

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11th, 2018
CHAIRMAN LENNIX MADERE
VICE-CHAIR LARRY SNYDER

The Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist Parish, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session in the Rudolph Sorapuru Chambers, Edgard, Louisiana on Tuesday, September 11th, 2018, at 6:30 PM.

CALL TO ORDER:

PRESENT AT ROLL CALL: Larry Sorapuru, Jr., Councilman-at-Large, Div. A, Kurt Becnel, Councilman District I, Julia Remonet, Councilwoman District II, Lennix Madere, Councilman District III, Marvin Perrilloux, Councilman District IV, Larry Snyder, Councilman District VI, Thomas Malik, Councilman District VII

ABSENT: Jaclyn Hotard, Michael Wright

Councilwoman Remonet led the Prayer. Councilman Perrilloux led the Pledge.

Legal Counsel was not present.

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

There was no public comment at this time.

INTRODUCTION OF BUSINESSES:

Natalie Robottom - Proclamation - (Carry Over 08-14-18) LaPlace Frostop 60th Anniversary

Proclamation will be presented at the September 25th, 2018 meeting.

Natalie Robottom - Proclamation - (Carry Over 08-14-18) National Health Center Week August 13th through August 19th

Natalie Robottom stated, "Proclamation was provided to Teche Action Clinic by Rhonda Lemons and Administration recommends removing this item from the agenda."

BOARD OF REVIEW - Business Personal Property Tax Assessment - Appeal by Marathon Petroleum

Councilman Madere stated, "For a period of fifteen (15) day, beginning August 15th, 2018 and ending August 29th, 2018, this Board of Review has been opened to receive any written or oral complaints from taxpayers who wish to protest their assessment as determined by the Assessor. Complaining taxpayers must comply with ACT 705 of 1976 in order for the Board of Review to consider any protest. The Board of Review is now opened to consider any request."

Good Evening, my name is Jay Adams. I'm here on behalf of Marathon Petroleum, the Cooperation who has filed an appeal of nine separate assessments that were issued by the Assessor for St. John the Baptist Parish regarding various types of property at the refinery in Garyville. A copy of the documents are attached to the minutes explaining the appeal."

My name is Lucien Gauff, St. John Parish Assessor, and St. John Parish books as Mr. Madere said, I will open to the public inspection from August 15th through the August 29th, 2018. St. John Parish actually received two protest, I received nine appeals also, and that was settled prior to us coming to the meeting. The other protest, as what we're here for is an appeal for Marathon Petroleum. Marathon appealed and got this packet out to the Council by August 30th, 2018, to us through the Board of Review Board. The parish wide assessment, just to give you some information on where we are for 2018 Revenues and Assessment. The Ward Assessment we're looking at fifty-nine million, four Hundred thirty-eight thousand, eight hundred seventy-two hundred dollars, the Public Service-five million, six hundred thirty, eight hundred eighty-one million, the Total Assessment Figure, sixty-five million, sixty-nine thousand, and that would be less the Homestead Exemption Assessment which is ten million, five hundred ninety-eight thousand, the Taxable Assessment Total for the year revenue looks like fifty-four million, four hundred seventy-one, two hundred fifty-nine. I also included Industrial Exemption Assessment and that's actually the total of the exemptions we have this year. Just so happen it's Marathon and that's that exemption which is, which is going to the tax roll, four hundred sixty-three thousand, seven hundred and two dollars. Over the year, our past 10 years Marathon has gotten hundreds of millions of dollars in tax exemptions, and future, in the future you'll also see from these tables that they're going to get hundreds of millions of dollars in tax exemptions. Just to give you a breakdown of the 2010-2018, table that I have, if you look at the totals that total is actually just for that one year. So I totaled everything just to give you an idea of the tax revenues that we missed out on, because for each year say the first the 2018 one, if that were to go onto the tax roll, that's at ninety-five percent, that would be six hundred and eighty-three thousand dollars, but then the following year as Mr. Adams was talking about, then that multiplier would go down to say 93. So initially it's 95 for year one, 93 for year two, ninety-two for thus and so forth. That number steadily reduces, and the amount of money goes down for each of the 10 years. That is taking in to affect or taking into consideration, depreciation and obsolescence. So these figures are just a snap of some of the dollars that we, Marathon's received in tax exemptions over the last 10 years. Now the next sheet has the exemptions that'll go on in the future, and just looking at what we have and that's just one year, at least that's one year that I've given you, I put a total, because that's fifty-two million dollars (\$52,000,000) if you were just to look at the, each one of the years that you're going to receive, but actually once that eight-teen, nineteen thousand dollars goes on the tax roll, then it just depreciates, it shows depreciation and obsolescence because that value will go down a little, so it may be eight hundred, eight hundred thousand the second year. And then seven hundred seventy-five thousand the third year. So all of that adds up to hundreds of millions of dollars that were giving away in tax exemptions. Now we're here today because Marathon is appealing the valuation table and the process that I use to get to the Fair Market Value. The specific guide under General Business and it's is in your packet under General Business Assets, Chapter 25, page 12, that specifically highlights Petroleum Products Industry Refining Machinery & Equipment, that's a 20 year table. On the GB-7 on page 7 of the guide is the Chemical Industry Machinery & Equipment, it's highlighted for 15 years. This guide along with the industries and the composite multiplier, these are used to take into account depreciation and obsolescence. All of this is a guide set by Louisiana Tax Commission. This is the guide that is a standard that's used by the Assessor, in the 64 parishes. All of us use the same guide. But if it specifically tells you to a manufacturer, petroleum manufacturer, it's a 20 year table. Now it does say you can look at other things, market value, there's a specific guide that leads you to a 20 year table. Marathon has asked an appeal so that 15 year table be

used. But looking at the 2020 just look at 2020, whereas revenue, and I've included that, where the revenue for 2020 is forty-four million, seven hundred and twenty-eight thousand, one hundred and twenty-nine dollars will be added to the roll. Now look at the 15 year table, and it's going to be thirty million fifty-one thousand seven hundred and twelve dollars, seven hundred and twelve thousand dollars. Almost fourteen point seven million dollars, difference. That's why we're here today. That's why Marathon is appealing this table. Now Mr. Adams did mention that for years we used the 15 year table. For years, I had nothing to do with that, I've come on in 2017, since I've gotten here, the previous years before that we used the 20 year table, I'm going to use the 20 year table. I'm going to follow the guidelines that are set for me by the Louisiana Tax Commission. I am new to this, but not so new that I can't use my resources and reach out to the other parishes to the other Assessors and looking at industry to see how it's done in all their parishes. It's the same thing, we're following the guidelines set forth by the Louisiana Tax Commission. I will in closing, ask that the Council consider all that's been before them or put before them, and accept the evaluation that I've given."

Councilman Madere stated, "Thank you."

Lucien Gauff stated, "And if you have any questions I'll answer them."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Mr. Assessor, have you visited our neighboring parishes, St. James, St. Charles, St. Tammany, and how does their Assessor's does their assessments? It's the same way..."

Lucien Gauff interrupting stated, "Yes."

Councilman Snyder asked, "It's depending on what the business is or what the manufacturer is?"

Lucien Gauff stated, "Yes. I have visited theirs, I've consulted with them, confirmed with them, I've also...what I did was, because and this is no excuse. But because I'm newly elected, I got an outside auditor to come in and audit Marathon. As Mr. Adams said, their auditor used a 15 year table, the auditor I got out of Texas, Prentice & Abbott, use the 20 year table. It's consistent with what everyone else does they use a 20 year table. The difference between what Marathon's auditor got, \$2.3 billion and my four point, three or four point five billion, that's what we're here for. Mr. Adams also talked about the cost factor and us looking at other refineries or other industries across the country. Those other industries aren't or didn't do a two point five billion dollar expansion 10 years ago. The expansion they did makes their refinery like new. They're optimum output, they're producing they're some of the best and highest quality machinery in the business. So what they're asking to compare what's going on in Corpus Christi, Texas with a plant that's been there several years falling apart and going up for sale, compared to a plant in Garyville that's spent \$2.5 billion dollars, renovating and upgrading. It's apples and oranges, it's not the same."

Councilman Malik stated, "Yes sir, Mr. Assessor. You spoke about private tax breaks and a couple of things that were happening before you took office. Was any of that considered when you had this assessment?"

Lucien Gauff stated, "Yes. In speaking with the previous Assessor or former Assessor, some of that was done because as you know, the oil industry was booming! So our parish was receiving a lot of revenues from Marathon. So when they asked, I think Mr. Hotard did it, then Mr. Whitney he continued to use the

15 year table. As inventory went down, and as we went from collecting millions of dollars in inventory taxes, then Whitney relooked at the tables and he said; you know what - I've got all this revenue sitting here that I'm supposed to be collecting, I need to go to that 20 year table, and that's what he did."

Councilman Malik asked, "But essentially you're using the 20 year table, it's what's based on this document?"

Lucien Gauff stated, "Yes."

Councilman Malik stated, "Say the 20 year table for Petroleum Products Industries Refinery."

Lucien Gauff stated, "Yes. It's based on the guidelines that's given to me through the Tax Commission."

Councilman Malik stated, "Thank you sir."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Why was that 15 year thing ever enforced, and then went to 20? Is there some reason for that?"

Lucien Gauff stated, "As I said, I think because at the time at the time, we were getting inventory taxes, the oil industry was booming, everybody else was doing well also. So as far as the revenue that was coming in, everyone was satisfied. That's the only thing that I'm assuming. I wasn't here, I do know the inventory part is why, when the inventory went from a hundred and ninety-five million dollars to a hundred eleven million, the revenue dropped twelve, ten or twelve million dollars and they said; okay you know what? I need to look at this 20 year table to make that money back up."

Councilman Snyder asked, "So even, even because of their inventory dropping or they're keeping it low, at the 20 year they're still paying less taxes or then the inventory was real high?"

Lucien Gauff stated, "Well the inventory is coming back, but that has nothing to do with...right!"

Councilman Snyder stated, "I understand I understand. It would bring in more than fifteen or twenty, how much difference on which you pay the taxes on."

Lucien Gauff stated, "Yes."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay, I just want to make a comment about this whole situation. I understand, I spoke to you and I spoke to Mr. Joseph, and I'm well aware of how Mr. Hotard did it at the time. Like I said, there's a lot of winning for losing, okay and so that they gave them a, they use the 15 year and they gave them a break. Okay but when and Marathon doing the same thing right now. Okay they figure they're going to lose money that's why they're appealing. Okay they had no problem before when they used the 15 year plan and saved a lot of money. Okay the revenue started drying up so we went back to what the state required, with the 20 year plan for oil refinery based on what I've been hearing. Okay, so the state said, petroleum and companies should be in the 20 year life plan and chemicals should be in 15 year life plan. Okay, and for the Assessor's office or this Council to change to a 15 year plan, okay we're taking revenues from the people of the parish. Okay and I don't think [laugh] I know for a fact I wouldn't want to vote to take any money from the people in this parish. Okay property state law say 20 year plan, okay and I don't see any reason to go against the

state or the Assessor's office that's your job to make sure that everybody getting the assessed value at the right rate. And I think you did an excellent job and that's what you're supposed to do."

MOTION: Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Sorapuru seconded the motion to accept the Assessor's review (2018 Assessment) as presented to the council. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Wright absent.

CONSENT AGENDA:

ITEMS: Approval of Minutes - August 28th, 2018, Regular Meeting

MOTION: Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Malik seconded the motion to approve consent agenda items to include: Approval of Minutes - August 28th, 2018, Regular Meeting. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Wright absent.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:

There was no ordinances.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Sorapuru stated, *"I would like to make a motion to approve the minutes from the finance meeting."*

MOTION: Councilman Sorapuru moved and Councilwoman Remondet seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the finance meeting. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Wright absent.

OLD BUSINESS:

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

The above item remained tabled.

NEW BUSINESS:

DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:

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

The above item remained tabled.

Lennix Madere - (Carry Over 08-28-18) Update on drainage/servitude and road repair in District III

Verdell Kindrick stated, *"Good Evening. Phase I of the 2018 Road Improvement Program is complete based on available funds. All remaining road requests will be added to the 2019 Road Improvement Program."*

Councilman Madere stated, *"Okay, we have an update on drainage and servitudes and road repairs. Okay let me take them one at a time, we'll go with the road repairs first. I think I spoke to Ms. Robotom about it, and at one time it was concerned about them coming back and you know bringing back the equipment and there's no fee to bring it back and I think you mentioned to me you had a road that you was*

thinking about fixing yourself?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes sir, and what we wanted to do was finalize the payments and based on what we paid for in 2018, there wasn't sufficient funding to do the road. Mr. Kindrick did assess the road, he agrees that it needs to be done. However, there isn't funding left in this year's budget to complete that road at this time."

Councilman Madere asked, "You said there's not?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "There is not. What Mr. Figuero did was took you know all the fees associated with paying the contractor, which in you're correct, there was not going to be a remobilization fee, however, there isn't sufficient funds left in what was budgeted to complete that road. Now keep in mind we're going into October, we should be going out for bids again for our asphalt program and the budget should be approved and ready to go in January. So we should be beginning to finalize that 2019 road list, and as soon we get it finalized and the parish engineer does assessments and estimates, we should be ready to go. So it shouldn't be a long time to get to that one, we just need to make it to our 2019 budget year which begins in January."

Councilman Madere asked, "Okay so that mean we can actually do the road care before the summer?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Oh yeah!"

Councilman Madere asked, "Before the summer?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes. Absolutely!"

Councilman Madere stated, "Cause I think, you know I'm just speaking for myself, the citizens may be able to wait a few months to get the road repaired because on Hickory Street, if it didn't rain today I would bring each one of the council members a chunk of it. Cause you can pick it up piece by piece, you know but the water was there so I didn't want to bring wet pieces of asphalt."

Natalie Robottom stated, "And nobody's questioning and that road is bad, Mr. Kindrick went out and we agreed and it came at the end of when we were finishing up 2018. But it is a priority, they worked real hard..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "So it's a possibility it's a possibility early February?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "We should be able to start, again depending [I think Joseph is here]. Sometimes the asphalt companies have issues with cold weather versus warm, so they give us a little on when they start, so I'll let him address that. But here's the priority, we've already started our 2019 list based on what was not done in 2018. I've gotten request from residents, I've gotten request from you all, this one is obviously on there, just for informational purposes - there's some areas around our building that have holes in it that we need to take care of and some are going to sewer plants that are problematic. So we've started that list, but as soon as we can finalize the list, we get it to C.J. Savioe so they can do the specifications. They can't really come up with a final estimate until we have the bid prices from the company, which is usually provided by January. Now again, he can discuss why sometimes they don't doing it in the winter..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "I understand I understand that..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "I'm not sure why that is."

Councilman Madere stated, "I understand that. Asphalt flows better in the hot weather."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Okay!"

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay in cold weather it's a lot thicker and harder to spread out, I understand all that. Molecules in it and everything, just like you cold I pluck you, you don't really feel it in the cold weather, in the summertime you just shake it off."

Joseph Savoie stated, "The standards and specifications is anything below 40 degrees [inaudible]."

Councilman Madere stated, "I don't want to cut you off but I don't really need a listen on asphalt. And I understand that about the cold weather and everything, and I don't want to cut you off and I understand all that. Okay but I mean the weather in St. John Parish, you can pour asphalt year round. So if we don't have winter anymore, you know we had winter last year for the first time in like 15 years you know, so just the idea that this road can get done and these streets can get done sometime in late January early February. I think these residents could maybe live with that, okay cause if something going on the week of June or July, that's a lot of months. Okay, that road is falling apart day by day. And I talked to Mr. Savoie, I took him down the street you know he had gave a rough figure to do those two streets that I'm talking about, it come to about the two of them about fifty, sixty thousand dollars."

Lennix Madere - (Carry Over 08-28-18) Update on Grass cutting/Repeat Offender program

Alex Carter stated, "I believe we talked about this Councilman Madere, but if there's more you want to discuss..."

Councilman Madere stated, "Here is what I want to say about it. The Repeat Offender program, it was designed that the grass don't get as high as this platform here. It's not working. The grass still get higher than this platform. Okay on East, I'm going to point to the exact address: on East 21st Street..."

Alex Carter interrupting stated, "We need an exact address just for..."

Councilman Madere stated, "141 okay, it also they have 121 on that house, so pick whatever one you want. It should be in the repeat offender program. That grass right now is high as this right here, okay and in fact three times this year it's been up to this level. Now the Repeat Offender program is supposed to keep this from happening. This property been on that Repeat Offender program for the last four years or five years. Okay, also the one in front of 25th Street, okay was on that Repeat Offender program and that one was higher than the fence line. Okay so, and I'm speaking about the Repeat Offenders in my area, okay, there's one on Chad B. Baker, okay, that's a Repeat Offender. So I ride through my District, so I know a lot of my Repeat Offenders. Okay, and that I expect that program to work differently than what's its working. Okay I still shouldn't have grass that high on any piece of property. With that program it shouldn't get any higher maybe higher than the middle table, maybe, or where Ms. Robottom is sitting at. But

when you get to this level, it's not working it's not working. So somewhere, either the Code Enforcement Officer is not writing up in a timely manner, either it's not getting through the paperwork in a timely manner, or it's not getting to the grass cutter in a timely manner. [Uh, yawl paying attention?] Well, I just want to know...

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "Every time Mr. Madere, you said it every time."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "Well, I just want to know because you see..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "The question I was asking was about, was it being affected by cost..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "Yea."

Natalie Robottom stated, "And that's what I was asking her. Clearly it's not being met to the standard that you're requesting, and I'm just trying to figure out is cost playing a part in that, or is it just like you're saying. Is it the Code Enforcement Officer's not writing it up, what is the reason that it would get that high?"

Councilman Madere stated, "And I appreciate that question, but I think everyone would like to hear that question. So what I'm saying is; as a former teacher when I'm talking and I see people talking, I got to stop that. Cause I didn't know if you're paying attention. Everybody paying attention to what's going on, any comments you want to make, then everyone should hear those comments..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting asked, "Mr. Snyder you're in charge, you got this? You got this? You got this Mr. Snyder?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "I'm a former teacher also, the kids got to say something sometimes." [Laughter]

Councilman Madere stated, "That's right! Hey the kids don't run the classroom. That's why you have teachers quitting. Okay, the teachers is in control."

Natalie Robottom stated, "We're just trying to answer your question. Alex is going to be gone so..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "I'm just telling you."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I'm trying to get your answer from Alex while she's here."

Councilman Madere stated, "I understand that. But not like..."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Hold on, Mr. Madere you got a question?"

Councilman Madere stated, "No, I'm giving my statement. It's not a question it's a difference. My statement is; you might want to pay attention because we talked about this, its community business. So any questions that concern it, everyone should hear the comment. Okay and I can't hear the comment or knowing what Ms. Robottom saying or asking you, and you're the one that can't hear what I'm asking you because you're talking to her. Okay, that's the point. Now, let me get back

on line so we can move forward with this. Okay I'm just saying, back to my comment. Either the Code Enforcement Officer not writing it in on time in a timely manner, the process is too slow in the office, or the grass cutter when he's assigned to it is not going out in a timely manner. Okay, but there's a time table on every aspect on how this thing is supposed to operate. And I know the time table, I know how many days, I know everything. Okay, now when it rain it throws it off. I understand all that, and I'm mindful about that. Okay but what I'm saying is; we have a lot of hot days when they didn't have rain and it still got that way. So that's not my job, that's Planning & Zoning job to find out when he come back, okay and where the problem is. So I just wanted to bring it to your attention, if I don't bring the problem to your attention, no one know there's a problem. Okay, so whatever you do about it, that's between you and Ms. Robottom, yawl can have yawl sidewalk."

Alex Carter stated, "I would just note though that the Inspectors are charged with inspecting repeat offended or multiple, like people who have multiple grass violations in a year. They are scheduled to inspect those sites every two weeks. So you know get in your District every two weeks, two weeks can mean a lot. You know they may come on that two week day and it may not be high enough. Well then I get six inches, two weeks later they're coming back and it might be twenty-four. And some of these properties that you mentioned I know for a fact that those owners live outside of the states. Which requires 10 days' notice. So, and that's with regular mail. So you know, we do understand your concerns and they are on the schedule, but I will sit down with your Inspector before I leave..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "Okay, they said 10 days', I thought it was five days they consider deliver, local? It's 10 days out of state."

Alex Carter stated, "Right, you made a lot my points from this; raining, you know what the time frame is..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "Right! I know I told you, I told you I know it."

Alex Carter stated, "Right, so..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "It's 10 days out of state, 5 days in state, okay and it's 15 days out of the Continental United States. So I know it."

Alex Carter stated, "And you're right, but I think the Parish President..."

Councilman Madere stated, "And these people live inside the United States so its 5, they live in St. John Parish so it's 5 days for them."

Alex Carter stated, "Right."

Councilman Madere stated, "Then that grass shouldn't get that high. Oh I know I know!"

Alex Carter stated, "But we do have properties that are being adjudicated now that have liens all up to \$15,000, plus we've been cutting them regularly. So we have to keep in mind that we don't want to sit there and watch the grass grow, right, we have other things we need to do, we have other violations we have to process, but it is on a schedule and they do go there every two weeks..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "Well, you don't have to..."

Alex Carter interrupting stated, "I realize we have rain..."

Councilman Madere stated, "We don't have to sit there and watch it grow because we're not going to go around there."

Alex Carter stated, "Right, right!"

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay we good, we good with that."

Alex Carter stated, "I understand."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I know this is parish wide and Mr. Madere brought this up, but I got some things on the agenda myself and it's dealing pretty much with that as far as repeat offenders, they're the ones causing that. In the old part of LaPlace or Reserve they have different issues as far as drainage is concerned. And I think I talked with Ms. LaVerne, she had Mr. Kindrick do some work over there. But this Repeat Offenders, they get contractors to come and cut grass and leave it in the streets and that's what really, really the areas with drainage the kind of drains we have, subsurface drainage. And what can we do about that? We had flooded streets this past week because of those drains being plugged with grass left out there from some contractors cutting grass at a yard. He left it on the streets."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Here's my question, and you're right. And sometimes I'll pull over and stop them. Its two types of contractors, we're contracting you to cut our grass, whoever's doing the inspection should not sign off for us to pay them until the site is left as it should be. That's a quality, that's quality issue that has to be addressed by the ones we're paying to cut violations. But we also see contractors aren't working for us blowing grass clippings into the street and that's problematic. And I think you know, they call it out when they see it, I know I do, you know if it's a business owner I will call them immediately you know get your grass cut and stop blowing in the street. It is a problem, and if you are a real grass cutter you ought to know better. Okay that's your job, you ought to know better. And it is interfering, I'm not sure if there's any type of violation or Ordinance relevant to that, I know there's a request that yawl passed something because it was that bad. But again violation wise whether it's our contractor, we're are not paying them until they do it correctly, if it's a contractor that's doing it well then they need to receive a violation."

Alex Carter interrupting stated, "And we've adopted those procedures internally, they have three days to complete the work. If it's not done 100% satisfaction, we give them a listing to return to the job site to complete the job or they don't get paid. We actually advised if we have to keep going back and forth to correct issues then we will remove someone from the list and that has happened. So I think our contractors understand what our expectations are. But we continue to get calls and resolve issues as they come to us."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Okay."

Larry Snyder - (Carry Over 08-28-18) Discussion Levee preparation

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yeah this is kind of general but I thought that it might be necessary for us to kind let loose on what are we expecting from this, our levee that we're supposed to be getting? I'm, you know like meetings we should be attending and do we have someone that can go to the meetings that can

give us a report? I don't know if any of you got involved in this or part of it yet, because I'm really lost as far as if anything this Council can do as far as knowing what's going on and may be able to influence some of the things that's going on. Not telling them what to do but influence some things, as far as our levee is concerned."

Natalie Robottom stated, "And I can address that. I think I kind of referenced it in our remarks last time. There was an initial meeting that was scheduled and the request of the group was that they have monthly update meetings so we can get information on what's happening. My specific request was from the Corp and DNR and the Levee District, cause they're meeting trying to move this along, but I requested not to just get updates, but that we have some participation. Because you giving us an update, then you've already decided. So the request and Congressman Grave's Representative was there at the same time, so that our request that we be engaged throughout, it is my understanding that they're planning to have monthly meetings at the Levee District in Lutcher, and we will continue to provide the Council with information that we get. However, we don't want to just meet on the update date, they are still, it's very fluent right now, and I shared a conversation, there's some regulations interpretation issues, and Congressman Grave's Representative is going to be at all these meeting cause he was part of the law, and the Corp must interpret somethings the way they want and that was not the intent. So there's still some issues, because the money that was sent as a whole, which has great ramifications for us. If the project is fully funded, it allows us when the project is 50% complete and 50% of the money to be expended to have our maps changed (our insurance maps changed) before the project is finished. The other benefit to receiving the money upfront, was that locals and the, our local sponsor, which is the Levee District and CPRA didn't have front the money. So if you got the whole \$760 Million, don't ask us to fund the assessment or litigation or the real estate upfront, because and that was a little controversial, cuz the representative said, hold up! Either yawl lied to us about how much the project cost or did the project cost \$760 Million, which is what we gave you or did it cost \$810 Million, and now you need an additional \$50 Million from the local sponsors. They said \$760, but their interpretation we shouldn't have to front anything. Neither should CPRA, because what they're saying was, they didn't plan on fronting \$50 Million Dollars to do the assessment, they knew what their match was going to be they didn't anticipate it was going to be upfront. So they're still trying to work out some of those details, with regard to how it's going to work, but you know I had a strong objection to if you got the full funding you shouldn't be relying on us to come up with the money upfront to do the part that you need from us, the Levee Board and CPRA. So that was questionable at our last meeting and we'll definitely provide you with information on the next scheduled meeting, and I think there's a Power Point that really wasn't that informative, they just kind of talked about this is what we're going to do, this is who is going to be involved, but nothing specific about the project. However, they are going to stay on top of them to stay on time with the task, but there's a little discrepancy in what the rule actually says and they were going back to Congressman Grave's office who said, I know what I meant when we passed this, and it wasn't this. So that wasn't settled at the last meeting."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Good, thank you very much. That's the update I was looking for actually. Thank you."

Larry Snyder - (Carry Over 08-28-18) Update on drainage issues in District VI

Councilman Snyder stated, "I've said it already. It was brought up that people

putting trash out, who's putting trash out on the day of a storm, you know I can't figure that out. Why you're going to put some trash there you know it's going to storm tomorrow, you're going to put trash out. And we just got fortunate that we didn't have any issues from the storm. The people cutting grass you know, I've talked to Mr. Verdell about it and you know I've talked to Ms. LaVerne about it, we've got to stop this we got to stop cutting the grass and leaving grass on the street. Blow it up in your yard some place, cause that's what's plugging up our drainage, that's what's causing high water on the streets and stuff and things like that you know. We need to stop that and I think our Ordinance tell us when we cut grass that we should blow the grass away from the drains, away from the roads so it wouldn't get in the drains, that's part of our ordinance if I'm not mistaken, so we need to use that. I'd still like to see when we catch someone doing that, put that on their water bill."

Larry Snyder - (Carry Over 08-28-18) Discussion Tree/Tree limb pickup schedule and issues

Councilman Snyder stated, "I talked to Mr. Verdell about that. That's a done deal."

Larry Snyder - (Carry Over 08-28-18) Discussion Group Home safety

Councilman Snyder stated, "I talked to some people on this, but my concern here was just that, who's responsible for those people? I want to know if the parish got some responsibility. That's the only issue I have with Group Homes, as far as that is concerned. But I'm finding out that there's people that runs these homes that got a responsibility and Ms. Lemons was telling me that she communicated with them or they got to come through her or something like that. So you know I'm satisfied with that, that's all I was wondering. Cause I know what happen in Cambridge in the last flood and they had people stuck back there, you know and I don't want it to happen you know to five old ladies in a house or something like that. Who's going to get them out of there? Who's going to take care of them? You know but as long we got something in place and I think we got something in place and I'm satisfied with that. I don't have no more issues with that."

Julia Remondet - (Carry Over 08-28-18) Update on Canal Dredging permits

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "Mr. Chairman I wanted to remove this. We really got the answer at the meeting when they had the power going on and off and it just slipped by."

Larry Snyder - (Carry Over 08-28-18) Update on the Community Service Program

LaVerne Toombs stated, "As discussed at the February 27th Council meeting, Administration awaits information regarding the litter abatement program from the DA's office to amend the job description to meet applicable requirements. Upon receipt, we'll hold a meeting to discuss implementation of the program. And also Councilman I just wanted to bring to your attention that we haven't received that information and I think in our December meeting we had this discussion where the DA and her team reference a law regarding a litter abatement program, but a copy has not been yet provided."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Okay, now who's going do that? How we're going to figure this out? Is the DA's office going to come over to the Administration building or the Administration is going to send someone over there? You know this program got to get started."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I think we just requested information."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Did you get the needed information?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes sir. And I think one was the law that dictated the litter abatement program and the second was some specific..."

Councilman Snyder interrupted asked, "The revised statutes that they're talking about?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "I'm not sure. I think Mr. Green referenced a law that we weren't familiar with, so we asked for it. And the second one was, specific to the requirements, we have a job description that we think would suffice, but if there's special requirements for we want to include that in an amended job description. But we don't know what that is yet, cause we didn't receive that information."

Councilman Snyder asked, "So it's not because of funding?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "No sir."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Okay."

Natalie Robottom stated, "There's a job description that we think could work, but you know we just want to know if we're being, I asked to follow a specific law relative to, I want to make sure that the job description and the job duties are matched with what's being required."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Can we get one of the judges, can we talk to one of the Judges and ask them about the revised statutes on that or guide us if the District Attorney not doing it? I don't know if they'll get around to it or what, but we got four or five Judges there, I'm sure they know exactly the information to give us. I tell you what, Ms. Jackie said she'll find out for us or for you. Let's see what happens with that. Thank you ma'am."

Lennix Madere - (Carry Over 08-28-18) Update on abandoned houses parish wide

Councilman Madere stated, "I'm going to try and save you some time. I appreciate the information you have me and everything, but my concern is only two spots, well two and a half. One on Homewood, the two story building?"

Alex Carter stated, "I know which one you're talking about."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay you know what I'm talking about. That have to go, okay that one have to go. On 23rd Street, our favorite friend, that one right there. Now the reason why I put this on the agenda was for the last one which is on East 30th Street, the last one that I tried to get knocked down since 2012 and they finally knocked it down. Okay they cleaned the lot, the problem I have is that property was adjudicated to the Parish. Now that the house is gone, it's becoming a wooded area. Okay the grass is taking it over, remember we had a discussion one time about developed and undeveloped, okay that area was developed they had a house there. Now the house is gone and that's an adjudicated property to the parish the parish should be cutting that grass. That grass is higher than this desk."

Alex Carter stated, "It sounds like it would be a good candidate for emergency

blight...

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "It definitely needs emergency cut and I think that one should be placed on the list that should be cut and maintained by the parish. Because there was once a house there now the house is gone, and no one cut that grass since that house been removed. And now the whole area is a wooded area now. And so I don't want to knock down the house in a community and had a nice area and then all of a sudden you put a wood in the middle of it, okay so that have to be emergency cut and have to be maintained."

Alex Carter stated, "We'll send someone tomorrow if it's not already on the list."

Councilman Madere stated, "Now since this is an adjudicated property, do that automatically goes on our list for the parish?"

Alex Carter stated, "Usually adjudicated properties are on the multiple offender list. But not all the time, sometimes it's just somebody you know a distant relative has it cut and somebody scheduled to come out. So it just have to have the two violations in one year."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yeah well this particular property like I said is a lil different than what you're talking about cause this is adjudicated to us."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Just to follow up on that, we were just discussing and you're correct. I think we had a meeting where we found out that the properties are adjudicated and they sell them, all the money we've spent cutting the grass are waived. So we understand fully what you're saying, and I'm sure Alex can come up with the amount of money that we are spending, and keep in mind, I say this all the time...this is private property. And we're complaining about public roads and stuff that we're taking money from, what we need to be doing for the public to make paying for somebody's private property and we're not getting our money back. If it's adjudicated, it's the law. I think Mr. Sorapuru you were there. They waived those fees those liens so that it goes back into commerce, and as Alex said, some of houses have \$15,000 worth of liens on the property that we're not getting back. So we trying to find that balance of trying to do our public property, expend our dollars there, but when we continue to try and maintain somebody's private property like somebody's living there, we're spending taxpayer's dollars on that and that takes away from what we're supposed to be doing for the overall public."

Councilman Madere stated, "I agree with you and I understand everything you said. But this particular property..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "I know the one you're talking about. She needs to take a look at that."

Councilman Madere stated, "Because this one is not, okay for years you mailed to an individual that was dead. Okay so you not, you wasn't here, but for quite a while it was mailed out to an individual that's been dead for several years. So I know we didn't get no money back from him. Okay and he wasn't answering anything. But we found out during that process, that that particular property it was adjudicated to St. John the Baptist Parish, okay and after five years I think what the lawyer said, we come the property sort of have ownership with the parish and whoever the last name was on that paper. So what I'm saying is, since we don't know who that other person is and we the half owners, we should be cutting

that."

Alex Carter stated, "Well I know we've also communicated with the DA these problem properties to prioritize them in the litigation process. [Inaudible]"

Lennix Madere - (Carry Over 08-28-18) Update on junked vehicles parish wide

Councilman Madere stated, "And I can save you some time on that one. The only thing I'm going to ask is; when the Code Enforcement Officers go down the street, that there be no pass up two or three junk vehicles and write someone else. Okay and clearly if you go down certain streets, okay and junk vehicles I want to make sure residents understand, I'm not talking about a car sitting in your yard that don't have a brake tag and don't have a license plate, and they're sitting on four tires with air in it. We're not talking about those vehicles. We're talking about wrecked vehicles, burnt, smashed, old tires, okay that's what we're talking about. We don't do that state business, we don't do license plated we don't do brake tags. But we do abandoned cars, no tires on it, smashed, broken windshields, hose on the cars that ought to be written up. Not the cars that people have sitting in their yard, tires on it and then nothing wrong with it. Okay that's not the vehicles. I think there was a misunderstanding of what junked vehicles are. That's not what we're talking about, talking about wrecked vehicles no tires on them. Right! So all I'm asking the Code Enforcement Officer to do is not pass up any of those obvious vehicles. Okay and leave the other people alone that have the tires, license plates, brake tags, leave them alone. Okay, so that's all."

Alex Carter stated, "Right! Rusted, burnt. Thank you."

Jaclyn Hotard - (Carry Over 08-28-18) Update from Administration and Royal relative to the CDBG project

The above item will be carried over to the September 25th, 2018 meeting.

Councilman Perrilloux excused himself from the meeting at 7:54 PM.

There was no executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A.B. Houston vs E. J. Turley - Docket# C-72495 - to discuss litigation strategy

Roger Tassin v Matika White, et al, 40th JDC docket 72554, Div. B - to discuss litigation strategy

Kane County, Utah v. United States, Case No. 17-739C and 17-1991C

Parish Buildings - Security

Any and all pending legal matters

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

There was no ordinances to be introduced.

PRESIDENT REPORT:

Natalie Robottom stated, "Good Evening - We were very fortunate that Tropical

Storm Gordon shifted to our east and did not bring the amount of rainfall that was predicted last week. My staff and I were closely monitoring the forecasts in the EOC and making plans if the track shifted closer to us. However, now is not the time to get complacent as there are multiple storms in the tropics some even strong hurricanes. It is urgent that residents finalize hurricane plans and emergency supply kits and get a game plan to be ready to act quickly if a storm threatens our area. Regardless of tropical activity, we are also seeing large amounts of rainfall every week and have more predicted for this week. We did experience Flash Street flooding at the end of last week in some parts of LaPlace and some state highways. Flash Flooding is just that - it comes quickly without warning and normally dissipates in a timely manner. After pulling and compiling the information received, we have identified areas of concern and are trying to mitigate by cleaning and removing debris, and have contacted DOTD to do their part. We need your help. Please, please stop throwing trash, debris, tires, bags of garbage, etc. in the ditches, roadways, drains and catch basins. This is a MAJOR issue and inhibits water from flowing properly into already saturated areas and culverts. Please help us by properly discarding trash and debris, cleaning out catch basins and drains near your homes and placing tree limbs by street for pickup, not putting them in a ditch. Please remember that although it doesn't seem right, 911 is the proper channel to report flooding so that we can have proper record and dispatch accordingly. Facebook doesn't always get to us. We are urging residents to utilize the proper channel. Also, please sign up on the Parish website or by calling our office for Parish first alerts to your text, cell phone and email. These alerts are critical in times of emergencies and weather events. Information is also readily shared on the St. John Facebook page, twitter and government access channel (99/15) as well as sent to news outlets. Utilities will be conducting a voluntary free chlorine burn beginning with Water Districts #1 and #2 (Edgard, Reserve, Garyville, Mt. Airy) at the end of this month. The Chlorine burn, for Edgard, Reserve, Garyville & Mt. Airy only, will begin on Wednesday, September 26th and is expected to last 30 days. This is routine maintenance only to maintain clean water and minimize the potential for the occurrence of harmful bacteria in the water system. There are no indications of contamination in the Parish water distribution system at this time and this is only a precautionary measure. There could be some discoloration or cloudiness in the water and possibly a slight chlorine odor or taste. If this is experienced you can run the faucet for a few minutes. The water is SAFE to drink during this flush and any odor and color will be nuisance only and will subside. During normal business hours residents may call 651-7731 with any questions and more information is posted on communication outlets. Again, this only a precautionary measure and we appreciate residents' patience as we maintain our systems. Other flushes for Laplace and Pleasure Bend will take place at a later date. St. John Parish and Health & Human Services Department will be hosting a Health and Wellness Event, next Saturday, September 22nd, 2018 at REGALA Gym in Reserve from 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM. The event will feature a host of fitness activities, health screenings and services, Zumba and line dancing classes, and visits from the Sheriff's Office and Fire Department. Join us for this free and fun family fitness event. More information will be posted on our communication outlets and sent out. Reminder, Ramp closures will take place this week at Belle Terre exit as DOTD closes out the project. The ramp will be closed from 8:00 p.m. to 4:30 a.m. each night through Thursday."

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:15 PM, Councilman Malik moved and Councilman Sorapuru seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard, Councilman Wright and Perrilloux absent.

/s/Lennix Madere
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
Council Secretary