction under that address that, did you go back and look at that one?"

Brian Nunes stated, "I went back and talked to my crew they said they had already done it before we rode out there, so now we need to make sure that everything works the way it's supposed to be."

Councilman Madere asked, "Okay and on Hickory Street is are we progressing on getting the signatures or the ok from the owners of the private property?"

Brian Nunes stated, "No we haven't done that because I'm not going to start doing that until it's on the schedule, it's going to be on the schedule but as far as chasing down signatures right now, it's pretty far back. We're still, we've got one of our machines in Garyville right now, one in LaPlace Park we're not there yet probably a week before we're ready to go I'll go ahead and get all the signatures and make sure we're straight."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay so months a couple of months?"

Brian Nunes stated, "I can't tell you right now, I wouldn't say a couple of months I'd be sooner than that."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay alright thank you."

Councilman Wright stated, "Thank you Mr. Madere."

Lucien Gauff/Carol Dawson - Code Issue/Livestock

The above item has been removed from the agenda.

Lennix Madere - Parish equipment - Process to buy/rent/replace

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes I put this on the agenda after witnessing our parish workers out there last week and I immediately put this on the agenda and it's sort of similar to what Mr. Snyder made a comment about, going out and looking at the possibility of getting this other machine that would go as high as these lights and it seems as though no one made an effort to go out there and do that..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting asked, "Can we address that right quick? There wasn't anybody here to respond but we've gotten an answer. The reason that, that is contracted out that's the only place we can use that size truck, is on the lights and that size truck cannot fit down the streets. So because the lights are not changed very often every so many years it wouldn't be feasible to purchase a vehicle, a bucket truck that would be used just for the lights but yet the ballpark lights but couldn't be used for the street lights which is what we need them for the most. So somebody did look into it they weren't here to give that answer but they sent/forwarded it. So there was a reason behind it."

Councilman Madere stated, "Ok, I'm glad to hear the reason and not the fact that it was just ignored. Back to my issue, several months ago, might have been 10 months Mr. Snyder how long ago? We witnessed this particular place that was going out of business and have a lot of equipment we used to rent from and we made a request that someone go out there and take a look at the

equipment and see if there is a possibility that we can purchase some of this equipment. In fact the guy even told me, if the parish would make him an offer he would work with them, in fact he had to sell the whole site. Equipment, land, building everything and office space, in fact you wouldn't have to move anything, he said make an offer. And I went back several times and spoke to him and he said no one ever came and observed or look at the equipment. Now that brought me back to why this is on the agenda, whenever someone is doing something in my district I go and take a look at it, not to interfere just to look. When I arrived there I saw the workers pounding on this machine trying to put this piece of equipment back together, they went to the store must have gone to Ace or Ace Hardware and bought a big bolt to put in the machine, you know obviously it doesn't go in the machine because it's a big aluminum bolt and the first time they used it, it popped. So you know that was one thing, but what really upset me was when the guy put the bolt on there and was ready to try the machine out, another guy had to hop up on the machine with him to step on the accelerator so they can get enough power to move the arm. When that machine was equipped with a throttle that he could use, so it took 2 individuals to operate one machine and I think that is embarrassing and those workers shouldn't have to go out there and work with a piece of equipment like that and the residents who are paying taxes shouldn't have that kind of equipment out there trying to do work in the community. In fact a comment was made that...

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "Mr. Madere obviously this is our first time hearing about this and we're hearing one side of the information..."

Councilman Wright interrupting stated, "Ms. Robottom, Mr. Madere please finish your comments then we'll finish ask for comments."

Councilman Madere stated, "What I'm trying to say is; okay we said in the beginning we have to be transparent, this is a problem that the residents see so it's no secret the people who are out there see it, so it needs to be said that we have to make sure that the workers are put in the best possible position to do their job and then they should have quality equipment in order for them to do quality work and that's the only machine, the other machine the excavator that's supposed to dig, the temperature index at that time was 110° and this guy is sitting in this little cubicle with no air condition, the window was busted out so he could get some air, that's dangerous that guy could have actually passed out. So I'm not only concerned about the equipment I'm concerned about the employees to have to use that piece of equipment. If that thing doesn't have air condition at this time of the year, it should be off the road. Okay especially when the heat index is this high, we cannot take a chance of risking the workers for work and we can't take the chance without having equipment to do the work. So that's why I brought this to the attention of this council and to this administration and the department that have that type of equipment that's not working, okay. We can spend money on a lot of things, but we have to make sure that the workers have what they need to do their work. Because I know a lot of times they get bashed because some people say they're not doing their work or they're not doing this. This group of people was out there working, wanted to do their work but it was the equipment that wouldn't allow them to do the job. Okay and if I was that guy operating from outside I wouldn't be sitting in that little cube, so that's my concern about that and we need to make sure they have what they need and not one. I was informed we have one backhoe in Public Works, we should have

two of everything you understand I know we are not Noah's Ark but we should have two of everything okay in these departments, two of everything and not one and that piece of equipment; my advice is: put it on the back of a truck and take it to Bayou Steel and then get a down payment on something that work. That piece of equipment is junk."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I'll address that. Obviously that's a concern to us and it would have been appropriate I think for us to get that comment when it occurred because that is not condoned by anybody on my staff and if it's a safety issue we need to address immediately and not wait until the Council Meeting. Clearly I'm not familiar with this situation we've purchased equipment, there's money to purchase additional equipment. The safety of our employees is discussed at every meeting, there are safety meetings so if there are concerns the way to address them is to direct those to administrative staff who can deal with it. At this point and time we don't know who you're talking about, where it occurred, what machine, this is all in a, it's non-productive. Clearly we're concerned about our employees, the equipment they're on and their safety and in order to address it, we need the information and we need specific information about what and where and when these occurrences take place so that they can be addressed. So we're not condoning it, obviously there's a problem, we'd appreciate it if you can forward us that information specifically we'll address it immediately, because it's unacceptable to me and it should be unacceptable to the department."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes I will disagree with one part that you said and that was the fact that; this is the venue because this is not just a council concern, it's a parish concern and that's what this meeting is all about, that everybody know what's going on okay, so I think it is an appropriate venue for it, now I didn't say you were wrong but I'm pretty sure you do not condone that type of thing and I don't have a problem you know, giving the department or anything else so I don't mind giving that information. But if we're having safety meetings and then we send them out without unsafe equipment then safety meeting is not very productive then..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "Mr. Madere please give us the opportunity to address whatever it is you are..."

Councilman Wright stated, "Ms. Robottom Ms. Robottom you do not have the floor. Mr. Madere please finish your comments."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay that's all I'm saying okay so if we're going to do this and we're going to have these safety concerns then it's not your responsibility that's why you have Directors, okay that's why you have Directors..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "But again you were directed to me, I can address..."

Councilman Wright interrupting stated, "Mrs. Robottom you speak when recognized, you speak when recognized. Mr. Madere you have the floor."

Councilman Madere stated, "What I'm saying is okay I'm bringing it to the Council, I want them to be aware of it, I want everyone to be aware of it and"

know you're aware of it, then you meet with your Directors and you direct them okay not for this to happen. So that's all I'm saying."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Again for all of you, if there is a concern about anybody's safety I encourage you to call us immediately and not wait until a Tuesday night Council Meeting. I have no problem with you advising the council or the entire parish but if you're truly concerned about residents, our employees and their safety that needs to be brought to our attention immediately so if any of you see anything out there, direct it to me and I'll direct my directors. Thank you."

Larry Snyder/Marvin Perrilloux - Update on CDBG funding

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yeah I put it on there and I think I sent the chairman a note on this, that I'd like to see it on here every meeting to give us an update on this CDBG program because there are people asking me questions and maybe I can wait until that day to ask questions to the manager of that program. So that's why I put it there and I see it was stated that they are going to send us a report. But the whole point is to get the people who is at home and watch our proceedings here to get them up to date and it might pump them or you may answer their questions as far as; where we are with the system, how far have we come and what is our next step? And that's why I want it on the standing agenda and I'd like to make a motion right now if I need a motion."

Councilman Wright stated, "We can put that on the agenda that's no problem."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Thank you."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "I didn't know it was going to be on the agenda, I had called about it but I sent an email to Mr. Lucia and Mr. Coburn you could probably answer. I just wanted to know where we were in the process, I know I asked at the last meeting about the 1st time homebuyers and where we are with that but I want to know, just want to know when the residents are going to get the funding? We do a lot of administrative changes of mending or doing something with administration, we did a couple of things with Gustav and Ike in the finance, that's all good, but when the residents are going to start receiving the funding? I've been asked this question, I'm asked about it daily and I sent the email and I was just going to wait on the request until you give me the information so I can give the feedback to the residents. But since it's here, you may not have that tonight but that's what I was looking for."

Michael Coburn stated, "I can give you that information kind of a breakdown of where we are as it stands today. Three hundred twenty-seven (327) homeowner rehab completed applications have been moved from the intake phase into the title phase, one hundred thirty-six (136) homebuyer assistance completed applications have moved from the intake phase into the homebuyer training phase that they have to go through. Forty-seven (47) elevation completed applications have moved from intake into the title phase, sixteen (16) small rental rehabs applications have moved from intake into the title phase. So that gives a total of five hundred twenty-six (526) total applications that have been deemed eligible by the Intake Firm and have moved to the title or home buying training phase of the program where it stands

now. One hundred and fifty (150) of those title exams have been completed and those applicants have moved into the inspection phase as of today. Of those one hundred fifty (150), one hundred and six (106) inspection reports have been completed and returned to their project manager, these one hundred six (106) applicants are ready for construction. We are still waiting on seven million dollars (\$7,000,000) that has to be downloaded from of the Office of Community Development to us so that the construction phase will start. From Mrs. Gunner's office we're anticipating that to be in the month of September and we can begin construction either the last of September or the beginning of October. But that seven million dollars (\$7,000,000) has to be in hand because we've already obligated with the state that we will pay our contractors twice a month and once they get on then they will start with the rehabilitation of the homes, these contractors are going to want their money. So we have to have that money in hand where we'll be able to pay them twice a month, so we're looking for construction of rehab to begin October 1."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Well basically and that's the information I'm looking for because I know we're paying engineers, we're paying engineer firms, we're paying construction, we're doing administrative this, when the residents are going to get the money in their pocket?"

Michael Coburn stated, "They will get that when construction starts and you're looking at the beginning of October."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "That's what I wanted to know. You can follow up just send the Council Members that update that's fine. That's what I was looking for. I didn't want to put that on the agenda but it was here, but that what's I was looking for Mr. Lucia, that's what I was looking for. So I can have an answer, when that money is going to be in the checking account, when they can do what they need to do."

Michael Coburn stated, "That's correct and what we're being told by the state that should come sometime in September where construction should begin in October. That's where it stands at as of today."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Thank you."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Mr. Coburn thank you for that update. What I'd like to know is; when will residents be notified of this because the calls that I get the letters that I get and the emails that I get are that no one is being communicated with. You're telling me that people are going from this phase to this phase to this phase but if you are the homeowner and you know you submitted an application four (4) months ago and you haven't heard from anybody going through all of the phases is not doing them any good because they don't know what is going on so who is communicating with those 500+ residents to let them know where their application is in the process?"

Michael Coburn stated, "From the last Council Meeting, Providence has put together a letter to all applicants whether than whatever phase they're in or whether they're not in any application phase right now."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "Have those letters gone out?"

Michael Coburn stated, "To my knowledge yes they have. I will check and make

sure."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Speaking of that you mentioned Providence I know we've probably gone back and forth about this and I've gotten some calls from the public, what's going on with the payments with all of these vendors we have out there?"

Michael Coburn stated, "Right now as it stands we're waiting on a payment from the state six hundred seventeen thousand dollars (\$617,000.00). According to Mrs. Gunner from the state, we received an email from her today of that \$617,000.00 we should have in hand by August 17th, three hundred forty-six thousand six hundred fifty-five dollars (\$346,655.00) to pay Pivotal, Providence, Royal all of our people that we have in line. We still have an outstanding balance of that \$617,000.00 in the amount of two hundred twenty-nine thousand two hundred seventy-nine dollars (\$229,279.00) due to some environmental reviews that were completed on our end from the Royal side and we have a meeting scheduled tomorrow to discuss that, according to the information that we received to the statement Ms. Ann Arton who handles the environmental reviews, it was done but according to what Mrs. Gunner says, she's seeing information updated that hasn't been completed. So that's why we're calling an emergency meeting tomorrow to get this \$229,000.00 taken care of as quickly as possible."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "So who's responsibility was it to complete the environmental review?"

Michael Coburn stated, "Royal's"

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "So the state is saying that it wasn't done, so they haven't received information on it?"

Michael Coburn stated, "Royal is telling me it was done, the state is saying it was not done and I've got one person at the state that's saying there was some changes made at the state level and that could have been some reasons why that application environmental review was not completed the way it should have been."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Ok, so maybe once of all of that gets through then payments can be released for all of these subs."

Michael Coburn stated, "Exactly like I said August 14th we should be releasing you know the three hundred and something thousand dollars we can start paying out."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "In that dollar amount, does that cover I guess whoever is going to be doing this work in September that you mentioned or is that another piece of money?"

Michael Coburn stated, "No that does not include construction. Construction is a total seven million dollars (\$7,000,000) and Mrs. Gunner's pulling down for us, that seven million (\$7,000,000) will be deemed just for construction."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "So that three hundred thousand (\$300,000.00) of

the six hundred thousand (\$600,000.00) is all administrative?"

Michael Coburn stated, "Yes ma'am."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Between Pivotal, Providence, Royal who else is on it?"

Michael Coburn stated, "Team Title yes ma'am and legal."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Okay and legal. Keep us posted on that, thank you."

Michael Coburn stated, "I sure will yes ma'am and should you get calls with any citizen, please refer them to me. We'll be more than happy to check them out to see if they're confused and when I do get some from Councilmen just let me know, we'll make contact and we'll get back in touch with those residents right away."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Thank you so much."

Michael Coburn stated, "You're welcome."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yes just a couple of questions. Wasn't there a group of homes that were supposed to be used as a test for the system or the process and they wanted to go all through a couple of those homes to see where they are from the application process, the inspection process and determination to see where the loopholes were or where there might be some hick-ups, is that process still going on?"

Michael Coburn stated, "Yes sir we're looking at that, every time we meet every other Thursday and with all the groups with Providence, with Pivotal, with Royal and in these meetings we discuss any hick-ups that has taken place such as the letters that haven't been going out, we got all that adjusted but any hick-ups that they see they find, they're giving us the opportunity to address those and we're addressing the problems that we see on our level to through all of our personnel with our Pivotal environmental review."

Councilman Snyder stated, "One last question. How would the limitation determine on each aspect of this program as far as the house raising, the new home buying, who sets the limits on that or did we set that ourselves or did the government have some input to that or was that done through Royal?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "I can answer that. We had support from OCD who's done this around the state and obviously we had some suggestions for what we thought would be appropriate for our residents but based on their history they made some changes, now keep in mind it's like any other grant program, if's it's not working we can alter the budget and make a change if there's funding left for example; we can make changes and reallocate so the guidance we received came from the people who have been doing this around the state in trying to learn from some of the things that they had problems within the past, but we clearly didn't have enough funding for everybody who needed and we tried to cover as many people as possible, however with the resiliency grant we're seeking additional funding for some of the unmet needs because we knew we weren't able to cover every aspect of every need in the parish."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Alright well for instance the house raising, what were the limitations in New Orleans, do we know, did we check with them to on the house raising?"

Michael Coburn asked, "What were the limitations?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yes on what..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "I think it was higher, it may have been close to a hundred thousand dollars or something like that but again..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting asked, "Who did we check with? Who did we check with?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "OCD, Office of Community Development who funded those..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "And some other people you said had some experience with that."

Natalie Robottom stated, "The Office of Community Development funded all of the disaster recovery, all of the raising, they're the entity that handles it throughout the state, so they brought in people from their staff based on experience from New Orleans and other areas and helped with the application process."

Councilman Snyder stated, "With the application process."

Natalie Robottom stated, "In terms of the criteria for the application."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Alright, so what's our limit seventy-five thousand (\$75,000.00)?"

Michael Coburn asked, "For elevation?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Right."

Michael Coburn stated, "Yes sir, but just as a Parish President has indicated, if there's some more money allocated and know that we have over we'll be able to move those possibly to elevation."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Alright thank you."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "Mr. Coburn I just want to ask one question. You mentioned that there was like three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000.00) that's going to be released and then there's an additional two hundred eighty-nine (\$289,000.00) that's coming in. Will that be enough to satisfy the invoices that we have outstanding for..."

Michael Coburn interrupting stated, "It will be enough to satisfy some of them ma'am, oh not totally no ma'am."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "Okay so how do the..."

Michael Coburn interrupting stated, "Basically we've got two (2) pots of money that are coming in, the six hundred seventeen thousand (\$617,000.00) that's coming in that we anticipated a month ago that's just now coming through still have some hick-ups that we've got to work out for the two hundred twenty-nine thousand (\$229,000.00), there's another seven hundred thousand (\$700,000.00) coming within a month, we'll receive and with that \$600,000.00 and \$700,000.00 those two should accommodate and take care all of the invoices that we have as of today."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "That's my concern okay because the numbers you were mentioning didn't sound like they were enough to cover the bills we had pending."

Michael Coburn stated, "Right but we have to wait for that second \$700,000.00 to come through, not the seven million (\$7,000,000)..."

Councilwoman Millet interrupting asked, "Are you going to disburse any funds or you're going to wait till it's all done or are you going to prorate it?"

Michael Coburn stated, "No we're disbursing the funds right now as you know and we got a month by month. We go back to the month that we stop and began paying them and catch up where we are. That's all we can do."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "That's fine. I just wanted to make sure we would prorate it accordingly. Ok thank you."

Michael Coburn stated, "Right yes ma'am you're correct."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I'm also concerned about this as well because we shouldn't be having our vendors held up for pay so we have to do a better job on our end on making sure the documents we turn in are correct. With this program thirty-two million dollars (\$32,000,000) we have said from the beginning or I have said, we cannot cash flow a thirty-two million project (\$32,000,000). We cannot pay contractors and wait for our money to come especially with our history and the state's history of and timelessness and getting of these dollars. So we will have a meeting to kind of streamline what's happening here because we shouldn't have our vendors wait as long as they're waiting and we clearly can't have our contractors waiting for their money, we have to have a system of turning around these payments within a two weeks or the month timeframe that we were told we would be able to do it and that's not happening. So this is a concern for me, we will address it and get with you but it cannot continue to happen."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "I have a question or comment/question. Mr. Coburn you said something earlier about the environmental study that Royal submitted environmental study and the state said it's not correct, so they have a conflict right there?"

Michael Coburn stated, "Basically what is my understanding that the environmental review that was submitted was according to the application that he had. When it got to the state there were some changes made at the state level that he was unaware of."

Councilman Perrilloux asked, "So if the state saying made some changes and they have to go back and correct that, we have to pay for that all over again, we're going to have to pay for the environmental study all over again?"

Michael Coburn stated, "We don't have to pay for that again."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "There's no cost to correct it?"

Michael Coburn stated, "No sir there's no cost for that, no sir."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Okay."

Councilman Gauff stated, "I've heard the Parish President say that she wants to do and make sure that we do whatever we have to, to make sure these contractors and vendors are paid on time besides from meeting with them. What else can we do as far as the state, it seems like the state is the bottle neck but yet if something is turned in wrong or we're not doing something properly then how can we or can we or we need to hold Royal, Pivotal or whomever accountable..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "We got to hold us we got to hold us okay."

Councilman Gauff stated, "Well we have to make sure that if we're telling him everything..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "We're signing off on that stuff, we have to be accountable and that's one meeting but we need a meeting because we're signing off and saying the stuff is complete when we send it off and we got to make sure it is. Because it's coming from us."

Councilman Gauff stated, "Okay it's coming from us but where is Royal in the project or in this process?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "They're actually doing the work we sign off and submit and do the drawdowns, again its several layers. Everybody blames everybody else, it's a state bottle neck it's Royal but alternately we're responsible. We're responsible for the contractors we have working for us and making sure what we turn in is appropriate and matches the application, so we have some work to do, Royal has work to do and the state has work to do. We cannot continue to hold people's payments for months at a time and we cannot move into a construction phase or any of these phases where there's large investments of dollars and not have the money in hand."

Councilman Gauff stated, "And that's the problem the Council has because we're getting the calls from the vendors and they're holding us accountable to hold Administration accountable to hold Royal, Pivotal and all the other people accountable to make sure they get their money..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "And I can tell you I haven't received a call."

Councilman Gauff stated, "They cannot pay their people because their money is held up by us or by the state or by whomever so we all have to a better job then."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Absolutely."

Michael Coburn stated, "Absolutely, I totally agree."

Councilman Wright stated, "I agree. Mr. Coburn just please keep us posted because obviously was an error with the contractor and the consultant and we make sure their feet held to the fire with this also because this is a very important project."

Michael Coburn stated, "No problem."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Thanks real quick Mike can you tell me and maybe Natalie can tell me, Royal I thought they were more of an like oversight a management type of thing, so if we sign off on something that they, do they tell us it's correct first or who do we consult with to say is this correct, is it ready, should we sign off on it?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "There's a team of people that meet every Thursday of every department that comes in and meets and ultimately the applications in St. John Parish's name so once again understanding the importance of our application which we put together and with our requirements and we're the entity that OCD wants to speak with, they don't want to speak to our consultants, you know they don't deal with their consultants, they deal with us. So we have to make sure that the information that if we're meeting every week, we need to make sure we're on top of these things and what we're turning in and know exactly what the timeframe is, have checks and balances did you receive it and not have to count on someone else telling us, oh yes we got it on the 8th but or the 28th we thought it was the 8th, we have to do a better job. We have a team of people working on this and we have to do a better job on our end. So clearly there's a meeting that's going to be taking place and you know we're going to end this."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "But are we paying the consultant to do this for us?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "All consultants work at the direction of somebody okay and they're working at our direction and again, we're responsible of holding them to the fire. So you know that's on us okay, there's blocks along the way but we have to do a better job of managing these dollars before we start to get massive dollars in because we're not managing you know the less than a million properly, so how we're going to manage seven million (\$7,000,000), I've said this from the beginning that is a concern for me, it's a concern for Vince, we cannot cash flow this parish cannot cash flow thirty-two million dollars (32,000,000) in projects that are going to private citizens and wait for us to be reimbursed. That cannot happen and whatever system we have in place we're going to have to revisit it because it is not working and that's on us."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Okay thank you and I appreciated your candidness."

OLD BUSINESS:

Ranney Wilson/Lennix Madere - Drainage and Drainage equipment

Councilman Wilson stated, "Mr. Nunes you made a comment a few minutes ago about all of the drainage equipment was in Garyville, where is it in Garyville?"

Brian Nunes stated, "Not all of it actually but there is a piece in LaPlace Park right now, there's one today that was on that stretch by Historic West that you wanted from Anthony Monica to behind Pete's that was started today. We just moved another piece out this morning we actually have it by the treatment plant for today because we didn't have an operator for it but hopefully that operator will be here tomorrow and then we're going to start digging some of those ditches from the railroad to airline that you had asked us to dig."

Councilman Wilson stated, "How many pieces of equipment we have that grate because if that's all the equipment we have we have a serious problem?"

Brian Nunes stated, "There's four (4) Excavators and two (2) Bobcats, so six (6) pieces."

Councilman Wilson stated, "Well we have hundreds of miles of ditches and canals and I mean we ought to have more operators that can operate this stuff when somebody misses to have someone take their place."

Brian Nunes stated, "Well we do have many operators but there's just like anything some are a little better than others for being in residential areas."

Councilman Wilson stated, "Well also I want put you on notice that the canal along Garyville Northern needs to be dug in the front and back. But that Airline Highway it needs to be, on North Airline Hwy. needs to be cleaned and dug also, so you might start looking into if you have to get a permit whatever, but right now we need attention on this canal. I have pictures and it's not rocket science they have areas that's high as culverts that's all dried, actually higher than the bottom of culverts but the water is not going to get out and that's every one of the canals that go to Airline Hwy. The one behind the casino, the one by the junk yard, the one on the other side of the junk yard, the one by the Pete's Body Shop on Airline Hwy. all of these things are blocked. They all need attention, every one of these canals need attention."

Brian Nunes asked, "At Airline or just all from Airline?"

Councilman Wilson stated, "From where ever they go just follow, they all need to be dug. Every one of them even when you cross Airline Hwy. some of them go into the swamp to hit the Garyville canal, those are clogged up. I mean they're dry right now the water has to go up to get into them."

Brian Nunes stated, "We're working on it. We're out there right now that's why we just, actually that brand new piece we just moved out there this

morning we moved it out there."

Councilman Wilson stated, "That and I called Mr. Verdell earlier today, I means everything is dry right now. On West 19th Street between the track and Airline Hwy is full, the canal is full. I mean there's no drainage there what so ever and I'd appreciate it if you go take a look at it because that's uncalled for."

Brian Nunes stated, "I can't look at it. I want you guys to understand that you're asking me to be in Garyville and then you're calling me to be on West 19th, you have to..."

Councilman Wilson stated, "Oh you over there you supervising the job in Garyville, you're there all day?"

Brian Nunes stated, "No I'm not there all day I'm not."

Councilman Wilson stated, "Okay well you drive on Airline Hwy. that's not out of the way. You're going to pass that canal when you drive on Airline Hwy."

Brian Nunes stated, "I'm not saying about me going to look at it, that's different. But me moving a machine from Garyville to West 19th when I just go to Garyville."

Councilman Wilson stated, "No I don't want you to move it, no I'm just telling you that's a problem that needs to be addressed. I want you to finish what they're doing in Garyville. But I understand they've already skipped over one lot so that lot needs to be dug also, I mean there's no sense in doing both ends and not the middle."

Brian Nunes stated, "I don't know why skipped it, we didn't take down the fences it could have been a dog or something I don't know, but I can get you more information on why it was skipped."

Councilman Wright stated, "Thank you Mr. Wilson, Mr. Nunes didn't know that. Thank you Mr. Nunes."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes it's quite obvious and I've been saying this, since, I've been on this Council okay, this parish has grown tremendously okay you need workers, you need equipment that's why almost every week you get these tough questions. We need equipment, we need employees. He presented two issues to you right now that we can't possibly get to at the same time. I have a Hickory Street that's waiting for equipment and manpower, the obvious problem is we don't have enough employees and enough equipment to handle the work load that's coming in, so problem is going to continue until we solve those problems which is getting more boots on the ground and more equipment and you can handle a lot more problems and make sure we have the right equipment and Mrs. Robottom you made the comment to contact you. I'm not going to be able to contact you because I called and can't get through, so perhaps if you can have your secretary, I said if I call your phone I can't ever get through to you, so what I'm saying is; I'm asking you to have your secretary to call me or email me where..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "You can email or text."

Councilman Madere stated, "I could possibly come by and talk to you concerning some of these things and one other issues concerning drainage. And it's a piece of equipment but it's a piece of equipment that the residents have to use when we have a storm. I would like to know and maybe not at this council meeting but at the next council meeting, how many sand, pre-packed sand bags do we have available for the residents if a storm approach? How many pre-packed wrapped, sealed bags prepared for the residents during the storm? I'm not going to ask for that count right now but I know the answer, but I'm asking for the count for the next meeting. Okay because this is very important concerning drainage and hurricane preparedness that we have these things pre-packed and ready for the citizens."

Councilman Smith stated, "Mr. Nunes in Edgard I have a pole that's leaning and I need, you know about it? I have a pole that's leaning across the road and it's in Lucy, so if you can Entergy to come out and look at it with me."

Councilman Wright stated, "Mr. Smith we're on drainage and drainage equipment right now."

Councilman Gauff stated, "Let me address that please. I've already contacted them and Entergy replied they can't do anything right now. They know about all the poles that are leaning but because of the high water level, they cannot do anything with them right now. So it's already on file work order everything I contacted, talked to them today."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Yes thanks Brian I know you're busy, if you could also when you're checking you know things not to move any equipment but behind St. Andrew's towards the Interstate we have kind of the same thing, we have those canals that are just holding water, they need to just maybe be looked at cleaned see why it's not draining there may be something plugged right there. Like towards the Interstate."

Brian Nunes stated, "I got an email about that one the other day and I was checking with our, the guy who has our spraying contract because he said he's pretty sure he sprays that and a..."

Councilwoman Hotard interrupting stated, "It's sprayed and the grass is down but it's still holding water the water is just standing. I can forward you the pictures as well that the water is still just standing so maybe something is just plugged if you can have that taken care of."

Councilman Snyder state, "Yeah the application we put in for a permit to dig the canals, is there an update on that yet?"

Brian Nunes stated, "I don't have any updates on that. The only update I do have though I got an email and it's not related to Vicknair but the rest of the sonar work was completed so I do have that update I received that information yesterday. So everything is going to go depending on the depth and the two types of permits I had explained previously in that email so everything should be all in to the state by today Tuesday, I can have it done Friday hopefully and have everything in there and I'll double check on how long it's going to take when the public notice will go but I'll put it all together on one big email for the council by the end of the week."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Thank you sir."

Councilman Gauff stated, "Mr. Nunes just a quick question. I know one of the previous meetings been maybe a couple of months ago, we talked about things we could do to help. Any looking into the possibility of a contractor or some of the guys from the parish, who have machines that maybe we can contract just to help us out it's been dry without rain and everything and maybe they can help us get in a better position I know you've suffered from day to day anywhere from ten to fifteen to seventeen, eighteen employees that don't show up. That's extremely difficult for you to run the Public Works Department when that many people are you know legally are not showing up for work, as far as vacations and sick. So once again just at least looking at some arterial motive or some arterial option that you would have to possibly contract some guys from our Parish to help dig some of the ditches or canals or whatever to kind of help us out."

Brian Nunes stated, "No I agree, it's a great idea and I appreciate you bringing up that point about attendance because that's the biggest thing that gets us. Like I say we have all these plans, people to put in all these places and it all sounds good until that morning they're not going to be there. It's all legitimate I mean a sick day is a legitimate excuse to miss work but I don't find out until 6:45 that they won't be there for 7, so by that time I can't contact a contractor for that day. So, but it is something to look into maybe I'll check my budget throughout this week and that would help."

Councilman Gauff stated, "I think it needs a serious consideration, that's all I'm saying. I think a couple of us or probably the entire Council would say you know let's do something to be proactive, let's look at it see where monies possibly can be transferred from or into to help us with that. Thank you."

Brian Nunes stated, "Okay thank you."

Councilman Wright stated, "Mr. Gauff actually thank you for bringing that up that point because I know and I have discussed that before and I think Brian we've discussed that before also. Brian I don't want into the habit of hiring more workers to supplement our current work force now because it's going to create a bigger problem in the future, if we can maybe budget for that to have contractors on standby to take care of that, I think it's going to help alleviate a lot of the problems and expedite it and we don't have to hire more employees on our payroll and benefits."

Brian Nunes stated, "I agree."

Councilman Wilson stated, "Yes that's good but I mean we're sending equipment all around town, all around the parish to put out fires. You know we have problems we should have crews out there that are working on maintaining the drainage constantly. Going out here and putting all these fires out takes a long time and it's got so much to be done and they need more employees and they need more equipment but some of those need to be just doing maintenance work on a constant basis throughout the parish. I mean if you don't maintain anything nothing happens, I mean going put out little fires you know is not

the answer, it's maintaining it to start off with and I mean if you need more employees let's get them, if you need more equipment let's get the equipment, just tell us what you need."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes last comment. It's simple the way I look at it. When I said hire employees just to be hiring employees, when someone has a restaurant they are going to hire a waiter or a waitress and when they see the fact that their business is picking up they hire more waiters and waitresses that's going to allow them to handle their business appropriately on that particular day and not cause anyone to wait. Okay I don't care how good the restaurant is if you have poor service you're not going to go back. And you're not going and a person have a business is not going to hire 30 waiters for 10 people, we're not saying hire more people than the parish need, I say hire what we need, undoubtedly we do not have that total right number and I understand about people not coming to work, I understand that but if this require 50 workers and we only have 80, of course if 10 miss now we're in a deeper hole, that's what's happening. We do not have enough employees and 10 or 12 are not coming in so that makes it even worse. But at least if you had 50 and you suppose to have 50 and 10 didn't come in you can still operate pretty good with 40, but if you short 20 and 10 don't come, you're not going to operate at all with 30, so it's not the fact that we are over hiring, we're not over hiring, we're under hiring in all these departments, we need workers, we need people on the ground to do this job ok and that's the problem, that's what is the problem, that's why things take 2 months, 3 months because you do not have the workers, they need help that's what you need."

Councilman Wright stated, "Thank you Mr. Madere and I guess if to, if you guys can just follow up with us on that, we'll talk further."

Michael Coburn stated, "We will and again I want to touch on what Mr. Gauff saying, we do have a problem with employees coming to work and we're trying to address that right now. We're trying to put some plans, some things in place to entice our employees to get to work and it's tough when you have 50 employees and 15 doesn't show up on Wednesday and 17 doesn't show up on Thursday and they don't work on Friday that causes severe problems within the parish. So we're trying to address that right now and I wanted you to know that."

Councilman Madere stated, "The only thing is, I agree with what you just said, my point is do we have enough in each department now, okay that's what I'm talking about. I understand about them missing but I'm saying to operate the parish I think Brian could best address how many people he actually needs on the payroll and I'm pretty sure he'll have what he needs okay, so if you don't have what you need and then you need what you already have is even a bigger hole. Because I know for sure in 1964 the amount of employees they had in St. John the Baptist Parish now compared to 2015 is a big difference. This parish is growing, 10 years from now this number of workforce we have now is not going to be sufficient to handle 2025. As the business grows as the community grows the workforce must grow, with it you fall behind in jobs picking up doing things that the public need and that's where we are now. We are behind because we do not have enough employees. So we need to address that first and then we can maybe catch up, that's the way I look at it."

Michael Coburn stated, "I understand I understand."

There was no executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Legal Options for possible parish president Charter violations

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

Lennix Madere - Update and concerns regarding home on E. 30th Street - regarding health and safety conditions

Larry Snyder - Hurricane Preparation plans

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

Parish Buildings - Security

Water bill issues - 133 Beechgrove, Reserve, LA

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

Lennix Madere - Water bills - amoeba update

Water District #1 System issues/State DHH order

Any and all pending legal matters

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

There are no ordinances at the time.

PARISH PRESIDENT REPORT

Natalie Robottom stated, "Good evening. First, I'd like to congratulate Superintendent George, School Board members and all involved in the re-opening of East St. John High. I was out of town and unable to attend, but I understand it was a great event. I'd like to thank the River Region Chamber for hosting a successful "drive in" with our Congressional delegation. Meetings with Federal officials and members of the Louisiana delegation are important to solving important issues facing our area, including hurricane protection. I want to thank Chassity and Chamber staff for organizing the meetings and to the Port for allowing us to use their facility. Congratulations to our new 2015 St. John Sugar Queen Darion Marse and Teen Queen Saige Brady. We wish you the best of luck this year and look forward to your reign. Thank you to all who attended the groundbreaking for the new Hemlock Fire Station. Construction should take about 15 months and we are looking forward to this much needed project. Two public meetings were held on the National Disaster Recovery Framework Resiliency Grant. The meetings were extremely productive and resulted in several great comments and

suggestions. Information regarding the path forward can be found on our website at sjbparish.com. Thank you to all who attended. Fuji, Japanese and Sushi Express, (formerly the old Arby's) will be holding a ribbon cutting and grand opening tomorrow at 9:00 a.m. at 1922 W. Airline Hwy in LaPlace. The public is welcome to attend and the restaurant will open 10:30 a.m. for lunch. The Belle Terre Civic Association is holding a meeting tomorrow evening at 6:00 p.m. at Belle Terre Country Club. Residents in this community are invited to discuss issues and concerns with Parish officials and the Sheriff's Office. The St. John Parish Housing Authority is considering options for redevelopment of the Laplace Housing Community and is hosting a meeting for the public on Wednesday, August 19, 2015 from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Housing Authority Office in LaPlace. Attendees will have the opportunity to give their input on redevelopment ideas. For more information, please contact the housing authority at 652-9036. The St. John Creole Farmers' Market is closed until September 12 due to extreme heat. The market will reopen on Saturday, September 12, with a variety of fruit and vegetable options for the fall. Market hours are 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. The Second Annual "Makin It Do What It Do" Motorcycle Ride & Car Show in memory of Fallen St. John Deputy Brandon Nielson will be held on Saturday, September 26th at the St. John Community Center. The event, which will include an escorted motorcycle ride, a car show and reception, will benefit the Concerns of Police Survivors Louisiana Chapter. Advanced registration is \$30. Registration forms can be picked up the St. John Sheriff's Office and found on our website, government access channel and Facebook page. REMINDER: The Parish Lift Station Rehabilitation Project is moving forward. Crews are working to repair the lift station on Greenwood and as a result Greenwood from Madewood to W. Frisco is closed to through traffic. Crews are also mobilizing to Indigo this week for repairs. Indigo will experience a lane closure for the next four weeks. All residents will have access to their homes. Remember to register to receive e-news releases and Emergency Notifications for up to date parish information by visiting sjbparish.com. Residents can also stay connected with us on the St. John Parish website, Facebook and Twitter. Dial 911 to report any weather issues or emergencies, especially after hours and on weekends. This allows for proper documentation and dispatch of parish crews. Thank you."

ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:48 PM, Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with 6 yeas and 3 absent (Hotard, Millet, Wilson).

/s/Michael Wright
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
Council Secretary