

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27th, 2016
CHAIRMAN MARVIN PERRILLOUX
VICE-CHAIR MICHAEL WRIGHT

The Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session in the Rudolph Sorapuru Chambers, Edgard, Louisiana on Tuesday, September 27th, 2016 at 6:30 PM.

CALL TO ORDER:

PRESENT AT ROLL CALL: Larry Sorapuru, Jr., Councilman-at-Large, Div. A, Kurt Becnel, Councilman District I, Julia Remondet, Councilwoman District II, Lennix Madere, Councilman District III, Marvin Perrilloux, Councilman District IV, Michael Wright, Councilman District V, Larry Snyder, Councilman District VI, Raj Pannu, Councilwoman District VII

ABSENT: Councilwoman Hotard

Councilman Wright led the Prayer. Councilman Becnel led the Pledge.

Legal Counsel Keith Green, Jr. and Geoffrey Michel were present.

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

There was no public comment at this time.

INTRODUCTION OF BUSINESSES:

Kurt Becnel/Shondrelle Perilloux - Presentation - Unlimited Opportunities Services, Inc.

Shondrelle Perilloux Campbell gave a brief presentation on Unlimited Opportunities Services, Inc., is to provide a one stop Resource Center mission is to improve the quality of life for the community of St. John the Baptist Parish by providing resourceful information and case management. The Goal is to reduce recidivism, reduce the foreclosures rate, reduce the foreclosure rate, increase higher learning enrollment and provide Life Skill trainings. Councilman Sorapuru would like to place this item on the agenda for the Finance Meeting and Councilman Snyder advised he would like to see some numbers and is only fair to bring to the Finance Agenda, so ideas can be presented. The council thanked her for her presentation.

CONSENT AGENDA:

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Sorapuru seconded the motion to suspend the rules to add: Permit Approval - West St. John High School Homecoming Parade - Friday - October 7th, 2016 beginning at 12:30 PM. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

ITEMS: Approval of Minutes - September 13th, 2016, Regular Meeting; Permit Approval - Wellness Walk - OLG Catholic Church Young Adult Ministry - Saturday - October 1st, 2016 at 8:00 AM; Permit Approval - 38th Annual Andouille Festival Run/Walk - Sunday - October 16th, 2016 - 8:00 AM until 10:00 AM; Permit Approval - Breast Cancer Awareness Walk-A-Thon "Just Wear Pink" - St. Michael Baptist Church, Inc. - Saturday - October 8th, 2016 - beginning at

9:00 AM; West St. John High School Homecoming Parade - Friday - October 7th, 2016 beginning at 12:30 PM.

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Becnel seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda items: Approval of Minutes - September 13th, 2016, Regular Meeting; Permit Approval - Wellness Walk - OLG Catholic Church Young Adult Ministry - Saturday - October 1st, 2016 at 8:00 AM; Permit Approval - 38th Annual Andouille Festival Run/Walk - Sunday - October 16th, 2016 - 8:00 AM until 10:00 AM; Permit Approval - Breast Cancer Awareness Walk-A-Thon "Just Wear Pink" - St. Michael Baptist Church, Inc. - Saturday - October 8th, 2016 - beginning at 9:00 AM; West St. John High School Homecoming Parade - Friday - October 7th, 2016 beginning at 12:30 PM. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:

There were no ordinances at this time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Madere stated, "I'd like to make a motion we accept the reports from the finance meeting."

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Snyder seconded the motion to accept reports from the finance committee meeting. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Julia Remondet/Natalie Robottom - Resolution - R16-45 - A Resolution establishing a Historic Preservation Study Committee to study historic structures and neighborhoods in St. John the Baptist Parish and to develop recommendations for their preservation

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "I've been working with a committee that was in place with studying the Main Street Programs, where you go in and I always use Rivertown as the example. You go over and you work that area of a certain town and you beautify it and helps the economic growth in the area. And from a couple of administrations ago we had been looking at four (4) sites for Main Street Programs, not that that's the only areas we'll use, but it's a start and we had attended a couple of conferences concerning that and to have that put in place with the state, we have to form a Historic Committee to study the area and register with the state with that, and this is what this resolution would do for us. There's several people that are on the list that's interesting in participating, they've been avid believers in historic preservation and has worked with various buildings or facilities in trying to get that in place and this would be the little study group that would work with the other groups to compile that information for us."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I'd just like to add to that. The resolution is in support of creating the study committee. They have been having meetings, I think some of you actually went on the trip, but there's a requirement that this being placed to access some of the funding eventually that might be

available to our areas. But we do know we have a very historic area on both sides of the river, Garyville, Reserve, the Westbank and we'd like to preserve that. In order to do that we were interested in following the guidelines that we provided through a meeting to formalize a process in which that's done. It's my understanding that there is a copy of a resolution in the booklet but there may be a change amended name, so I'll ask...

Jackie Landeche interrupting stated, "Which is in the administrative report."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Ok. I'll ask you all to amend the resolution as you see fit and obviously we support it, this is the beginning stages of what we'd like to see done to help us to preserve our community, especially the historic areas, Main Street is part of that but that is not the only part. We do think our river roads' historic and that runs throughout our parish on both sides of the river."

Councilman Perrilloux asked, "Ms. Remondet, you're asking us to adopt this resolution but not the committee members?"

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "Well there is a list of people that have agreed to serve they have been studying these things over the last couple of years. There was a committee in place and when they conclude their little research, they were asked if anyone wanted to be more involved and these names came up. We try to make sure that we've caught people from various edges of the parish that have worked on particular projects like Donald Brown has worked the Woodland area..."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Brown"

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "I'm sorry August. I'm sorry. I'm not aware of him but, I know other people, I knew he's worked on that but that names was put up as a suggestion that he's been in that for quite a number of years and it's sort of a labor of love for some of these people that believe in historic preservation and tend to know where to go and find the information and who to seek out in the community."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "And let me just read the names in the resolution for you guys to understand. It's Rev. Donald August; Jonathon Perret; Randall Vicknair; Harold Flynn and Tommy Acosta. That's the names on the resolution to adopt for this Resolution R16-45."

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "One thing I wanted to add if you don't mind, is that this is not the end or final committee. These are the people that seek out the little details that puts it in place for the state, but also other committees will form from that. Main Street Committees and a commission fund is what I'm understanding, so this is just the people who are going to look for the technical things to get it in place. I know one individual had a building that he had it retrofitted that it did qualify for historic designation. So I call these (The Worker Be Committee) that will expand from that and the council will be asked to put people in other committees from this point on."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Did you contact Mr. Keller and would he be interested in something like that?"

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "He's involved with the Godchaux House in

Reserve. We've got someone from that committee."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Did you ask him for this?"

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "No I didn't ask him for this, because I expect he'll be on another committee to help us from that next part. We look for different things, I mean we're hoping to use that group as a Sounding Board as well from that, but this, we pick someone from that group and I say pick, they were on that initial Main Street Committee studying the idea of Main Street and someone from that organization was on that, that where a lot of the buildings are right now, they're historic but they might have made some changes that disqualified it for that type of a program, so they would kind of explain to him how you get it back into line with that. But no, he's got tons of information and he will be used in the process as well. Cause this is just a group to step here and start looking for the details, the state's looking for and would expand and make other committees to carry them all in. We're not excluding anyone, it's more of a starting point to spread out."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Well how would this group select?"

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "This was a committee that was..."

Councilman Perrilloux interrupting stated, "Julia let me just hold you up a minute. I think we didn't have a motion to accept this resolution, then to start discussing it. So I need a motion to accept Resolution R16-45."

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "This was a committee I found in place. I mean I knew it was there, I asked to be involved..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting asked, "Do you know a place that did some work already with historic buildings and sites in certain areas?"

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "It was already done for the parish, Natalie can answer that."

Natalie Robottom stated, "It was done before I came, there was a contract that was awarded to look at and access all the parish and they put together a booklet. Obviously when we came in we started looking at it as well, as a result of Hurricane Isaac one of our committees looked at cultural improvements obviously Rev. August helped head that up, if you guys remember I think he was involved when we went out to Manchac and Ruddock in terms of brining all of that history as well as Cardinal Street. So the folks on the committee I think have been involved in Main Street meetings, they are familiar with this process, which is the very, very beginning of the process. Clearly several of you expressed interest in bringing back buildings, keeping some of the area's representative of our culture, but there's a process to do that and it takes a little bit more time, which is why although my staff has been working on it, this committee would be helping to facilitate that. And it's my understanding that many of these individuals were already involved, so they've already started some of the leg work, they understand they participated in some of the state workshops that give you clear direction, but this is bigger than five or six or however many people they have there, we already know we have people who work on the Timbermill Museum, The Godchaux Museum, the ones working on Cardinal Street, we have the Westbank, that there's people in all of our little pockets that actually have something to contribute, but this is that first group of people that is a study committee

to look at what's in place, what do we need to get in place to move toward establishing a commission, which is very different from this. It will be someone who accesses applications, reviews applications, make decisions on whether or not it fits the culture, makes recommendations to the council. So we're far off from that, this is just the beginning of trying to create this historic district and we need some folks to help do the leg work and help us follow the letter of the law."

Councilwoman Remondet asked, "If I could add one more thing in?"

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Yes go ahead."

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "Most of the information that Dr. Keller has along with The Godchaux Group, which was also done by Tulane University was all leant to this beginning group that's been in place. All that information's been put into that to get us to the next level, but everyone will play a greater role as it expands. No one's going to be left out, because we need everybody that has that information. But that information was transferred into this committee to do a particular phase, but no one will be left out and then there'll be a final commission. It's just another committee to get to another level. Because this other committee has done its portion, now it takes the next step. Like we have an architect, a landscape designer, things of that nature, so everybody has a little role they play to the next level."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I don't remember who all attended, but we had a meeting in the EOC, I want to say it was early on in this term that you all came, we had a representative from the state who expressed to us you know what might be available, showed us some examples of other smaller towns that had moved forward with this. As I said, this is a start for us to become Local Certified Government, in order to submit the application we have to have the study committee in place. And they work very closely with our Zoning Department who is you know familiar with some of the ordinances and helping with some of the leg work, but as I said it's a first start, the people who are actually being recommended and you know I don't really know exactly what all they've done but I know they've been involved in this process since before 2010. We've just reactivated it with Julia coming back and with the Planning & Zoning Department following up a little bit more, now we're ready to take that next step and establishing a Study Committee, this is not the Commission, this is a study Committee to get all the documents together so that we can submit an application to become a Local Certified Government which eventually makes us eligible for dollars to help us to do what we're trying to do."

Councilman Snyder asked, "So this group is that same group did the work up in that Garyville area up there?"

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "Well there's someone from that group that's involved in this."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Someone?"

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "Yes Mr. Acosta from that group, we have Jonathon Perret from the Westbank, it's the people that have the expertise to do the study information we're looking for now. And then it'll gradually grow into another group of Main Streets and the final commission. It's all different phases, some is just collecting historical data. Some of that has been done already, now this is putting in place the mechanisms to get it to

the next level, which is what the state is looking for. It's just a continuation, it's not an ending point it's just the beginning of a new tier."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Which has to be brought back to you guys to approve. This is the group that will do the investigation, put together a report, make some recommendations, come back to the council for approval to move forward, to whatever those next steps are. Whether it's going for the application or establishing a full blown commission, but before we can even get to that point, we have to have someone who comes in and does the background work."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "What's the timeframe on the study?"

Alexandra Carter stated, "As of right now we estimating we'll have a draft report in May, May 2017."

MOTION: Councilman Sorapuru moved and Councilwoman Remondet seconded the motion to approve Resolution R16-45. A resolution establishing a Historic Preservation Study Committee to study historic structures and neighborhoods in St. John the Baptist Parish and to develop recommendations for their preservation. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

Natalie Robottom - Resolution - R16-46 - A Resolution authorizing an LGAP application to the Office of Community Development for additional funds for the West Bank Community Center Phase II

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes I think it was last year we came before the Council and put in an application for Phase I which was to help renovate the West Bank Community Center. We received about \$105,000 from that grant, we're eligible again this year so we're applying for an additional \$100,000 to put toward that project, but this resolution is required to be in place in order for us to do that. These are the same types of funds that were used renovate the Senior Citizen Building, I think previously we've done the Health & Human Services Building, so it's typically money provided through the state, to help you make upgrades to your facilities and this is one that we know is used a great deal on the Westbank, we've done some renovations but clearly we need to look at our restrooms to make them ADA compliant, we need to look at the kitchen area and make it make sure that we replace some of those appliances and this is a great opportunity for us to that. So we're asking for your favorable support. In the interim we've had some conversations with the School Board because this building will be taken out of service, and we know it is used quite a bit on the Westbank, so we're working with the school system to allow us to utilize their elementary school gym, in the absence while our building is under construction, and that's been extremely positive. So once we get to a point where or if there's a need to get authorization or we'll be back, but I think they've agreed to, is to utilize our pricing structure with their facility, so it really would be them acting and not necessarily you all, but the residents here would have a place to go."

Councilman Becnel asked, "Yes Ms. Robottom, I wanted to ask you this; with the renovations did we ever consider, space is our problem with it. Like, I noticed there's a wall and I think maybe Cain will be able to answer this, I don't know if they have fire trucks parking there, because we possible knock that wall down?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "I think Mr. Sorapuru just mentioned that, there is a fire truck, I don't think it's used. Clearly, that may be part of the plan, Daron is not here, that is really space that's not really utilized most of the

time, but we are going to have hire somebody to help us with a plan and obviously that's something to consider."

Councilman Becnel stated, "Yeah and like you said, you're going to modernize the kitchen and everything else."

Natalie Robottom stated, "The kitchen, the restrooms and I think Mr. Sorapuru also suggested possibly some type of particle in the front, like for when it's raining so again, this is the amount of money we have, everything we do is based on funding available, so we will try to get as much as we can out of these dollars to make it a much nicer place than it is today."

Councilman Becnel stated, "I understand. But it is being utilized often and we need more space. Alright thank you."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "And if we could get a few dollars and put a nice paint job on the outside and do some landscaping in the front also."

Natalie Robottom stated, "It'll be a complete project just like the others."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Alright, thank you!"

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Thank you, that's a good project for that facility because it's overdue."

MOTION: Councilman Sorapuru moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Resolution R16-46. A resolution authorizing an LGAP application to the Office of Community Development for additional funds for the West Bank Community Center Phase II. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

Hugh Martin/Jason Akers - Resolution - R16-47 - A Resolution ordering and calling a special election to be held in the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, to authorize the rededication and levy of a special tax therein; making application to the State Bond Commission in connection therewith; and providing for other matters in connection therewith

Ross Gonzales stated, "Good evening Council. This election will address re-dedication of the Juvenile Detention Fund to address additional juvenile needs. Administration recommends approval."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "Specifically, what are the needs that we're talking about Mr. Gonzales?"

Ross Gonzales stated, "Well right now we have, first off this is a rededication so it's not new tax and it's rededicating the uses of the funds. So we've been having this tax on the books for years and we're actually collecting more money than we spend, because we're limited on what we can spend it on. Right now it can only be spent on the housing of juveniles, so this is going to rededicate and it is in your packet but I'll read the, it's really the last sentence or so...It would rededicate for constructing, renovating and improving facilities for housing and detaining juvenile offenders and/or various personnel associated with juvenile justice services, including providing necessary furnishings, equipment and transportation therefor, and paying costs associated with juvenile justice programs including preventative programs, in the Parish. So beyond just the housing we can, but not us, the Sheriff's Office or whoever they can have preventative programs

reach out to juveniles before they get in trouble and we'll be able to utilize some of that funding for that. We're collecting about \$480,000 a year and haven't been spending a whole lot of it. One thing Legislative Auditor doesn't like to see is collecting an ad valorem tax that you don't spend. So I met with the judges this afternoon about this and they're very in favor of it because, right now we're paying for our Probation Officer out of the General Fund and there are 2 Assistant Probation Officers that are being paid out of the Criminal Court Fund. And those expenditures will be able to be paid out of the Juvenile Fund, as well as the vehicles, maintenance of the building of the they're in and the Outreach Program is the real key to this because right now if they see a juvenile getting in trouble, there's not a whole lot they can do for them, not in a funding way so, you know this will provide a means for that. So it's not a new tax but it's a rededication of an existing tax."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Thank you. I think Ross actually answered my question that I had. So we will be able to use the money for whatever we want to use for, as far as the juveniles? That's what I want to know because you remember when Ascension Parish had this program, we had to pay a lot of money and I know it was getting paid out of theirs, but they cancelled that program up there."

Ross Gonzales stated, "They did and I we just mailed yesterday a contract with Terrebonne for the same..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "That's Terrebonne, yeah but that was different though. And it was a lot less expensive."

Ross Gonzales stated, "It's more per night but it's not a guarantee 365 days a year like Ascension was going to be. So potentially it would be a lot less money."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Exactly like Ascension was. And that's what I'm concerned about if something else comes along, will we be able to use those funds to maybe get our juveniles enrolled in another program like Ascension Parish have. Even Ascension Parish you know we could still use those funds for that reason. That's what I'm talking about and more Juvenile Officers and Probation Officers."

Ross Gonzales stated "Yes sir. Right, they're being paid out of 2 different funds right now and all 3 of them will be able to be paid out of this fund. Cause that's their services are juvenile related."

Councilman Snyder stated, "All of the taxpayers."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Right well you're right, but historically we've not done a good job because we didn't have money and it was restricted in terms of what we could use it for. So we were taking money from General Fund that was meant for other projects just like we used to pay for Recreation out of Public Works, so we're trying to make sure that the funding that's allocated for juveniles and juvenile detention goes toward that. We're not trying take it and put it anywhere else, but we know very clearly that there's a program now, there's Juvenile Probation Officers, the judges help with that, we actually were not able to use the phone, to be able to pay for the phones for less serious offenders out of the Juvenile Detention Fund, because it was an allowable expense. So that kind a was the impetus behind us changing this, we should be able to fund what's necessary to take care of our juveniles and the

way it was originally written was so restricted, we weren't able to do that. So, one we'll offload some of the burden on General Fund by putting the folks who work with the juveniles in that budget, and also paying for things you know whether it's bracelets, that keeps us from putting them in a facility, but yet we can track them or the phone system, you know very much a better choice than having to place them in a facility and have them locked up, we can just have them monitored that we feel is a much better option, but we couldn't do that with the money because it wasn't an allowable expense."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "So what we got left in the General Funds we can use that for..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "Towards General Fund stuff."

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Pannu seconded the motion to approve Resolution R16-47. A resolution ordering and calling a special election to be held in the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, to authorize the rededication and levy of a special tax therein; making application to the State Bond Commission in connection therewith; and providing for other matters in connection therewith. The motion passed Councilwoman Hotard absent.

DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:

There were no reports.

Larry Snyder - Update on Concrete work in District VI

Brian Nunes stated, "Good evening. The list of concrete repairs completed through the 2016 annual contract was divided by districts and sent to the Council for their review. We will continue to complete in-house repairs and have started begin compiling the 2017 concrete list. Please submit addresses and descriptions of areas of concern in your districts and we'll get it on the list. But if you have something specific about that Mr. Snyder..."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I had a couple of things specifically about it is that and I think I've asked to have an audit done of the streets. I know we have a Road & Bridges crew out there and I know they're riding those streets and I was just wondering if they can look at the real bad ones and get a list together. And I know they be on the highway much more than I do or much more than most of these people do and they can write something up. Especially those, we have enough problems with the, around the hubs, you know those are going to be real bigger and cost us a lot more money to get those things done, you and I talked about this before you know. And those curbs, I know Cambridge Drive up front around the Government Complex up there, it's terrible up there you see that's like things like that and I was just wondering if there was anything written up on that. I know you don't have that at your hand right now, but I just want to bring some awareness to it, we do need some work done, we've been doing a lot of work on Tweet's Streets in Reserve up there, so let's do some work and do allow these in these big subdivisions. I mean I mean you know you said down here if we have anything, but I still think Roads & Bridges they should be looking for things like this. That's what I'm talking about."

Brian Nunes stated, "We are doing that."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Okay."

Larry Snyder - Update on maintenance and dredging to Vicknair Canal

Brian Nunes stated, "The Vicknair Canal dredging is ongoing and operators have completed 2920 linear feet of the canal that was as yesterday morning. The anticipated completion date is within two months, weather permitting."

Councilman Snyder stated, "That's 2,920 feet that's about 1/5 of the linear of that canal? I'm still concerned about that the Vicknair Canal where you'll did the work on the leak, I think that was Utilities that did that work and they did a good job on getting the leak stopped. Big leak you know, but it was not completed, it still needs some work to be done on it, the tape is still up there and I got some, like I say; I don't know if you know anything about it, I really don't know if you know anything about it but I know Utilities had done some work on it, the tape is still up there and it's one of those canals that right into Vicknair Canal at the head of Cambridge up there, first canal, large canal, very large canal. I'm sure yawl going to dig that one out also. But that one there had a big, have a water pipeline that runs across there I think. And it had to be a leak, must be about an 8" line or 10" line and they did repair it but now the embankment still up deep holding it and we can't get a truck through there whereas we can do some other work. You see, so and that's why I'm concerned the maintenance on that particular thing and we got 2 holes on that embankment that I know need to be repaired and they are 100 yards apart. We need someone to get someone out there, I think all they might need is just some sand in there if the drainage pipe isn't in too bad of shape. But one of the holes when they had that leak back there and they repaired the leak but they still have a big hole there with tape around it, people complaining about it."

Natalie Robottom asked, "You know what the timeline when they did that?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "I'm sorry."

Natalie Robottom asked, "You know what the timeline when they did that?"

Councilman Snyder asked, "The job? Oh that job was done ooh lord, at least a month and a half ago."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Ok, I just needed to know."

Brian Nunes stated, "Ok."

Councilman Snyder stated, "A month and a half maybe two months ago, Utilities Department did it because I was back there with them. It's still there you know and that's what my next, I think my next item may address that."

Brian Nunes stated, "I'm going to talk to them about and make sure that they're finished and if they are then we'll go fix it."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yeah it's just a matter of putting some stuff in there that's all."

Larry Snyder - Illegal signs on building at Airline and Cambridge

Keith Green, Jr. stated, "Good Evening Council Members. This item is actually current litigation, it's actually pending litigation between the alleged violator and parish, so our suggestion would be to have this item discussed

during an Executive Session. If you guys want or outside of that, what we can do we can actually meet personally with our Council Member Snyder and we can sit with the Attorney that's assigned to this matter and actually go through it with you individually or an Executive Session with the council as a whole. Whichever you all would prefer."

Councilman Snyder stated, "We can meet one on one or whatever. Yeah that would be fine with me. I just want to know where we are, where we're going and how we're going to get there."

Keith Green, Jr. stated, "Yes sir. So what I'll do is, I'll have my office contact you and then maybe we can schedule a meeting this week. And of course I will coordinate that with the Attorney of Record and I will be able to answer any questions that you have."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yeah have your people contact my people."

Keith Green, Jr. stated, "Yes sir, thank you all."

Larry Snyder - Parish procedures involving the flow of work orders in multiple departments

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yeah this again, again. You see where the breakdown is here Mr. Nunes? That's the breakdown. Because there's two (2) departments that has to work on this one project and it is not the first time, the guys do good work but I think that little break down right there is where we have the breakdown between the two (2) departments. If there was a road that you had to work on and you tore it up, you know the next day you have to go back there and fill it in. But that communication and I think that's what we need to work on. And I have been talking about this for a couple of years, that communication between departments. And I really think that's where it's not getting done. I really think we should hire a Planner, I really do. A Planner, that can plan all these scheduled jobs and that way every department that is involved would know everything that is going on and what part they've got to play in and the time schedule on it. May not be able to stick with the time schedule all the time, but all your big plants have Planners. And it's just for one little small area. That's just a thought and it works and it works."

Brian Nunes stated, "Communication is the key and you're right. It's actually gotten a lot better, administration stresses it to both departments constantly. And we've gotten a lot better, planning it doesn't always happen because a lot of these cuts are emergency cuts that the Utilities Department makes, and now they're getting to the point where they calling us the next morning sending us pictures, sending us addresses and then we're getting out to do it. And it always has been that way but it has improved quite a bit."

Councilman Snyder stated, "You know and that's all I'm asking, so we can get these jobs completed you see, because this is an easy job to complete. The hard work been done, utilities did the hard work already you know, it's just a matter of now putting some dirt in there, putting some sand in there and going about your business. See that's all and get rid of that tape. You know that's what I'm talking about and that's all it takes."

Reed Alexander, Assistant Director Utilities stated, "I'm sorry, I was outside when you first discussed the canal. It's in between Oak Alley and Vicknair Canal. We did fix the leak back there, at the time we only had pumped sand

that we could put in the hole. Unfortunately with the moving of the water in the canal, the pumped sand washed out. We were aware at the time, we were only able to access it from one area because they had a culvert that had collapsed back there. That's the second hole you're talking about. Brian and I were actually supposed to take a ride back there, I think it was before the flood and unfortunately we just didn't make it. It has been a while."

Councilman Snyder asked, "So we know about it?"

Reed Alexander stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Snyder asked, "And we're going to get it done?"

Reed Alexander stated, "Yeah, I'll get with Brian tomorrow and we'll go take a ride back there and take a look at it."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Lord that's all we needed. Thank you very much, I appreciate it."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes I think Mr. Snyder said, you been discussing this problem in the past. I had this problem myself in District III down 27th Street where a repair was done by Utilities and that hole stayed there for about 3 months. I think we had a meeting, we discussed this at a previous council meeting and one of the reason we had, like he said, a lack of communication, at that time we talked about that and you know what I'm hearing is that the communication have improved a whole lot. But one of the concerns was that, when Utilities cut that slab, that asphalt or that cement, and Utilities goes and repair it, that money comes out of their budget. And that was one of the concerns, if you repairing it and then it should come out of your budget."

Reed Alexander stated, "Correct and that's what we do now."

Councilman Madere stated, "Because in the past it wasn't handled like that, okay but now, now you sharing the communication, you're sharing the cost. Because I think that might have been one of the problems, a lack of communication and who paying for it."

Reed Alexander stated, "That's right. Correct!"

Councilwoman Pannu stated, "I wanted to ask you, do yawl get together and discuss these things like a departments because I'm really confused also, because I thought in case the Public Works has a project and the Utilities goes and does something on the roads and you know the streets. Do yawl have say weekly meetings or monthly meetings to communicate within the department so everybody knows where we are on the project? Because if somebody goes and digs up all that, fixes the pipe and the hole is left there because someone else in the department is supposed to come and fill it, and that's we see many of times. We're not complaining that it shouldn't be there but I think if we can speed up the process by maybe having meetings, because I think I'm a business woman, I like to have meetings at least you know every other week, so that everybody knows where we are and in that way rather than having complaints from residents and saying that; why is this still there, why is the tape still there, can we kind of know when..."

Reed Alexander interrupting stated, "Yes ma'am we do meet, Tuesday staff

meeting, Capital Projects meetings we discuss things, unfortunately like when Utilities goes to do a cut, it's an emergency cut. So it's not planned, you know we may go out there, actually Mr. Wright had something just what last week I think it was, a leak in the middle of the road. Fortunately we're were able to get, before they went and tear four panels of concrete, we were able to get them and say; hey look just replace the service line under the road, just leave it abandoned, you know so we saved that cut, you know we relieved that work. So just like you said, communication is the key. But we definitely doing it now."

Councilwoman Pannu stated, "Because what really concerns me is, I did bring it to the attention I believe through Jackie about a cord that is on the street near a drainage, which anybody walking through and falling, I think it's in the Links and this has been going on for several months and I'm really surprised because they had told me the Links Subdivision has already told me they had brought it to the attention but nothing was being done. And I'm really surprised that you know, does it take a council person to bring it to your attention to get it fixed because I think every resident, cause everybody pays their taxes. And I really believe we should always understand it is a priority for every person. I understand if you don't have the funds, you know we can work around it but it does not take a council person to bring it to the attention of the department, that there is a sink hole or a street about to collapse or something happened in that subdivision."

Brian Nunes stated, "You're right, it doesn't take a council person. A resident can make the call just as well and I'm aware of that one, that's on Fairview Drive I believe? Is that correct?"

Councilwoman Pannu stated, "Yes."

Brian Nunes stated, "Yes we're aware. We went out there last Friday and started some work on it, we're going to finish it this week, so that will be taken care of."

Councilwoman Pannu stated, "Thank you."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes since we're talking about communication, had a little incident last week, 14th Street we didn't have any water for several hours and a phone call was made to the resident but I didn't receive any information concerning that. Okay and when questions came to me, I had no answers, so I just want to make sure we understand about communicating."

Baileigh Rebowe, Communications Director stated, "Normally Reed and I communicate on water leaks and it is usually me that contacts the council, we were going back and forth on if the water was going to be out, for how long extended period of time and whether it was going to be a short outage and that's my fault that I didn't get you that information once it was determined it was an outage so. We did have one this weekend, I believe an email was sent to the council, so that was just a onetime thing so I apologize."

Councilman Madere stated, "I accept your apology. One other thing concerning that, when that water was out, it was out for how many hours? I think it was it was like 2 or 3 hours?"

Reed Alexander stated, "It was about 3 hours, yes sir."

Councilman Madere asked, "Okay so, when we have an outage that long, there's no boil water advisory or nothing like that?"

Reed Alexander stated, "Oh yes sir. We did a boil water advisory in the area, we took a sample to DHH and it cleared sometime that day."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay but I'm saying, what I'm saying; have we communicated that to the residents?"

Reed Alexander stated, "Yes sir. A call was put out."

Baileigh Rebowe stated, "Yes, multiple calls were put out and in the messaging whenever water goes out, the messaging includes when water is restored, a boil water advisory will be in effect until further notice, please boil water for 1 minute until a rolling boil, etc."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right because that's one of the major questions I received from those individuals down that street."

Baileigh Rebowe stated, "Yes it was included in the messaging and then it also says; when the boil water advisory is lifted, you will be notified to that as well."

Councilman Madere stated, "Ok thank you."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yes I just got one other thing. And with the communication, I like that, just to consult with legal on this and usually when your water goes out after a couple of hours you need to turn your hot water heater off, I'm not sure if everybody knows that because I know I burned up an element in mine, as a result of that leak they had back there on Woodland, and my element did burn up. I knew what it was that was my fault, I should have turned it off. I forgot. Do we have the right to recommend that people if you have a hot water heater like that you have no water going through..."

Reed Alexander interrupting stated, "I don't know if we want to take that responsibility."

Councilman Snyder stated "Well I'm just asking, that's why I'm asking."

Baileigh Rebowe stated, "The messaging that we send out is actually a template from the Department of Health and Hospitals that's used across the state. That information is not included in the messaging of what they advise us to tell the residents when they lose water pressure, but we can ask them and talk to you guys about using that in the future, but that's not something they insure goes out."

Councilman Snyder stated "And I can understand that I really can understand that. What I'm asking, is that if we put something in that, you may want to consider turning your hot water heater off. Something like that, that's why I got legal, maybe you guys can't tell me right now, maybe later on you know. Because I know some other people who had problems you know, they have ladies that's single parents and stuff like that, they don't think about things like that, but you will burn that element up."

Baileigh Rebowe stated, "That's no problem, if we need to include that we can

talk about that."

Councilman Snyder stated "Okay, appreciate it."

Larry Snyder/Marvin Perrilloux - Expected timeline on recommendation to Council for approval of Human Resource Director

Natalie Robottom stated, "The 1st meeting in December."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well it look we got it down on paper already, well I guess that's good enough for me. I don't hear anybody else answering."

Councilman Perrilloux asked, "So the first week in December is when we're going to start interviewing?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "No. I think the question was; when will you have a recommendation."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "In December."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Right."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Ok thank you. I'm good with that."

Jaclyn Hotard - Water Bill Clarifications/Explanations

Ross Gonzales stated, "As previously discussed, the failure rate for water meter registers is increasing and they require manual reading. Due to internal repositioning of staff, the billing cycles are decreasing and we are continuing to work diligently towards lowering the average billing cycle to our target of 30 days. We have two new meter readers beginning this coming Monday. We are also revising our internal policies and procedures to ensure that we can obtain the targeted read-time goals. Lastly, we have met with our bond attorneys to devise a long-term strategy to implement a staggered register change out program."

Councilman Madere stated, "I think when we discussed this the last time and I think we got some real good information and I think the council understood it. But I'm still getting a lot of phone calls, I find myself explaining to the residents on the phone. Is there any other way that we communicate this to them? Because they're afraid of the fact that they're getting these bills that's 40 days, 45 days and the bill might be \$100.00 what they'll normally get. And they're afraid that they can't, well in other words they can't pay it because a guy yesterday told me it doesn't fit his budget this month to pay that extra \$100.00. So he was afraid that he don't pay it, his water would be cut off. So if there's some kind of way that we can communicate to these people, the fear that they're feeling about their water bill. Okay because I know what we said before, we weren't cutting any water off and was going to give them time to pay it. Okay but communication is not seem to be getting out to the people who really need it."

Curtis Young stated, "Well we have added inserts to the water bills with explanations of what's going on and we've also added a note on the water bill that tells you; even though you may receive your bill a little later than you normal, you still have the additional 15-20 day period that you had before to actually pay the bill."

Councilman Madere stated, "Well that's what I'm saying at 15 that's what we normally have 15-20 days. But because these bills are so high, those 15-20 days may need to be extended to 30-40 days, because these people have to have the ability to catch up and you see what I'm saying? If someone is on a fixed income, I'm mean fixed, he have to be on a real tight, all of sudden they have an extra \$100.00 water bill, okay and he may not be able to get that \$100.00 in 15-20 days. So I mean we need to extend that longer than that."

Curtis Young stated, "And just as we mentioned before in a previous meeting. We're still waiving all late penalties regarding this and we're giving them additional time to pay that bill. So I mean right now I'm dealing with them on an individual basis as they come, but we're giving them the extended amount of time to actually pay their bill. Actually as much time as they need."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right, the thing that I'm most concerned about is to relieve the stress on these individuals that they're feeling about this bill. And maybe some individuals may skip buying a prescription to try and pay that bill and I don't want them to have that type of fear in the residence, something that's without of their control."

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "I just want to thank Curtis. I've been sending people to him, they have been concerned but he has been taking care of it and I totally appreciate that. That's just a fear they have but, they've been quite satisfied with your response though thank you."

Natalie Robottom stated, "We've had a number of issues and again, what we'd like for you to do is have your constituents contact Curtis. We did put notices in their bills, we've been doing that for a while but, some of them have special circumstances and so he is meeting with them. What we've attached to the admin report is just a list of some of the information that might help you all, it talks about the number meters, what's happening, what we're doing in addition to hiring personnel, we added a new electronic apparatus to one of the vehicles, we're looking at some temporary work but please note, this was a ten (10) year project, all the registers expired in August of 2016. They were all put in at one time based on a bond issue which was in excess of six million dollars (\$6,000,000.00). So a replacement of that is going to be in the millions of dollars, which is why we've been meeting with Mr. Hugh or for a number of reasons: 1) we need to look at levee funding, we need to look at water meter replacements and we need to look at our water projects. So we're going to be pulling together some data to share with yawl on what our options may be, they are reducing that time lag that caused the problem in the first place, but please encourage your constituents who have those problems and a lot of times it's your seniors who are concerned, they're not sure they get these bills and you know it shocks them. You know I know my mother would be calling and fussing but, please send them to Curtis and Ross because they are working with them. No one should be penalized because of something occurred on our behalf and that's late fees, that's penalties, so they are working payment plans and of course the goal is to reduce it back to what it should have been."

Councilman Becnel stated, "Yes, I too want to thank you Curtis for communicating with me on with my constituents, their concerns but the question they keep asking me; what's the time frame, when we're going to balance off, when we're going to get back I guess the normal billing cycle, you have an estimated time? They just asked, that's a question they asked me yesterday. When, maybe 2 months or something?"

Curtis Young stated, "Well yeah, it's not a definite timeline but definitely with the two (2) new hires that are coming in this Monday, we should definitely be back to normal sooner than later. Yes sir."

Councilman Becnel stated, "Thank you, that's what I needed to know."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "What kind of cost we're talking about replacing the meters?"

Ross Gonzales asked, "You mean the registers?"

Councilman Sorapuru stated "Yes."

Ross Gonzales stated, "Probably in the five million dollar (\$5,000,000.00) range. The goal would be the stag of that over 5 cycles so that it would be more like a million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) of a 5 year period."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "So are we talking to somebody right now you said?"

Ross Gonzales stated, "We're talking to our bond attorneys to figure out a financing source."

Councilman Sorapuru stated "Ok thank you."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yeah I understand the issue we had with the registers. But have you had any other issues with the water bills? Like water bills leading up 3, 4, 500 percent?"

Ross Gonzales stated, "I'll let Curtis address that more and we have had those in a lot of instances, there are leaks involved."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well and that's exactly, people's bills been normal until these issues came up. Now people having real high water bills in a sense and no leaks. I mean I realize they said they may not have a leak and don't know they have a leak, but all you have to do is go look at your meter outside and see if it's turning you know. I was talking to an MD the other day and he was telling me he say but, Mr. Snyder it's been up 300% you know and I couldn't believe that. I said 300% and I told him who to call, he probably called you or will call you know. Today I another guy stopped me on the streets and he said was three hundred dollars (\$300.00) you know, from seventy dollars (\$70.00) a month, you know and it's not that one of those guys that couldn't afford to pay his bill you know. And I'm just wondering we haven't been getting those, how are we handling those?"

Curtis Young stated, "I've actually not encountered a constituent that their water bill has increased 300%."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Oh no?"

Curtis Young stated, "No."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well I got to give you his name and I talked to him for a long time you know and he said I'm going to pay it you know, he said but 300%, I said well call Curtis."

Councilman Madere stated, "I just want to like you said, thank you you've been

very gracious with us and our individuals over there and talk to you concerning the bills, you've been helpful. The information I think you're giving out is going to help these individuals understand that it's really not any pressure on them right now, you know to pay this bill, this is something that we have to work our way through. What I also like Mr. Snyder did say before we even had this water leak, we had some individuals before you got here, their bill had went up that high in one (1) month and every time it was it was a leak or it wasn't a leak. So some of these registers we have, electronic devices, I believe in electronic devices but they're manmade. And with manmade devices you can have problems, so I don't believe all these meters all the time register right. And because sometimes it's not always, it's just a simple explanation as a leak when someone have that kind of problem and the bill actually jump up one (1) month and then there's no indication of a leak. Then it had to be something with that register. I know that have happened on occasion you wasn't here at the time but that have happened you know."

There was no executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Parish Buildings - Security

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

Any and all pending legal matters

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING:

Notice is hereby given that the St. John the Baptist Parish Council plans to consider adopting an ordinance levying preciously authorized ad valorem taxes within the St. John the Baptist Parish at its meeting on Monday, November 7th, 2016 at 6:30 PM at the Rudolph Sorapururu Chambers, Edgard, LA.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

16-45 An ordinance approving: (1) the requested rezoning Lot 1-B, Reserve Industrial Park Subdivision; in the area generally bounded by Power Boulevard, the L&A/Kansas City Southern Railway, West 10th Street, and Rosenwald Street; Reserve, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana, from the Industrial District Two (I-2) to the Industrial District Three (I-3) zoning district, and (2) the subsequent title restriction, which limits future land use intensification of said lot to uses currently operating at the existing oil blending plant (N. Robottom)

16-46 An ordinance approving a re-subdivision of Lots 10 and 31, Square 12, LaPlace Park Subdivision, Unit Number 2 into Lot 10A, Square 12, LaPlace Park Subdivision, Unit Number 2, located in the area generally bounded by Falcon Street, Villa Street, Camelia Avenue, and Gardenia Avenue, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana as shown in a survey prepared by Stephen P. Flynn, P.L.S. on July 14, 2016 (N. Robottom)

16-47 An ordinance approving a re-subdivision of the east half of Lot 33, Hope Plantation Subdivision and Lot C-1A of the west

half of Block 33, Hope Plantation Subdivision into Lots C-2A, 33-1A, and 33-2A of the west half of Block 33, Hope Plantation Subdivision; located in the area generally bounded by Anthony F. Monica Street, LA Highway 44, Garyville, Northern Street, and LA Highway 54, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana as shown in a survey prepared by Stephen P. Flynn, P.L.S. on July 21, 2016 (N. Robottom)

PRESIDENT REPORT:

Natalie Robottom stated, "Good evening. I just returned from the 2016 Super Region Economic Development Canvas trip with Executive Director of the Port of South La and the Economic Development Director and other leaders from the region on a Benchmarking and Economic Development Workshop in Panama. The presentations and tours were extremely informative and I look forward to working with our regional partners from GNO, Inc. and the Chambers from Baton Rouge, Lafayette and the Bayou Region to implement some of the lessons learned and expand some of our current partnerships. A big thank you to the community for showing support to our injured firefighters Nick Saale and Mack Beal and their families on Saturday during the Spencer Way Benefit. Over \$15,000 was raised for the families. Thank you to everyone who donated and attended the event. Those who are wishing to continue helping the families can do so by visiting any Capital One Branch and donating to the family of Spencer Chauvin. Deposits can also be made at any Capital One Bank under "St. John Parish LAFF" and will go toward everyday expenses for Nick and Mack's families. Please continue to send thoughts and prayers for Chief Chauvin's, Nick's and Mack's families as well as all who were involved with that tragic accident. Best wishes to Chris Cancienne for the opening of his new physical therapy clinic last week. The clinic is located at 607 Belle Terre Blvd in LaPlace and is open Monday - Saturday. Appointments can be made by calling (985)359-5483. Also congratulations to Tractor Supply on their recent Grand opening and ribbon cutting. The new state of the art store is located 2335 W. Airline Hwy, Laplace in front of Ochsner Hospital complex on Rue de Sante. Stop in to take advantage of the unique products they have to offer including welding equipment, generators, animal care products and men and women's apparel. You can also find pet supplies, animal feed, power tools, riding mowers, lawn and garden products and more. We will be hosting a Contractors' Job Fair to help businesses who have contracts with federal, state and local entities to identify potential subcontractors and partners. The fair is Friday, September 30th from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. at REGALA Gym in Reserve. Contractors who attend will meet with companies who are currently working on our Home Rehabilitation project or those interested in participating in this project. All contractors are invited and shouldn't miss this great networking event. Also on Friday, September 30th, complimentary blood pressure and glucose screenings are open to the public from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon at the Westbank Community Center here in Edgard. For more information, please contact Michelle Thomas at (985)536-4955. Last week, we had the pleasure of making an historic announcement of our presenting sponsor for the Andouille Festival, Marathon Petroleum LP, and unveiling this year's Andouille Festival poster. This year's poster is created by local artist Dana Bardell Wallace and it is available through the Economic Development Department, Matherne's Supermarket, Don's Supermarket and Greg's Supermarket. Posters will also be sold in the General Store on the festival grounds during the Festival. Also new to this year, a portion of the poster sale proceeds will be donated to breast cancer research and awareness. Please support the festival and this great cause. The 2016 Andouille Festival presented by Marathon Petroleum, LP is October 14th-16th at the St. John Community Center. It will be a great time for all, so please plan

to join us. Visit www.andouillefestival.com or the Andouille Festival Facebook page for more information, band line up, craft, food vendors and more will be announced this week. Residents are invited to the annual Andouille Pageant this Saturday, October 1st at the St. John Theatre. Please join our Andouille Queen and Queen of Queens Madison King as she relinquishes her Andouille title to one lucky contestant. The theme of this year's pageant is the Wild, Wild, West and it starts at 7:00 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at the door the night of the pageant. The Baby through Junior Miss Pageant will take place the following day on October 2nd. Registration forms can be downloaded at andouillefestival.com or picked up at the Parish office. The Sheriff's Office will be hosting Night out against Crime again this year on Tuesday, October 18th from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Any resident of the parish interested in hosting a night out party should contact the Sheriff's Office at (985)359-8753 or register at www.stjohnsheriff.org.

ADJOURNMENT :

At 7:50 PM, Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Snyder seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

/s/Marvin Perrilloux
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
COUNCIL SECRETARY