

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS**  
**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL**  
**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014**  
**CHAIRMAN MARVIN PERRILLOUX**  
**VICE CHAIR MICHAEL WRIGHT**

The Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session in the Joel McTopy Chambers, LaPlace, Louisiana on Tuesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014, at 6:30 PM.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

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

**ABSENT:** None

Councilwoman Hotard led the Prayer. St. Joan of Arc 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Student Council Representative Hannah Hauck led the Pledge.

Legal Counsel Jeff Perilloux, Tom Daley and Carl Butler were present.

**INTRODUCTION OF BUSINESSES**

There were no new businesses.

**Natalie Robottom - Proclamation - October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month**

Natalie Robottom read out the proclamation for October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

**Consent Agenda**

**Items:** Approval of Minutes - September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014, Regular Meeting; Permit Approval - SJB Parish Andouille Festival - October 17-19, 2014; Permit Approval - Block Party - Night Out Against Crime - 10/14/14 - Acadia Drive from 6:00 PM until 8:00 PM

**MOTION:** Councilman Snyder moved and Councilwoman Millet seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda consisting of Approval of Minutes - September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014, Regular Meeting; Permit Approval - SJB Parish Andouille Festival - October 17-19, 2014; Permit Approval - Block Party - Night Out Against Crime - 10/14/14 - Acadia Drive from 6:00 PM until 8:00 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:**

**14-41** (Public Hearing Held) (Tabled 9/9/14) An ordinance amending ordinance 13-48 relative to the annual Operating budgets for St. John the Baptist Parish General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, Enterprise Funds and Parishwide Sewerage Construction fund for the fiscal year

beginning January 1, 2014 and ending December 31, 2014. (N. Robottom)

The administration requested that this item remain tabled.

**14-44** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance granting approval to further extend the valid period of time of Conditional Subdivision Approval for an additional twelve (12) months for Praise Place Subdivision, Lots 27 through 83 and parcels V-1, V-2 and V-3, on East 22<sup>nd</sup> 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 owner/developer is requesting extension of conditional approval for twelve (12) months and administration recommends approval."*

**MOTION:** Councilman Gauff moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 14-44. The motion passed unanimously.

**14-45** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance granting approval to further extend the valid period of time of Conditional Subdivision Approval for an additional twelve (12) months for 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, *"The owner/developer is requesting extension of conditional approval for twelve (12) months and administration recommends approval."*

**MOTION:** Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Gauff seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 14-45. The motion passed unanimously.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Councilwoman Millet stated, *"I would like to make a motion to accept the recommendations of the finance committee."*

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Gauff seconded the motion to accept the recommendations of the finance committee. The motion passed unanimously.

**DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:**

Councilwoman Hotard stated, *"I have two items and I know we discussed them earlier, so I just want to get an update on those, the tree trimming and the ditch that we talked about on Goshen Lane."*

Brian Nunes, Director of Public Works, stated, *"As we discussed earlier I was going to go out and do some solicitation on the trees, and I did talk to someone today who is providing a written price tomorrow and if its within budget we would like to go ahead and move forward and help out. When I looked at it first, took a ride down made sure we identified exactly what the problem is before we sign anything, but we did put that process into motion. The second issue, we actually had discussion this afternoon about that and we think that there might be some problem there so we're actually trying to work out a way to access that ditch and once we have that intact we're going to take care of*

*that problem in house."*

*Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Ok, thank you."*

*Councilwoman Millet stated, "Mr. Nunes I had several calls today about the tree branches on St. Andrews. Are we getting any closer to getting that taken care of? They need to be cut to 14 feet so that mobile homes can get through."*

*Mr. Nunes responded, "That's actually similar to what I just spoke to her about."*

*Councilwoman Millet stated, "We had put this in a couple of months ago and they ended up cutting Country Club instead of doing St. Andrews."*

*Mr. Nunes stated, "That's the exact same issue we just discussed."*

*Councilwoman Hotard stated, "We need it on Country Club and really if we could identify a lot of areas throughout the Parish where we have trees hanging low where the buses are hitting them and those types of things where it can cause an obstruction to the view of the bus driver if we could just be cognizant of it I know we've identified these two issues but I'm sure there's many areas around the Parish that have trees that are hanging very low over the road that it could cause a hazard so I know we are talking about these tonight but I know there are many others if maybe you can just put your guys on a little notice that when they see it turn it back into the office and we can have our crews working a little diligently on getting that taken care of all throughout the Parish."*

*Mr. Nunes stated, "Definitely, Also on that I know if it's a hazard we'd like to take care of it but if the bus drivers can help us identify those that'd be a faster way to get it done."*

*Councilwoman Hotard stated, "The spot that I mentioned St. Andrews and the Canterbury's is definitely low. It's a hazard that's for sure that I can tell you now. I can ask you know maybe put out a little memo and say let us know where you notice the hazard areas and get them back to us. Thank you."*

*Councilman Madere stated, "I think it was about 2 months ago I had gotten a call back from this resident on NW 3<sup>rd</sup>, that spot where I brought you out and we were supposed to go and dig that ditch out behind his house that's been maybe 2 or 3 months ago. You know how soon we'd be getting to that?"*

*Mr. Nunes responded, "Right now, my equipment's out in Garyville. We want to finish what we're doing out there. Once we finish that area then that area that street is on the list. It has been since we met out there. We'd like to finish a few jobs before we pick up and move."*

*Councilman Madere stated, Right, because if we dig that ditch behind his house that'll really help him out because every time it rains he floods out back there. It's on NW 3<sup>rd</sup>, he knows exactly what I'm talking about. I don't know the address, but it's on NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Street second house from the track on the left hand side, but it's the ditch on the opposite street I don't know the name of that street behind it. Also I*

got a call from a constituent today concerning the boat launch. They said they reported that it's real slick and that they're afraid that some car is gonna slip down in there, and they said they were told two weeks ago that the Fire Department was gonna there and wash it off so they just wanted me to mention it tonight, at the boat rink in Reserve."

Mr. Nunes stated, "Right, I'm aware of that and we'll look into it. We need to discuss with the Fire Department to see when the next time they'll be out and if that's something they can help us with. I don't know if they ever committed to it, so I don't want to speak for them."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right and one other thing someone from the Fire Department or Mr. Rayneri can answer this one, the fire hydrant they're running the water for this Amoeba that's being tested and down Central the guy said the water is eating away at the ground. I guess once we finish with that we're going to go back and look at those areas."

Mr. Nunes stated, "We'll definitely take a look at it once they're done with what they need to do."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right, that's what I'm saying after they do it because this was actually happened before this situation came up and now that we're doing it in various locations we have to go back and make sure those fire hydrants are taken care of at that time. Thank you."

Councilman Wright, "I just want to follow up with you I think 2 meetings ago we had brought it up the crevasse you had some discussions with the railroad on that undersized culvert. I wanted to see where we were at on that."

Mr. Nunes stated, "That was the KCS Railroad. We met with them, I don't remember the exact date it was within the past few weeks and they were going to take all the information that we gave them and go back and formulate a plan on when they can do certain things, but that area was specifically brought up and discussed at length so they know what we're looking for from them. It's just a matter of them working their processes to get it done so I can't give you a time line but they are aware of it."

Councilman Wright asked, "So they didn't give us a timeline on when they're going to follow up with us?"

Mr. Nunes responded, "No they didn't, but if we don't hear from them within the next week or two, we'll reach out."

Councilman Wright stated, "Ok, great, please keep me informed. Thank you."

Councilman Snyder stated, "My question pertains to Planning & Zoning Department and I just want a little information. Is Mrs. Keller here? Some of the ordinances that protect our communities to keep them beautiful, like for instance the Ordinance pertaining to garbage cans, some of the Ordinances to high grass, trees on the side of the street, things like that, do we focus on those sometimes to have all of our

Code Enforcement to go out and just focus on those? How does that business run as far as finding issues that need to be corrected? Do they just go out and ride around the street and look for certain things or do sometimes we focus on certain things that we have to look out like for instance the Police Department they may want to focus on speeders today or seat belts or something like that. How does that business run over there and the reason why I'm asking this is because I see some things that we had under control is getting back out of control because I don't think we might not be focusing on it like we should."

Angelic Keller, Director of Planning & Zoning, stated, "We have 6 Code Officers. We have 2 full-time and 4 part-time Code Officers. Most of the items are issues that they deal with are complaint driven because there's such a large number of complaints and right now we're in still in grass season and because there's such a large number of property owners who do not maintain their own grass, right now we can barely even keep up with the grass violation, so in addition to the other large number of violations that we do address, now when they are responding to those complaints they are supposed to be observing any other violations for example on the way to that complaint or anywhere else on your drive while you are responding to those complaints, so not all of it is complaint driven, they do write up violations on their own that they do observe, but right now the majority of the violations we're writing up are grass."

Councilman Snyder stated, "And I can understand that during this time of year we're kind of focusing on grass, but they got some little extenuating issues there that I think like garbage cans, I'm getting to have a problem in front of Cambridge again with the garbage cans, and I think it could easily be corrected, garbage can staying at the road now for the whole week. We had gotten it under control. They still got some apartments out there that does it right all the time, but I think we need to kind of focus on those a little bit. If you can could you mention that to them?"

Mrs. Keller responded, "And they have responded to garbage cans in the past. Garbage can though, and I'll tell you it's one of those Ordinances that's a little difficult to enforce, simply because everybody's on different schedules, and I don't have the code memorized but if I remember correctly based on the time that you're allowed to put it out and the time you're allowed to pick it up unless we know when you put it out or when your garbage service passed, it's a little difficult to actually know if you're in violation or not."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well then maybe we ought to find that out. I know what it is in Reserve and I live in Laplace and I know what it is in Laplace. That's part of my job to know that and I think you need to find it out and its only 12:30 before the day you pick them up and 12:30 the day after you pick them up, that's what it is 12:00. That's the rule all over the Parish. We are trying to help our communities to look decent and it's just a matter of slapping a sticker on it saying pick up your garbage can or you will be fined that's it."

Mrs. Keller stated, "And I agree with you, but I will tell you the ones that they are focusing on now would be your high grass violations those that prevent safety hazards to the public your hazardous unsafe you

know people building without permits could be a safety hazard especially if you have a storm coming through and those things are not built up to building code so those pretty much keep us really busy, but I'll go ahead and tell them to go look at the garbage cans in the front of Cambridge."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Just ask them to kind of pay attention to things like that."

Mrs. Robottom stated, "I just wanted to add to what you said, I think in our time is tight, but I understand exactly what you said those garbage cans are in the street and we can send out a call or reminder, we can put it on our social media just a reminder here's the Ordinance regarding garbage cans where we don't have to send somebody to write a violation. Your goal is to get people to remove their garbage can, that was passed a while back maybe they've slipped in memory but we have avenues that we can remind them and I think we can put something out whether it's a call to everyone just a reminder for safety purposes please do not leave your garbage can out in excess of whatever. We can put something on social media, we can put something on Channel 15, we can put something on the website. Ultimately, I don't even know what the fine was for leaving your garbage can out and it is important should it roll into the street and cause somebody to have a problem, but rather than issuing violations on it the goal is to get them to remove it, so we could do something in the Communications Department to remind them to take your garbage cans in that it cause a safety hazard when you leave it out in excess of the time period that you all put. So in addition to them keeping an eye out for them we can do that and remind everybody."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Thank you, that'll be a good idea Mrs. Robottom thank you."

Councilman Madere stated, "Mrs. Robottom, I definitely agree with Mrs. Keller said about this time of the year you're really concentrating on the grass problem, but do you envision anytime the coming year like we had the Clean Sweep last weekend and we have 2 during each year. Is there any time after the grass cutting season where the Code Enforcement will concentrate on say maybe 2 weeks out of a certain month on abandoned vehicles and then maybe a few months later another 2 weeks they'll focus more on blighted homes and abandoned houses?"

Mrs. Robottom responded, "We could do that but again I think the same approach can be used for everything. Our goal is not to write you up and tow your vehicle away it's for you to take care of your own property, you know as long as we continue to do that we're spending public dollars on private property but I think in preparation for a Sweep like what you're saying, if we can put out a message that we are going to be doing a Sweep, check your vehicles, check your grass, to kind of get them to take care of their own stuff. That should be our goal. The personal responsibility and anytime we're taking public dollars to deal with private property, that's dollars we can't use so I agree we can schedule some time throughout the year after grass cutting, but I think to pre-imp that, we need to let people know this is what we're targeting move your cars and take care of those things and those who don't, we'll write you up."

Councilman Madere stated, "I think by doing that it'll bring more attention to it and it'll make them understand that we're real serious about this because I think of a couple of homes where it's been abandoned for maybe 10 years, so undoubtedly they haven't gotten the message that we're serious about it."

Mrs. Robottom stated, "And then maybe their neighbors will enforce it too, like if they know you have junk next to their house they might encourage you to take care of it, but either way our goal is to try to get residents to take care of their property themselves and not for us to write them or cite them or issue violations and then cost us money to take care of them but we will when we have to."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right, okay thank you."

Councilman Wilson asked, "What is the contract for the garbage do you know that off hand?"

Mrs. Robottom responded, "I don't."

Councilman Wilson stated, "Because everybody's got problems with cans. They put mines all the way across my driveway so you had to get out to move it to get in but that's not my biggest complaint is them not picking up the garbage. I had people in Garyville and Mt. Airy called, the garbage didn't get picked up Saturday and I'm kind of getting a little too much of this, and I mean if we're paying them to pick up 8 times they need to pick up 8 times. I have asked, I have called the main office and spoke to them that if they don't finish an area one night that they start the very next morning and go try and do it."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Mr. Wilson, I know we can't solve that. We can make an appointment or bring Frank back to the meeting again and talk about garbage issues on the streets with the can. We can request that he comes back to the meeting again because I don't Mrs. Robottom is going to solve that problem. You need to get with the garbage people. We can have Jackie request them at the next Council meeting and talk about this issue."

Mrs. Robottom stated, "The date is 2016 for the contract."

#### **Jaclyn Hotard - St. John Progress Report**

Councilman Hotard stated, "I sent an email over to Administration. I just wanted to get an estimate on how much the St. John Progress Report that was just sent out cost and what company provided the service, and I did make a Public Records Request as required by your Purchasing Department now but that wasn't required in the past, but I will do that."

Mrs. Robottom stated, "But I don't think that's necessary because I think you all have access to the information."

Councilman Hotard stated, "It's not in there."

Mrs. Robottom stated, "If it's not in there, then it's not in there yet."

Councilman Hotard stated, "But there's other information that should be in there that's old that's not in the system."

Mrs. Robottom stated, "If there's something like that, I think the Progress Reports just got out so maybe it hadn't all been uploaded yet, but the Progress Report is done, and first of all I would like to thank the Communications Staff for doing a great job."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I'm asking for an estimate. The question was an estimate on how much it cost and who provided the service."

Mrs. Robottom stated, "Well there are several vendors. Somebody did the mailing, somebody did the graphics."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "Who did the mailing?"

Mrs. Robottom responded, "Franklin Printing did the mailing and they were the postage cost and they were the lowest of 3 quotes. Somebody else did the graphics. Somebody else did the design."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "Who did the graphics? Who did the design?"

Mrs. Robottom responded, "Luke Design."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "Are those the only 2 companies that were involved in the Progress Report?"

Mrs. Robottom responded, "No."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "Who else was involved in it?"

Mrs. Robottom responded, "Lester Duhe and Associates helped with the writing and putting the information together and of course our staff."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "So the only 2 companies involved were Franklin Printing, Luke Design, and Lester Duhe and Associates?"

Mrs. Robottom responded, "That's it."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "Do you have an estimate of how much it cost ballpark?"

Mrs. Robottom responded, "I think slightly under, we didn't get the final invoices yet which is why they're not in the system, but we know the mailing was about \$10,000, the graphics we estimate about \$4,000, and the design about \$15,000."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Thank you, that's all for that item."

Mrs. Robottom stated, "And I know Kia's been working with you Jackie, but we need to make sure that you have all the accesses you need."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "But let's clarify that, access was only into the purchase order system. There are still purchase orders that have been issued and have been paid that are not in Laserfiche. So if they're not in Laserfiche I have to ask for them and when I ask for them I'm told I need to fill out a Public Records Request and fill out

*the form I was even sent emailed the form that I had to fill out this Public Records Request so that's why we're here tonight. I've been here like I said in the email 11 years. I've received information from your office since 2010 by email I've never been told nor has the Council that we need to make a Public Records Request which we will do that. We'll fill out the forms and turn it in just like anybody else."*

Mrs. Robottom stated, "We don't need you all to do that. We've given you access."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Well that's not what was said in the email and the form was sent to me."

Mrs. Robottom stated, "With regards to why everything is not in, I know we had students that helped us this summer but there's more work being done so maybe it's not all in there. If there's something that's not there that's done that you need, request it, but some of the information you're requesting now is not in yet. We've not yet received invoices so it's not going to be in the system just yet, but when it is it'll be placed in the system. I think you've requested this information annually and you get it."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I've never asked for information on a St. John Progress Report. The purchase order system, yes, I would ask for them at different intervals and I'd receive that information, yes, and I do have that information now, but when I initially asked for the information I was instructed that I had to make a Public Records Request. When I notified you today and I have the email right here that I was, this is what I was looking for this particular item and that I was notified that I had to make a Public Records Request and I was actually emailed the form and said this is the form that everyone needs to use to get public information then I said ok, I will go ahead and make the Public Records Request."

Mrs. Robottom stated, "That's not necessary."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I agree."

Mrs. Robottom stated, "And again the reason we give you access is that you don't have to request it from us."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I agree."

Councilman Wilson stated, "Mr. Perrilloux, this is not the first time this has happened, but we're not the public and having to go out and ask for public records as a citizen would, these are our records, and I think the questions we have should be answered right there and we shouldn't have to request that. I mean is that even legal?"

Jeff Perilloux, Legal Counsel, responded, "I'm not sure I totally understand your question, but I'll answer it as best I can."

Councilman Wilson stated, "These are the Parish's records. We are the Parish Council. We're not the public that's requesting the information. I just don't understand why they're going to tell us that we have to get it through public information as a citizen."

Mr. Perilloux responded, "Well Mr. Wilson I'm really not totally prepared to answer the question in total. I can tell you that any citizen and any Council Member have the right to make a Public Records Request for any information that is a Public Record and that has to be provided within a certain time frame provided it is a public record."

Councilman Wilson stated, "No, what I'm asking is why should this Council have to ask I mean why can't we just ask for this and not be told that we have to do it through that process? I mean it's our records. They should be able to answer a question."

Mr. Perilloux responded, "The Charter does allow you to ask, seek reports from Directors and from Administration on certain issues. You all do have the right to request a report from any Director on any issue within Administration and I believe for the most part the documents that you all request is part of your duties as a Council Member should be provided to you as a Council Member, and I believe for the most part they are from what I understand."

Councilman Wilson stated, "Well not from what she just said."

Councilman Snyder stated, "In the spirit of cooperation do we have to go through the request through the forms to get any information that we want?"

Mr. Perilloux responded, "If Administration requires your request and says that you should prepare a Public Records Request you have the right to do that, now depending on what the document is and what issuing you're looking at it may very well be a step that's not necessary, but ultimately I don't think that you all want to get into a cat and mouse game of keeping documents from one another."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Thank you."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Jeff if you could come back to the podium, and pardon me, I'm actually looking at the emails right now, but what I'm addressing and you and I have had this conversation and actually Butch and I had a meeting with Tom Daley this week on this is that when we ask for the information if the information is available to us if Jackie could pull it up in the system then I ask her to go and get the information, if the information is not in the system the only way to retrieve the information is to request it from Administration and you and I have had this conversation on many occasions. I've asked for some information this week. I was answered that I needed to fill out a Public Records Request all of a sudden and the email even gave me the form and said this is the form that everyone needs to fill out to get public information and my reply to that was that's fine, I will fill it out, and I will do that, and I mentioned that to Administration today I'm ok if that's what I have to do now to get information that's not in the system and we've had that conversation so the answer that I got from Tom was that if they're telling you that you need to do that then yes, go ahead and put in a Public Records Request to get the information."

Mr. Perilloux stated, "You do have the right to that, absolutely."

Kia Price, Director of Purchasing and Procurement, asked, "Can I make

*one comment on that? The initial request to me was no name, no person, so I didn't know where it was coming from, so the initial response to me was if you're asking for a public document you fill out a Public Records Request."*

*Councilwoman Hotard asked, "Did you get it from someone in our office though? I mean you're saying you got this request with no name on it."*

*Mrs. Price stated, "It came from Jackie."*

*Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Correct."*

*Mrs. Price stated, "I get Public Records Request from all Parish employees or outside employees so to be unified because it wasn't a unified process and to keep track of any public requests that comes into the Parish we ask, and this is not a new process, that the form be filled out. It's not a problem with dispersing the information but in case we're audited in the future which that problem has come up in the past, we would like to have an educated response back to an auditor or anybody that's asking for documentation because it does happen frequently, how these are being tracked and who's asking for them. There's no problem at all with anybody asking for the documentation and by the way the documentation that is requested whether it's a public entity, and outside entity, a firm or whatever the case may be it is passed by the attorneys before it is released. Now, the actual P.O. log that you're referencing to versus the St. John Baptist report was two different things. You've always had access to the P.O. log, always. It's on the projects drive under purchasing so you can access it anytime you want to and once you access it you can put it on your desktop if you want to, but I will caution you with the P.O. log if it's open and my department can't work and function in it, then you have an inaccurate piece of document, so we caution that because it's nothing more than a spreadsheet, but to make it more than what it was. No, we're not denying you of the Public Records Request, but I'm trying to be uniformed and keep track of them."*

*Councilman Perrilloux asked, "You said if they're open you can't do work in your department, can you put it in read only?"*

*Mrs. Price responded, "Yes, and we did."*

*Councilman Perrilloux stated, "That way you can use it and it won't interrupt your department."*

*Mrs. Price responded, "Yes, and we did."*

*Councilwoman Hotard stated, "First of all like you said, you received an anonymous request, that's incorrect. An anonymous request is a request that you don't know where it came from. You received a request from the Council Secretary, so you knew who the request came from."*

*Mrs. Price stated, "No, the email initially said that somebody, she emailed me but she said that she had gotten a request, so I couldn't tell you where it was coming from."*

*Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Our office sent over the request on behalf of a Council Member. Often times if I'm on the road or anything like*

that, Jackie can you send this out for me. So the request came from the Council Office from the Council Secretary it was not an anonymous request, the access to download the P.O. system that was just done today. That was done today. I also made the request for that information a while ago, I usually get it when I ask for it, I didn't receive it. I understand if they needed to put it in a read-only document and I agree with you. We upload Council Minutes on the website in read-only we don't want people changing the information. I also want to know that the information is accurate when I see it, but that is not, that's just not how it happened. She made a request, it wasn't anonymous. She made a request on my behalf. She will often make requests on Council Members behaves, so that's why I told her if you need to fill out a Public Records Request I would do that. I'm fine with that, whatever you tell me I need to do to get information I will do that. Is that a new process? Yes it is. I've never done it before. I've never done that before, even since you've been here I've requested information and I've received it, so that is a new process, as far as tracking is concerned, there was no call from a number that you didn't recognize and said give me information. It was in an email from a St. John Parish email. That is tracking right there that this information is being requested from the Council Office. That's just it in a nut shell."

Mrs. Price stated, "Moving forward, you will get the documentation upon request. It is going to be requested and it's going to be a written documentation if you're going to request it from the office because we are going to track it, whether it be a Public Records Request form or a written piece of documentation it is a Public Records Request and by law I don't have to give it to you at the time that you're asking, by law I have 3 days to respond to it and I am entitled to ask for an extension, so rather than go back and forward as you commonly do, we're going to give it to you okay."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "You're out of order."

Mrs. Price stated, "I think you're out of order by trying to give me..."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Let's calm down and we're going to talk to each other and understand each other."

Councilman Wilson stated, "Mr. Perrilloux I want you to recess this."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Mr. Wilson, wait a minute, let's calm down."

Councilman Wilson stated, "I'm calm."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Mrs. Hotard had the floor, are you finished?"

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Kia, I really don't think this rests on you honestly. It's not anything that you're saying so I'm not saying that you intentionally withheld any information. All I know is that I asked Jackie to send over a request to your office for some information that I had received previously without having to go through the formality of submitting a Public Records Request. It's like I said, she sent it. It wasn't anonymous. It was in an email so that it could be

tracked. I don't like to pick up the phone and call anybody and ask for anything. I say email it, so that we do have backup we can track the information, so all I'm stating is that, that was new to me. You did send me the form to fill out the Public Records Request. That's fine; I will do it if that's the process. If the information is available in Laserfiche we will retrieve it. I ask her, sometimes I go in there and I look in Laserfiche and see what's in there. All I am stating is that the reason why this item was placed on the agenda tonight is because I did ask for the information and I was told that I had to make a Public Records Request and that is what I'm doing now. I'm making a Public Records Request at a public meeting. Jackie can fill out the form for me and that's where we are now."

Mrs. Robottom stated, "Before you go into that, let's just clarify I publicly said a Public Records Request was not necessary, that we would provide you all with the access and I'm telling you as the President that a Public Records Request from you all and what she said was somebody requested the information. Many times she'll say a Council person requested or whatever, but somebody could mean you know; the issue is not getting the information. The timeliness you get information you all request information okay, you all request information you don't need a Public Records Request, but what we want to do is make sure you have the access you need to get it yourself, with your 3 employees who work for you if it's in the system. If it's not in the system then it's going to get in the system, but it's a matter of scanning and you know please consider we're standing up here talking about a Records Request when there's so many more important things we need to be dealing with on the cost of a Progress Report that again all the documentation is not in. The request came the day the mail out went out, so all the invoices are not in and as soon as they're in they'll be placed into the record. What I think Kia was saying for all us in terms of priority looking up and hunting and searching for the cost of the mail and whatever was not our priority right now. We're dealing with possible mosquito problems, coyote problems, water problems, project concerns that we want to get moving and it's not at the forefront of everything, but you do not as a Council need to send a Public Records Request and you know you don't because you request all the time, okay, now moving forward we want to give you the full access, Jackie if you don't have it let us know. I think I was on some emails going back and forward, now you have it, now its read only, and my question to you Mrs. Hotard is the access available by the afternoon and I think I told you that wasn't necessary. We want to make sure you have access your staff has access, so we don't have to look it up. That's the bottom line, so if there's any other discussions about it they're not necessary, request your information, we want your staff to have access, train all 3 of them, get 3 Laserfiche, you know get as many as you need so they can look up the information you're wanting that's in the system."

Councilman Perrilloux asked, "Are we done?"

Councilman Wilson responded, "Yes, she answered the question. We are the Parish Council. We're not the public. The records are our records and we shouldn't have to make a request as an individual off the streets. We should be obtaining our records as we ask for them."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Well she said we don't need so let's

pass forward and see what happens."

**Larry Snyder/Lennix Madere - (Carry Over 9-9-14) Appointment of 2014 Bond Manager**

Councilman Snyder stated, "I discussed that with the Parish President and we looked at, what I was trying to do and I told her this, I'd just like to see some reports on this Bond that we passed in 2013 and to see exactly what we're spending the money on. I saw today whereas we got an excavator. I know it went out for bids, but it's in here will I see it again? I'd like to see numbers if it's possible a report maybe once a month or once every quarter or something like that of exactly what's happening with the Bond money, what we're spending the money on, how much we got left, what all projects that we got started that we haven't got started yet and the money is still pending those types of things."

Mrs. Robottom stated, "And that's something we definitely will do. We have a projects spreadsheet, but it includes all the projects, but if you look I think monthly we send a monthly financial report to you towards the back of that report is every Bond issue that was ever done and I think it starts at 2009 and it lists which projects what the engineering costs were what the construction costs were and where we are year-to-date. Many of those projects under that 2009 Bond Issue are going to be completed. We are in the process right now you guys approved quite a few Bond Issue Projects so we need to put together that spreadsheet. We just awarded the Vicknair Canal so you're going to see that on a 2014 spreadsheet that you will get that document every month and it's going to list the engineering costs if we spent any of it that month it's going to be listed on there and the percentage. When it's get to construction there's going to be a construction amount once the design is finished regardless of construction that amount will be in there and each month you're going to get how much of that has been spent, but we're just in the process now of approving all of the firms that's going to be doing the Bond Projects, but we can add the Roads. Everything that was on that Bond Issue is going to be 2014 Bond Issue but we've not gotten to that point to assign all the projects yet, once they are they'll be in the exact same typed spreadsheet that will show you this is the cost, this is how much is allocated, this is how much has been spent year-to-date on engineering on construction and then you'll have a total cost, so it's going to be a running document to follow on a monthly basis, but we also have a master spreadsheet that includes more than just Bond Projects, so that's a separate document."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well what I'm concerned about is just that Bond money and I know that we're spending money internally, we're buying equipment especially equipment because that's the most expensive stuff, the equipment like that excavator that's coming up."

Mrs. Robottom stated, "That's going to be in that report. You know how we have an equipment section it was under drainage we had Vicknair Canal I think we had Hayden, we had several projects and that equipment is going to be one so as we purchase you're going to see that number going down. I think we had \$3,000,000 for equipment, whatever that amount was its going to be a line item and as we purchase pieces of equipment that amount will be decreased."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Is it possible that we can have a spreadsheet

issued to us on just the Bond money and not mixed in with other projects?"

Mrs. Robottom asked, "Something other than the sheet that I am talking about? Because it will be titled 2014 Bond Issue Projects and it will just be Bond Issues because right now there's a 2009 there's a 2010 previously there was a 2004 and that sheet will only have 2014 Bond Issue Projects on it."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Thank you."

Councilman Perrilloux asked, "Who's coordinating the projects?"

Mrs. Robottom responded, "We have a Projects Administrator."

Councilman Perrilloux asked, "And who is that?"

Mrs. Robottom responded, "Daron Cooper, and we also have a Projects Manager and each one that you assign a project to whether it's an engineer an architect and they're over some of those as well as we've hired I think Digital is over seeing a lot of the Water Projects that involve loans. Each time we assign a project to somebody part of their fee involves them managing that project, but through our office our Finance Department will be managing the dollars. Our CAO and we have a Project Administrator and a Projects Manager who'll also be working those projects."

Councilman Perrilloux asked, "So he's coordinating the projects and also selecting the Engineers?"

Mrs. Robottom responded, "No, that's done by a source selection firm and you guys vote on the Engineer, so we procured a pool and we've also come before you and solicited firms and each time we award a project you vote on who that Engineer is and then they work with us on design or the scope or whatever else and then they bring it forth for bid and construction and part of their job is to manage it through construction."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Okay, I have some more questions but I'll send you an email."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I just wanted to go back to the last item and we did pull up the emails, actually President Robottom you were copied on it and Jackie she was asked is this a Public Records Request if so please fill out the attached. She said a Council Member is requesting the information is it still required? And the Purchasing Department said yes."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Mrs. Hotard, we are past that item we're talking about the appointment of the Bond Manager. We're past that item." So we're talking about the Bond Manager, anymore questions on the Bond Manager? None, we'll move on."

**Larry Snyder - (Carry Over 9-9-14) Parish Vehicle Policy**

Councilman Snyder asked that the item be removed from agenda.

**Lennix Madere - (Carry Over 9-9-14) Update on the Recreation Director position**

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes, I see where Administration have no new information, but it was mentioned 3 months ago when we brought this up when Mrs. Robottom said she had offered the position to Mrs. Poche and she wanted to give her some time to speak to her husband about it and when I brought it up a month or two after that it was explained to me that because of baseball with the little league they were out of town for two weeks didn't have time, I understand about retirement I'm not concerned about the retirement that's a personal matter, but I just want a simple answer from an offer that was made 3 months ago in a public meeting and all I want know is did she accept or reject your offer. That's not privileged, that's public. It's a public position. It's public information. You made the statement that you offered it to her in a public meeting and it's a public position and the public should know the answer, not just you, and this Council should know the answer. I didn't make the offer; you did in a public meeting. I'm asking for a public answer."

Mrs. Robottom stated, "And my public answer is there's no new information and I don't know what's so hard about that to understand."

Councilman Madere stated, "What's so hard about that is if you're going to offer a position to someone I think 3 months is more than a generous amount of time to receive an answer."

Mrs. Robottom stated, "And it could be, but obviously our attention has been on other things, and it's not been on that."

Councilman Madere stated, "Now I understand about the issue with the water and everything else."

Mrs. Robottom stated, "And the levee and the projects and the mosquitos and the coyotes."

Councilman Madere stated, "I understand that."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "You're out of order. We're talking about the Recreation Director nothing else."

Councilman Madere stated, "I didn't say coyotes she did."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "I'm telling Mrs. Robottom but I'm saying we both out of order. We're talking about the Recreation Director, let's stick to the topic."

Councilman Madere stated, "I'm in order. I asked for a public answer on a public statement that was made by our Parish President that she offered the position and I just want an answer and I think 3 months is more than enough time to come back with an answer. This is not private."

Mrs. Robottom stated, "The answer is no new information."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "And I think you should have new information after 3 months are you withdraw the offer."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I'd like to have legal counsel to come up here and I know that this information has been discussed a little bit and maybe share some of the information as it relates to this specific item that's in the Charter as far as Department Heads and Departments and those types of things."

Mr. Perilloux stated, "I don't have the exact Charter language in front of me but the Charter says that all Departments shall be headed by a Department Head which is appointed by the Parish President or the Parish President may serve also as a Director for a department with the approval of the Council. Another Director may also serve as the Department Head for 2 departments, again with the approval of the Parish Council. That approval requires a two-thirds vote."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "So when the Charter says that the department shall that means it must be headed by a Department Head or by the Parish President at the request she will make to the Council we approve it or headed by another Department Head is the third option. Is that also approved by the Council?"

Mr. Perilloux responded, "Yes."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Ok, so I think where Mr. Madere is going is that the department is not being headed by a Department Head nor has Natalie made the request to the Council nor is another Department Head in charge of that department right now with the request to the Council, so is the Charter in conflict with what's going on?"

Mr. Perilloux responded, "The Charter specifically says that a department shall be headed by a Department Head appointed by the Parish President subject to the approval of a two-thirds majority vote of the Council or the Parish President may serve as a head of the department with the approval of a two-thirds majority of the Parish Council or another Department Head may serve as the Department Head for more than one department and if appointed by the Parish President subject to a two-thirds majority vote of the Parish Council. That's what the Charter specifically says."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "So considering that none of those 3 things are being met right now is what is taking place in conflict with what the Charter says?"

Mr. Perilloux responded, "I'm not prepared to say that it's in conflict with what the Charter says. I will say again I can reiterate what the Charter says."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Say it one more time so we can hear."

Mr. Perilloux stated, "The Charter says each Parish department, office or agency except those excluded by this Charter, shall be administered by the Parish President. With a two-thirds vote of the entire Council, the Parish President may serve as the head of one or more such departments, offices, or agencies or may appoint one person as the head of two or more departments, offices, or agencies. If the Parish President should elect to serve as the head of one or more departments, offices, or agencies, he shall receive only the compensation payable to

him as Parish President."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Thank you, it's pretty clear."

Councilman Madere stated, "Let me go back and get this all straight, number one I recommended that Mrs. Poche several times I spoke to her about that position and when I brought this up because I think this department been without a Recreation Director going on 2 years. You're talking about a department that only have 2 sports and we're trying to make sure now Mrs. Robottom coyotes and everything else that's not the issue. The issue is a program, a department that don't have a Head, and I simply asked that question recommending Mrs. Poche. It was told to me that you offered her the job and I think 3 months is plenty enough time for anyone to decide if they want the job, 3 months is plenty enough time. I don't think there is anywhere in this world that's going to hold a position open for 3 months, a simple yes or no I've been trying to get that for 2 months, a simple yes or no, a request that was made in this meeting to the public all of a sudden it's become private. This is not a private business. This is a public business. This is the Parish Recreation Program, so any offer of a job have to come to this Council for approval anyway, so why can't we get a simple yes or no I'm accepting the job or I'm not accepting the job and then that way not only do you know but the citizens of St. John Parish know where we're headed with this department and I think every voter deserve that answer and it's not private it's not for yours personally, it belongs to the citizens."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I'm in full agreement with Mr. Madere and Mrs. Hotard. I wouldn't care if you got Houdini as the Director of the department. I'm concerned just like Mr. Madere is about the people in this Parish. They voted to give us more money to run the department Recreation Department. We got the same activities going on now that we had when we didn't have any money and Mr. Errol Manuel managed that did the same identical thing when had almost \$1,000,000 less than what we have right now and he did the same job. You need to get out there and see what's going on and then you can understand where Mr. Madere keeps putting this on the agenda. We had over 500 kids out there in the park at East St. John's football field Saturday. What they were doing, playing football, cheerleading, parents involved with the children barbecuing, eating having a good time, good clean time. You know how much our Recreation had to do with that? Zero, and that's where he and I talked about this. I was out there, 3 grandchildren playing out there. Why? We have our people up there taking care of the parks up there. We paid somebody 40 something thousand dollars to care of that. It was 40 something thousand dollars or 140 something thousand dollars to take care of them baseball fields. Where they at? We need somebody with a vision. We need somebody with some energy. I'm tired being the nice guy. I know who's getting hurt by this, our children, that's who's getting hurt by this. We need somebody with a vision that can come here and lead this thing. We had 50 something girl scouts trying to get a place to have a meeting. We went to the Recreation Director, we don't have a policy on it, to open the gym and have the kids have a meeting, so Mr. Madere went over there to the Vo-Tech school Mrs. Posca said give me 10 minutes, 10 minutes the kids had a place to have a meeting. Why? Because I didn't feel like going out there that day it was a Saturday or something like that, our children are hurting that's why we need a Director somebody who can come up in here with a vision with

some energy and get this thing going, enough said."

Councilman Wilson stated, "This just shows how much the Council and the Administration doesn't get along, Mrs. Robottom you could have put it on any one of the other Directors just to stop all of this from happening or you could have taken it yourself, but you put this on yourself, and its making you look bad, and its making this Council look bad, it needs to be done, but I guarantee Mr. Snyder, I guarantee you're going to see overtime in the next report published."

Councilman Madere stated, "And I keep putting this on this because I didn't like the answer I received when all of a sudden it became a private information, nothing that goes on in this Council is private information that's why it's on TV, that's why it's broadcast live, and when you say something in here it goes out to everyone and like I said, it was offered 3 months ago, now I ask for an answer its private, it's not private, its public. I'm not talking about this meeting here, it was told to me before and I have a good memory and I have the tapes of it."

Mrs. Robottom asked, "This is a personnel matter isn't it?"

Councilman Madere responded, "No."

Mrs. Robottom stated, "It is personnel and I've already answered and to continue to talk about it doesn't make the information change. No new information means any new information."

**Motion:** Councilman Snyder moved and Councilman Wright seconded to go into a 5 minute recess. The motion passed unanimously.

**Motion:** Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Snyder seconded a motion to come out of recess. The motion passed with 5 yeas (Snyder, Wright, Smith, Perrilloux, and Gauff; and 4 absent (Hotard, Millet, Wilson, and Madere.

**Lennix Madere - (Carry Over 9-9-14) Railroad concerns canal ownership**

Mr. Perilloux stated, "Mr. Madere I'm going to ask you to give us until the next meeting. Mr. Butler and I have had some discussions regarding that. I've started to do some research. Mr. Butler is doing some research as well. We need to get together and put our notes together before we answer that. I will tell you that traditionally the railroad right of ways actually are on private property for the most part then extend 50-75 feet from the center of railroad running parallel to the railroad, so some of the ditches that you are referring to may actually be on private property but may very well be part of the railroads obligation, historically in the past some have been and some have not been, but we want to make sure that we give you the right answers just if you would, we'll put a memo together before the next meeting and share it with the entire Council and the Administration."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes, because that information you just gave me about 50 feet 75 feet, I've done some research myself and I've found that out too, the sticking point seem to be who exactly agree to they responsibility and sometimes the Parish say its them because today on NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Street the Parish actually cut the canal alongside the railroad

track and that's the part that's confusing to me. If we're going to cut the canals in certain sections and then we're not cutting it everywhere on that same track then something seems to be sort of messed up right there."

Mr. Perilloux stated, "Hopefully we'll answer that question and that would be a benefit to both Administration and the Council going forward one thing that we can say with confidence is that those culverts that go under the tracks are the Railroads responsibility so what we're talking about specifically and what we're researching are the canals that run parallel to the tracks along the tracks and that are between the tracks and the private land owner's property."

Councilman Madere asked, "So by next meeting?"

Mr. Perilloux responded, "We're actually going to hopefully have a memo to you prior to the next meeting."

Councilman Madere stated, "Ok thank you."

Councilman Wilson stated, "Also, could you all check into the periods of time that they keep crossings blocked and also how many cars, I think they allow 144 cars if I'm not mistaken. I have a lot of complaints of them blocking the traffic and it's happened much in the past and I want to find out what those issues are and all of this drainage stuff."

Mr. Perilloux stated, "We'll try to answer that question as well. I have had some discussions with Mr. Boucvault regarding some issues in I think the Reserve area if I'm not mistaken, so we'll get an answer on that as well."

**Marvin Perrilloux/Eliana DeFrancesch - Discussion relative to renovations to the Courthouse and storage issues**

Eliana DeFrancesch, Clerk of Court, stated, "Good evening and thank you for letting me come and address the Council and Administration. First of all I would like to thank the Administration and the Council for getting the Clerk's Office new desks which we needed very badly. It's been more than 14 years since we've gotten new desks and these are desks that the Clerk's Office purchased initially so now the Parish is purchasing those desks for our office and I thank them for that, also we have in discussing the issues that I have right now, I do have a meeting with the President Robottom and I believe Mrs. Price on Thursday, but I wanted to bring this up to the Council so they're aware of what's going on and also the public some issues that we're having. The Courthouse you know is being renovated right now and the Clerk's Office as well as the Assessor's, the Sheriff, the Registrar of Voters are all in trailers. Unfortunately, one of the trailers and I've spoken to Mr. Cooper about this just before I came on the Council here. One of the doors, the awning is not large enough and when it rains it comes right down the middle of the door it comes in so we can't use that door when it's raining going in or out because you get all wet, so that's being addressed and being handled hopefully. Also, and the office that I'm in right now we share. There's 4 offices and each office has 3 people in it, it's a 10x10 little office, we're managing, I'm not complaining it's just we're managing. It's not the best situation, but

we are managing and I was told it was its only temporary, which I hope is true, but there's 21 people in one of the trailers right now, as I said 3 to an office. There are 4 offices and the rest are in the main area. The problem is that in the other there's one office that's not being used at all. It's being used as a storage facility for equipment. None of the computers are on, no one's ever in there, so there's an office in the other trailer that's not being used at all so and I don't understand why but we're managing as I said. Also, we have no space when people come into our office we have no space. We have no sitting they have to stand up. We have no conference room for them to sit if they have to fill out a restraining order we have to send them to the Administration building in the back or somewhere to fill it out, in their car actually we've told them go to the car fill it out and bring it back so it is a really cramped space and we do have some issues with that, but as I said we are trying to manage. Also, in renovating the Courthouse itself there was storage space up at the top on the second level where we had over 600 boxes of documents, files, those were removed, they are no longer there. The storage facility the top space is no longer available because we were told that was in compliant with the Fire Marshal so those are done. Those documents are in a big pod, unfortunately we can't access that pod, well, I'm going to take it back, we can access that pod but we cannot get to the records that are in there, so what I am going to do is I believe I've mentioned that to Daron, Mr. Cooper, excuse me. I have a storage facility company in Hammond will come and pick up those files and bring them to the storage facility that is air conditioned and I can access those files so when the public is asking for them I can say ok email the gentleman I need this file and they will bring it to me the following day. Not any longer, they were moved to Hammond because when they had the Isaac they almost flooded so it moved to they have those records not in Woodland, they're in Hammond now."

Councilman Perrilloux asked, "So Mrs. DeFrancesch, you're giving us these updates but you have talked with Administration to correct these problems and you're meeting with them this week to correct these problems so as of now you just want to bring it aware to the Council what's going on?"

Mrs. DeFrancesch responded, "Absolutely, yes Sir, and also we've had some juvenile files that I don't know if I remembered if I mentioned or not but it's over 600 boxes of documents in that pile. Then we also had to remove some juvenile files that we initially were not going to move, but those were 300 boxes of files that were moved to the storage facility in Hammond, so the only thing I ask is the public be patient with us in reference to acquiring any files that they need at the moment because it's going to take a couple of days for us to get them. Also, the jurors, when they come for jury duty we cannot unfortunately pay them we usually pay them right away when they're there when they're dismissed or when the service is completed. We cannot get to as quickly as we want to because it's being renovated to the server room where we have our servers where I go and print out the checks for the jurors when they finish their duty their civic duty, so I'm going to have to mail those checks so I want them to be aware of that also, and all the public they need to know that they have to go in the front of the Courthouse to enter the Courthouse because they cannot enter in the back it is closed off shut down. They will not be able to enter in the back portion where they usually went to access the Courthouse. The last

one, the public must also use port-a-pots because the bathrooms are not available unless they come to the Clerk's Office we do have a bathroom there that they can use, but as I said there's only so many, that's all so I thank you."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "That's a lot, let me ask you something before I know Mr. Wilson want to ask a question, the bathrooms, I know we have 2 buildings that's right behind there and maybe one might be under renovation and the Parish own are those bathrooms usable for the jurors or can we use the Community Center as restrooms?"

Mrs. Defrancesch responded, "I don't know."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "We can use that as restrooms and also another one when you send the subpoenas out to the potential jurors all what you said for the inconvenience to them will a flyer be put into that to let them know the inconvenience that's going on and I see Ms. Bowe is taking notes I'm sure she may post that on the website too."

Mrs. Defrancesch stated, "I will put that on the website, of course they cannot bring in cell phones in the Courthouse, so I will put that on that and put an extra list, but subpoenas have gone out already for all of October so I did put it on the website that they need to be aware of that."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "And maybe we can put something in our journal L'Observateur letting the public know what's going on over there as far as jurors and an inconvenience it is to come to the Courthouse right now."

Mrs. Defrancesch stated, "Yes Sir."

Daron Cooper, Projects Administrator, stated, "I just wanted to make a clarification about the statement she made about the Port-A-Pots, we had went out and we rented an air-conditioned facility temporary restroom facility and it's very nice. It has running water, it's air conditioned it's very light it's very well, nice restroom portable trailer that we have parked in the front of the facility, reason being due to the construction going on in the backside of the Courthouse we're demoing the public restrooms and we're rebuilding them so the need for that is in the front of the Courthouse. Now for EDA Compliances, we are going to let handicapped elderly resident utilize the restroom in the D.A. facility to accommodate them for those needs but I just wanted to clarify that. Also, one more thing, the office she's talking about in the trailer that's not being used, that is incorrect, that is for the Juvenile Probation Officers. They need that office. I have conferred with Jonas and Raphael Neil in regards to that. They have to have a private area on their court dates to confer with juveniles and their parents and they need that privacy. Right now, the D.A.'s is occupying the new juvenile section that was erected for them so they need a private office space for when they have juvenile court on that side of the river, that's the reason why there's that office, so we need to supply them with that office."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Mrs. Defrancesch and Daron, will you all going to meet this week, but if it's any inconvenience let the Council know see what we can do maybe we can get another trailer, something not

to be inconvenience if we could rent another trailer and put there."

Mr. Cooper stated, "Well more of it I mean, just like I told Mrs. DeFrancesch and we meet monthly, we have monthly project meetings with the progress of the project. This is an inconvenience for everyone, the residents and the employees. We're trying to work steadfastly through that process. Right now we're on a critical path to completion of the Courthouse in the rear section of it so we're trying to I work with the contractor hand in hand on a daily basis trying to get accelerated schedules together so we can finish this and get everybody back into their office space, so like I explained to Mrs. DeFrancesch on numerous occasions this is just temporary. This is not a long term measurement, 60 days, that's what we're looking at. We are trying to get this project completed so we can get it behind us and have a new facility that's enjoyable to the residents as well as the employees, so it's just a temporary inconvenience while we do this project."

Councilman Wilson asked, "Mrs. DeFrancesch, the historic records, that's all in a safe place?"

Mrs. DeFrancesch responded, "Yes Sir, we have a storage facility in Edgard that the Parish have provided for the Clerk's Office, unfortunately it's also being used by the D.A's office and the judges so right now it's full because we put evidences in there."

Councilman Wilson stated, "I'm just worried about the historic records, I mean they have to be in a safe place."

Mrs. DeFrancesch stated, "The historic records are air conditioned, well not the ones in the pods and some of those maybe historic records, that's why we're moving them, and that's why I'm also going to ask Council, I'm sorry, the Administration, for a larger storage facility in Edgard so we can have them all in one location."

Mrs. Robottom stated, "Just for informational purposes and I indicated to Mrs. DeFrancesch that this information would have been more appropriately addressed in a meeting. She did forward it on and we do have a meeting scheduled but some of this I'm hearing for the first time so I'm not able to address what I don't know about. I just found out that part of the complaint is that the judges and District Attorney has put things in the warehouse that you thought was built for you and obviously we will have conversations with them. They probably need a place to store records as well. There are climate control places that we can put some of their records, especially the things that aren't accessed all the time or the public may need to access. I also provided to you and even through Mr. Gauff I think previously and asked that you contact other clerks because we're not going to be able to continue to build and build and build for records, what are their practices, but investigating and assessing your facility it does seem large enough if we remove some of the items and we reorganize what's in there because it's really not organized properly to take advantage of all the space. These are all things I think Mr. Cooper expressed to you, understanding that this is a temporary measure. We are concerned that your employees are jammed in a room but at the same time we can't work on trying to finish the building and worry about moving people out of the storage. I know you've met with Vince, we've looked at your budget, we've repeatedly added things for you but this is not something that we can

resolve tonight and we scheduled a meeting with you, the people working with you have made and responded to every complaint you make and we're continuing to do that but there has to be some other options considered for example, we do have other facilities there that they may be able to use restrooms. We are, if its signage that's required for our disabled then we need to direct them to the front of the building, but please keep in mind, we're trying to get places for the people as quickly as possible, it's a temporary measure. If you have another alternative than the one you have in trailers please provide it. Initially, we're going to try to work around all of you in the Courthouse and we decided it would not be efficient so we elected to move everyone out to allow the contractors to go in do their job finish so you could move back in. Now, if you have another alternative other than the one that we've provided, please share it and bring your ideas with you to the meeting."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Is there any way we can get that water thing repaired at least help that out Daron? You took care of the water leak?"

Mr. Cooper responded, "Yes, we addressed that problem September 11 Mrs. DeFrancesch had sent over an email request to me expressing the deficiency with the water intruding into the trailer. I contacted Satellite being it is a rental unit; we cannot make those repairs to it. They have to come out and perform those needs and they came out the very next day and they installed some other door sweeps and some trip edges around the door, so she told me as she came in tonight she still has a little problem with one of the doors, so I will contact them tomorrow again and have them come out on site and re-assess what's going on with that particular door."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Those 60 days you mentioned, that's counting 60 days from today?"

Mr. Cooper responded, "Yes, I don't have the exact count."

Councilman Snyder asked, "That's with the whole project or just from today?"

Mr. Cooper responded, "Pretty much the whole project, like I said we're on a critical path to completion with that project."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Ok, thank you."

Mrs. DeFrancesch stated, "And as far as that room that is being used for a conference they use the D.A.'s office as a conference room, they do not use that room at all and the storage issue has always been there."

Councilman Perrilloux asked, "So Mrs. DeFrancesch after your meeting could you give us an update? I'm sure we'll get something from Administration."

Mrs. DeFrancesch responded, "I'll email you."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Thank you."

### **Lennix Madere - Comcast**

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes, I put this on the agenda because I know it's well documented that we've been having some problems with Comcast and it really came to head about a week ago when I received a call from Public Works, they actually pulled down a cable wire and they attempted to get it put back the same day because it was an elderly man and that's all he do is look at his cable and whenever they called they end up in Mississippi. I called, Mississippi. I went to the cable office and no one was there capable of making a decision to go out there and hook up this guy's wire, so finally the manager of Comcast called me and I expressed to him my displeasure about a 65 Laplace number that end up talking to someone in Mississippi and I explained to him someone need to be placed there that can make a decision in emergency situations to go out there and hook up a cable that maybe would have taken about 10 minutes and someone have to wait a week before they get their cable hooked back up, so we came to a conclusion on the phone and I told him I would relay that information to the people. If that type of situation happens again, Public Works or anyone of the Council Members can call him directly and get the information from our secretary and call him directly and he would handle it immediately on the spot, because I thought that was totally ridiculous a wire that was pulled down just a matter of hooking it back up, took 6 days or 7 days to get it accomplished, so I told him I was going to relay that information to any Council Members that have that situation just simply call the secretary and she'll relate to him and he'll get it taken care of. Thank you."

Councilman Wilson, "Yes, I have the same problem where the Parish vehicle picking up the branches had pulled one down and it was a very elderly couple and they didn't have no television or telephone and it just needed to be fixed outside but I called them as you said I spoke to them in Mississippi and they said it would be on a Sunday and I said that's unacceptable and we went round and round a couple times and then they came out and fixed it much sooner, but we have to fight for it."

### **Marvin Perrilloux/Lennix Madere - Update on the filters for the Lyons Water Plant**

Virgil Rayneri, Director of Utilities, stated, "Good evening, make a little statement here, you know my focus has been on the emergency order in the Water District I and the compliance in the Parish since 8/27 when we received the Administrative order, however I have Rob in here with me with Digital Engineering and he's been doing some work on 3 of the items one for Mr. Marvin and Lennix and also Cheryl and Larry item that you have here and he can give you a little at latest what's going on with that if it's ok with you gentlemen and ladies here."

Rob Delaun, with Digital Engineering, stated, "As far as an update on the Lyons Filter Project that is slated as a project under the LDHH Loan, however, the Laplace Water Source Project a task under that is to look at conceptual engineering evaluation of the Lyons Water Plant, which includes filters and other unit processes to bring the Lyons Water Plant within LDHH compliance so that Filters Project is not going to move forward until the Lyons Plant is looked at as a whole and the recommendation whether it's going to be filters or any other type of technology that needs to be installed at the Lyons Plant to bring the

*Plant back into LDHH compliance."*

*Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Well, what I was concerned about too was we've been talking about these filters workshop, we've talked about these filters 2013, well lets fast forward to the workshop, we were talking about R.O filters over there. We know we're going to have to expand that facility to put those filters in and possibility a UV light, despite what you have written down here because I was talking about that before the emergency order. So I don't want to use that as an excuse to divert what I was talking about because we were talking about filters even before this started, so are we looking into expanding that plant, putting the R.O. filters over there and probably UV light soon?"*

*Mr. Delaun stated, "Yes, that is part of what we're doing for the conceptual engineering of the alternate supply water source for Laplace. That is one of the tasks we are currently working on that and we will be finished with that December of 2014."*

*Councilman Perrilloux asked, "On this particular item 2014?"*

*Mr. Delaun responded, "Yes."*

*Mr. Rayneri stated, "Mr. Marvin on the UV, we have to do that anyway so that's in parallel so the UV will be going in into that system before the filters."*

*Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Ok, thank you."*

*Councilman Wilson asked, "The reverse osmosis is going into that plan also?"*

*Mr. Delaun responded, "Not necessarily, we are evaluating that at this time. It could be some type of membrane technology which is a reverse osmosis is a membrane technology. It could be filters; we need to look at what is the best optimum unit process treatment to bring the Lyons Plant back into compliance. We're currently working on that and we'll have those recommendations December 2014."*

*Councilman Wilson stated, "I would love to see the reverse osmosis because that's where all these bottles of water..."*

*Mr. Delaun stated, "And that may be the final outcome, but we're still looking at all of the options."*

*Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Because I don't want it feel like the Council is blocking from doing it because I'm ready to do it."*

*Mr. Delaun stated, "We're working on to get this done so we can bring the recommendations and the projects budget to you to move forward with these projects."*

*Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Thank you."*

*Councilwoman Millet asked, "My only comment is that please whatever you come up with make sure you have the concern and the needs of the residents in mind and not the check book because our residents are the*

ones we're here to protect."

Councilman Wilson stated, "While you're doing all this pricing I was going to ask that you also include the reverse osmosis not only one option, give us a couple of different options with the prices."

Mr. Delaun stated, "Now reverse osmosis is a membrane technology so it will be a membrane technology that we're looking at and it may be reverse osmosis, it may be a hybrid of reverse osmosis or nano filtration so we are looking at that technology."

Councilman Snyder asked, "So there is a possibility that we won't need those filters that we were talking about?"

Mr. Delaun responded, "There is a possibility that you would put the membrane technology in lieu of installing the filters."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Thank you."

Councilman Madere stated, "I would just like to say I'm pretty sure the residents feel the same way, whatever suggestion that you come back to I would hope that this would be the best one and the final one for once and for all before I even got on this Council that this particular area can feel safe to drink the water that they're actually paying for, so I beg you and hope that you definitely do your research well and come up with the best possible solution because this has been going on entirely too long in St. John the Baptist Parish with water. We need to make sure it's done right."

Mr. Delaun stated, "We understand the importance of this issue and note taken we're working diligently to get this done."

**Marvin Perrilloux/Lennix Madere/Cheryl Millet - Update on the Ruddock Well**

Mr. Delaun stated, "Earlier today, this morning actually, the latest that we had was that 500 year cost estimate for elevating to the 500 year elevation was submitted and we're waiting on GoSep. There was email that sent this afternoon after the update was given which gave the approval of Phase I of the design to go ahead and move forward with designing the elevation of the electrical components, and the email from GoSep says its approved and an approval letter from Fema is forth coming, so the design can move forward with this project."

Councilman Millet stated, "I'm confused, you're talking about electrical or we're talking about a well?"

Mr. Delaun stated, "We're talking about electrical components, elevating them to the 500 year flood based elevation."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "For the existing well?"

Mr. Delaun stated, "Yes."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "Ok, then we'll have to be more specific next time guys."

**Lennix Madere/Cheryl Millet - Update on Road Repair list**

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes Mr. Nunes, I was concerned, I received a phone call from some residents on East 16<sup>th</sup> Street and I actually went down that street and I think you might be familiar with that street because I pointed that out one time before and I think you sent something back there to smooth that area out right there on East 16<sup>th</sup> Street."

Mr. Nunes asked, "All the way in the back?"

Councilman Madere responded, "All the way in the back, they have 3 houses back there and for some reason there was evidence that there was a road back there at one time, they never went all the way to the track, but that particular area on East 16<sup>th</sup> Street is terrible you almost need a bulldozer to get back there and you have several families that live back in the back of 16<sup>th</sup> Street, so I would like East 16<sup>th</sup> Street, I know we have some money left over, I don't know if we compiled a list yet and I would like to be informed about those streets that you do compile a list of. I do believe East 16<sup>th</sup> Street is definitely one that needed to be added to that list and also I have 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, I can speak to you about those later but definitely 16<sup>th</sup> Street is one that should be added to that list and if there's anything that you can do in the meantime to help the residents of 16<sup>th</sup> Street in the back it would be appreciated if you can maybe send someone back there to take care of that area until we make a decision on it."

Mr. Nunes stated, "Yes, that's fine. We're actually working on the road repair list today, and I will take a look at East 16<sup>th</sup> again in the back and see what I can do temporarily and then we'll make an assessment on it as far as when we can get it done."

Councilman Madere stated, "Alright, thank you."

**Larry Snyder - Status of pumping station project on Vicknair Canal outfall**

Councilman Snyder stated, "We did speak about it in our finance committee and I was satisfied with what I got on it. I think we passed something on it also."

**Larry Snyder - Engineers' update on alternate water supply for LaPlace water district**

Councilman Snyder asked the above item be removed from agenda.

**Ranney Wilson/Lennix Madere - Status on Ameba issue in Water District I**

Mr. Perilloux stated, "This item was put on the agenda it was discussed at the last meeting, however, this afternoon a law suit was filed in Parish Court here in the Fortieth JDC. The Parish is a defendant in what is reporting to be or attempting to be a class action law suit, and as a result of that litigation being filed it is our recommendation that if you discuss this issue tonight it should be done so in executive session."

**MOTION:** Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Snyder seconded the motion to go into executive session to discuss the status of the Ameba issue in Water District I. The motion passed unanimously."

**MOTION:** Councilman Snyder moved and Councilman Smith seconded the motion to go back into the regular meeting. The motion passed with 7 yeas (Gauff, Smith, Wilson, Madere, Perrilloux, Wright, and Snyder; with 2 absent (Hotard and Millet).

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Ranney Wilson/Lennix Madere - Drainage and Drainage equipment**

Councilman Wilson stated, "I would like to say thank you, praise the Lord that you all sent somebody to do some drainage work in Garyville, at least they got there, it's been a long time."

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Marvin Perrilloux - Council Meeting date change from 10/14/14 to Monday, 10/13/14 in honor of our annual Night Out Against Crime**

**MOTION:** Councilman Gauff moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to change the date of the 10/14/14 Council Meeting to Monday, 10/13/14 in honor of our annual Night Out Against Crime. The motion passed with Councilwoman Millet absent.

**Angelic S. Keller/Wendel Dufor - Adoption of Comprehensive Land Use Plan Phase IV**

Angelic Keller stated, "This plan is funded through a Gustav-Ike Grant and will serve to guide patterns of development in the future. The plan was completed through an agreement with the University of New Orleans, Division of Planning in conjunction with the Planning and Zoning Department. Public input was solicited over the course of 2 years and the plan was adopted by the Planning Commission at the September 15th meeting. Administration recommends approval."

The motion died for lack of a second.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

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

Lennix Madere - 205 E. 30<sup>th</sup> Street

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

Parish Buildings - Security

Water bill issues

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

Lennix Madere - Code Enforcement

Any and all pending legal matters

#### **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES**

**14-46** An ordinance granting approval to Re-zone Lot "X" of the Estate of Philomine Songy (Formerly) to show a change in zoning classification to C-2 District from C-1 District in Section 13, T-12-S, R-19-E, Edgard, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (N. Robottom)

**14-47** An ordinance to amend Section 16:50 of the St. John the Baptist Parish Code of Ordinances as follows: By amending paragraph (2) to read as follows: (2) No permit shall be issued to construct a Bonfire any closer than 1,000 feet from any petro-chemical business operating within the boundaries of the parish. (R. Wilson)

#### **PRESIDENT REMARKS**

Natalie Robottom stated, "Good evening - I would like to extend my condolences to the Bernard family for their loss and my prayers go out to them during this hard time. As a reminder, please stay tuned to the parish website at [sjbparish.com](http://sjbparish.com), the government access channels - 15 & 99, the Parish Facebook Page for accurate information and updates regarding the Emergency Order in Water District #1. For additional information or questions, please contact the Communications Department at 652-9569 or through email at [communications@sjbparish.com](mailto:communications@sjbparish.com). Last week's trip to Washington D.C. was a productive one. Our Louisiana team which included Council Members, Lennix Madere, Cheryl Millet and Marvin Perrilloux, appeared before the Army Corps of Engineers Civil Works Review Board in Washington D.C. in support of the West Shore Lake Pontchartrain Hurricane Risk Reduction System. The board requested additional documentation on the project - but it is obvious they are in support and anticipate giving the project approval next month. Upon approval, a 30 day comment period will commence followed by a chief's report. This is great news and we remain committed to seeing this project through. The River Region Chamber fly-in extended my time in D.C. and it was a great opportunity to meet with our delegation and state legislators on important issues our Region is facing. Thank you to Chassity and the River Region Chamber of Commerce for coordinating. Thank you to all who attended our public meetings on the Homeowner Rehabilitation Program recently. The meetings were very well attended and highly informative for all. Residents who need additional information or for anyone who was unable to attend a meeting, can visit our website at [sjbparish.com](http://sjbparish.com). Our Annual Fall Clean Sweep was a huge success - more than 250 volunteers came out on Saturday to clean the Parish. A big thank you to all who participated including church groups, homeowner associations, businesses, school clubs, boys and girls scouts, and residents. We encourage you to continue beautification efforts throughout the year. Information regarding the Spring Clean Sweep will be announced at a later date. All are invited to attend the St. John Parish Andouille Pageant next Saturday, October 4 beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the St. John Theatre. Come join the fun and see who will be crowned the 2014 Miss and Teen Andouille Queens. The Andouille Festival will be held October 17-19 at the St. John Community

Center. The festival is a great time with good food, music and activities for all ages. Visit [www.andouillefestival.com](http://www.andouillefestival.com) for more information and to sign up for contests, including the Gumbo Cookoff and Dang Douille Eating Contest. Advanced ride bracelets and Jazz Brunch tickets are also on sale through the website and at Parish buildings and local grocers. We hope to see you there."

**CORRESPONDENCE/COUNCIL BRIEFS**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

At 9:15 PM, Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilwomen Hotard and Millet absent.

/s/Marvin Perrilloux  
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche  
Council Secretary