

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS**  
**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL**  
**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2018**  
**CHAIRMAN LENNIX MADERE**  
**VICE-CHAIR LARRY SNYDER**

The Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist Parish, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session in the Joel McTopy Chambers, LaPlace, Louisiana on Tuesday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018, at 6:30 PM.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

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

**ABSENT:** Michael Wright

Councilman Snyder led the Prayer. Councilman Malik led the Pledge.

Legal Counsel present was Keith Green, Jr., and Law Clerk Kennilyn Schmill.

**MOTION:** Councilman Malik moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to go back into regular session. The motion passed with Councilmen Becnel, Wright and Councilwoman Hotard absent.

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

There was no public comment at this time.

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay, before we move forward on this Council Agenda, okay as the Council Chairperson I want to make a comment, okay concerning protocol in these Council meetings and that's Finance meetings and everything else. Okay and I'm going to state it again, okay you may interrupt someone I know sometimes people like to interrupt and I've done that myself. But once you have been told that someone else have the floor, that's where it stop! Not going to be anymore conversation as to who's in-charge. Okay I have that I've done that myself, I have been checked and put in place before and I don't mind it, okay if I did it wrong, but moving forward all these Council meetings is going to be held that way. Okay, and the only Motion can be made by these Council members, and no one else in the audience. Council members is in-charge of making Motions and everything else, and the Chairperson of Finance and the Regular meeting in in-charge of recognizing who speaks and who don't speak in these Council meetings. And that's how it's going to be and that's how it's going to remain."

**INTRODUCTION OF BUSINESSES:**

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

Natalie Robottom, Parish President read the proclamation for October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

**Natalie Robottom - Proclamation - October as Fire Prevention Month**

Natalie Robottom, Parish President read the proclamation for October as Fire

Prevention Month.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**ITEMS:** Approval of Minutes - September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Regular Meeting

**MOTION:** Councilman Snyder moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda items consisting of: Approval of Minutes - September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Regular Meeting. The motion passed with Councilman Wright absent.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:**

**18-31** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance amending St. John the Baptist Parish Code of Ordinances, specifically Chapter 14. - Fees and charges, Chapter 26. - Nuisances, Chapter 28. - Offenses and Miscellaneous provisions, Chapter 111. - Subdivisions, and Chapter 113. - Zoning, specifically those provisions related to abandoned and temporary signs, permitted and conditional uses, and the Major Corridor Overlay District boundaries with the purpose of clarifying the intent of existing language and procedures, as well as providing for other related matters (Parish wide, Docket No. TXT-18-02) (N. Robotom)

Rene Pastorek stated, "I thank you Mr. Chairman. On September 17, 2018, the Planning Commission unanimously recommended approval of this Ordinance (with 1 member absent) with the stipulation that a 60 day/one-time time-limit be added for temporary signs. This ordinance reflects the recommendation of the Planning Commission. The subject proposal clarifies existing regulations and provides minor amendments related to abandoned and temporary signs, permitted and conditional uses, and the Major Corridor Overlay District Boundaries. Administration recommends approval."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Question?"

Rene Pastorek stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Just Rene, why did they want 60 days and what will you be doing in those 60 days?"

Rene Pastorek stated, "So the original proposal actually had no limit on temporary signs. So temporary signs are going to be any sign that doesn't require a permit from the parish. A business owner may be just to be able to put it up without and approval or any kind of application through our Department. The 60 day stipulation was recommended by the Planning Commission upon hearing the recommendations of the Department. Basically the idea was that a temporary sign should be temporary, so 60 days is the limit you can put your temporary sign on a property and after that you would you would have to take it down basically."

Councilman Snyder asked, "So the clock start when and how will the Department know when it starts?"

Rene Pastorek stated, "We'd have to document it through pictures and inspections."

Councilman Snyder asked, "So they still need a permit to put a sign up? Temporary sign up?"

Rene Pastorek stated, "No, because no permits are required if a Code Enforcement goes out and inspects something that's requested to be inspected as a potential

violation we would begin the clock if we're able to through pictures or other sort of documentation."

Councilman Snyder asked, "If they happen to see it that day. Well 60 days down the line when they first seen it, they've got 60 more days in other words for a temporary sign? But I mean you know I'm just wondering when the clock starts. You see if they don't come and you know I could see them coming in for a temporary sign without having to pay a fee. That's just to give it to your records, and a so you have it on record that the sign was up there you know, and then the people at the Code Enforcement can go back and look at it anytime they want, see? That's what I was thinking about, but it seems like we don't have that set up whereas we can have that clock starting date and its maybe I need to do that, I don't know if I want to approve with that in there - 60 days. But you said, if we don't put this in there, then that means that they can have it up there forever? A temporary sign?"

Rene Pastorek stated, "So that's what was originally proposed with the proposal. However this Ordinance that's put forth to the Council now is with the Planning Commission recommendation to add the 60 day time limit."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Okay."

Natalie Robottom stated, "And just to refresh your memory. A few years back the Economic Development Committee, had some major discussions about temporary signs and some that were raggedy, so we kind of got some input from them and business owners, now many times unfortunately Mr. Snyder, Code Enforcement Officers can be the ones to detect it but people are reported for having you know for having you know these temporary signs up too. Usually its complaint base, because the business owner that's following the rules, submitted a permit - a sign permit, paid for their sign or somewhat resentful for those who are not. And I think part of the discussion was, after 6 about 60 days if it is temporary it starts to wear. And so it's not meeting the spirit of the sign permit, so we can definitely look at procedurally how they would go about doing that, but we're not trying to burden our business owners to come in for a temporary sign permit and a permanent sign permit, but the goal is primarily is you know, one (1) to follow the process. There's rules in place that require that you have permanent sign, it has to meet certain criteria, but we do understand sometime you know there's signs being designed, it may not have been installed, but they want to know either that their business is coming or it's opening. So that's how we see those temporary signs. It's like you know 'Opening Soon' or you know while their permanent sign is actual being built, that it's to be up there and I do think at some point they actually had increased the timeframe to 60, and obviously this has been over the last couple of years, they must have seen a problem with it and now they're going back. Cus we actually you know have tried to work with recommendations of business owners, some wanted it longer you know which is what it was, but obviously it's been problematic and now they're pulling back and saying no 60 days is, should be the temporary timeframe. But we'll come up with a process to try and track that."

Councilman Madere stated, "Rene I have a question. I think my understanding was that the temporary sign, they don't need a permit. Right?"

Rene Pastorek stated, "That's correct."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay and someone complained, then someone would go out there and take a picture of it?"

Rene Pastorek stated, "So in temporary signs (I don't mean to cut you off), but temporary signs are specifically signs like: feather signs, banners, things that would never need a permanent, will never be placed on a permanent basis. So previously before our recent update several years ago, any type of sign, flags, banners, actually needed a permit from the Department. That was changed 2 years ago because it was too burdensome on businesses. We still have a limit on the number of temporary signs, flags, banners, it's one (1) per business. But the Planning Commission determined that in order to effectively limit that number of signs and provide some sort of standard for Business Owners to meet throughout our major corridors that a time limit made more sense..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "I understand that. So what I'm saying is the time limit, you really wouldn't know until someone report it. I think you say that's when the 60 days start, right?"

Rene Pastorek stated, "Right!"

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay that's what I mean. Okay I mean I might put a temporary sign up and don't take it down. And then someone report it to you, then the clock start ticking. I got 60 days from that time to take it down? Right?"

Rene Pastorek stated, "Right!"

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay."

Rene Pastorek stated, "But a lot of this can be addressed without reach to our EDC, our Economic Development Committee to the business owners. When people call us we're letting them know this information. But again, this is going back to providing flexibility for Business Owners without overburdening them with permitting requirements that you know sometimes, it's too burdensome on business owners."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay and other comments?"

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Just a quick question Rene. You said something about banners. I'm going to use my constituents on Belle Terre, I can remember this here Car Dealership. One had about six (6) flags flying up in the air, one down the street wanted to put the same thing and couldn't. So that's what would be considered temporary, they couldn't put their six (6) flags flying, but the next Car Dealership had six (6) flying?"

Rene Pastorek stated, "So there's a limit on the number of temporary signs, that's already on the books. This Ordinance is not addressing that, this addressing the time limit for temporary signs."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Cuz I had to get into that involvement with these two (2) owners, about flags flying on Belle Terre."

Rene Pastorek stated, "Right and we have, there's several different definitions of flags, pennants, temporary signs, banners. You can get into the weeds by going into detail about what exactly is permitted on a certain site..."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Okay."

Rene Pastorek stated, "I think I remember this specific site you're referring to

and it was with respect to number, and the type of sign, but temporary signs throughout parish wide there's a limit per one (1) site. And that has not changed with this Ordinance that's proposed. This/that portion of this Ordinance is specifically for the time limit, as recommended by the Planning Commission to ensure that's you know some sort of time limit on those types of signs."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Okay alright. Alright thank you."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Rene, why did you guys name the corridors the way yawl named them from like one block to the next block, on one main street and from that block? Why did yawl do that?"

Rene Pastorek stated, "Oh you're referring to that major corridor over in your District?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yeah."

Rene Pastorek stated, "So that part of this Ordinance is just formally mapping the corridor overlay district. And there are no changes or actually being made to or proposed to be made to that zoning district, which had been in effect since 1988. We've been administering that Ordinance since that time with the reference in that zoning district that specifies what streets that District's on, which is Airline, Belle Terre, 51, and Woodland. We just like to like to put that into our official zoning map, so that when we're permitting, when we're showing applicants you know information on the screen that we can show them the map that 10 years down the line, it's still the same map, it's not subject to interpretation, so what you see in those exhibits is just specifically calling out each page we have showing you the map, like I say it's you know Belle Terre to 51. If you look in that study, that page will show the map of that area for the District between those streets. So that's all that is. So nothing is changing in this proposal, as to how that's addressed or administered."

Councilman Snyder asked, "So like for instance on Belle Terre you said major corridor between Airline Highway and Fairway, and then from Belle Terre between Fairway and what other street they got back there?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "St. Andrews."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yeah St. Andrews? I saw yawl broke it down like that you know. Cuz like Belle Terre is broken down in about three or four spots."

Rene Pastorek stated, "So that really is specifically just to address the fact that each page of the proposal that is submitted to the Planning Commission, needed to be addressed as an Exhibit. But nothing is being proposed to change that zoning district, it's specifically it's putting in our map as we've administered it since 1988."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I got you, thank you."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Thank you. Just real quick since we're talking about overlay District. Is it possible that we and I realize you just kind of came into this roll here, I'm thinking about it because I'm looking at what we did with the new building. With all of the bushes we have along Percy Hebert, and I'm sure it's because there was so many bushes required as part of the overlay district. But I look at it from practical standpoint, all of those bushes that we have down on the side of Percy Hebert Road, provide little enhancement to anything other

than a waste of money for the taxpayers. So what I would like to see done is some changes maybe, as far as how many bushes and trees and shrubs that are required, I know the intent of the overlay district, is to maintain some type of you know whatever nice, you know aesthetics in certain areas, but we're creating problems in some situations. And I realize that individuals can come and seek variances, I wish you know we would have done that, but nonetheless if we can look at what we have and make some changes so that we're not over you know burdening, you know individuals with all these individual shrubs and then I look at like, like I said at what we did as a Government Building, and it looks nice in the front, but I mean every little median if you will right by where we're going to park just has little shrubs planted in there, just to satisfy the requirement of overlay district when we need to look at some of that. So if we can look at you know whether it's other parishes, or look at you know how we have our language in that overlay District Ordinance and try and make some changes there so we don't you know have that kind of issue happen again you know, that's just a thought."

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Remondet moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 18-31. The motion passed with Councilman Wright absent.

**18-32** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving a conditional use permit to establish a personal shed and storage area to include storage of boats, hunting, fishing, and crabbing equipment on a portion of Lot E of the Galva-Manchac Subdivision, also identified as assessed parcel No. 0400122600, located in the area generally bounded by Lake Maurepas, Lake Pontchartrain, Alligator Ln., Bait Alley, Galva Ct., and Old Hwy. 51, containing municipal address 113 Bait Alley, Akers, LA as shown in Exhibit 1 attached (PZR-18-1115) (N. Robottom)

Rene Pastorek stated, "I'm sorry I didn't introduce myself. I think I know all of you, but my name is Rene Pastorek, the Planning & Zoning Manager in the Department. So, on September 17, 2018, the Planning Commission unanimously recommended approval of this request with two members absent. Based on consistency with the Comprehensive Plan and the intent of the rural district. Administration recommends approval."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Yes Rene I had a conversation today with you on some of this stuff and I would hope that we look at the other areas of the parish that where are properties that could be used for residential uses whether we're going to put a mobile home, a log cabin, or condo or whatever. We have a lot of green space in this community within this parish, and I would hope we would help out small property owners modify the zoning, changes that need to be made so that we can keep people living in this parish right now. But I think this is good to do. Thank you."

**MOTION:** Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Snyder seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 18-32. The motion passed with Councilman Wright absent.

**18-33** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving a conditional use permit to establish a Kayak tour business site including kayak storage, vehicle/commercial trailer parking, and a future commercial structure to include retail and a lodging unit on Lot C-1 of the Amy S. Boudreaux Tract, located in the area generally bounded by Lake Pontchartrain, Peavine Rd., and Gary Rd., containing municipal address 118 Gary Rd., LaPlace/Frenier, LA as shown in Exhibit 1 attached (PZR-18-1113) (N. Robottom)

Natalie Robottom stated, "On September 17, 2018, the Planning Commission unanimously recommended approval of this request with two members absent. Based on consistency with the Comprehensive Plan and the intent of the rural district,

*Administration recommends approval."*

*Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Yes Rene, it says lodging unit, describe to me what is what are you describing tonight."*

*Rene Pastorek stated, "I believe that applicant is proposing in the future one lodging unit and living space next to the storage of the kayaks and rental facility."*

*Councilman Sorapuru asked, "So it's not a high-rise condo or nothing like that. Well he's welcome to try that, it's a good location. Thank you."*

*Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Rene just a, I just have a question about this Ordinance here. Because normally when you open a kayak, you always have canoe too. So you won't have to include canoe into this Ordinance?"*

*Rene Pastorek stated, "I wouldn't say that we wouldn't have to."*

*Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Because that we'd have to come back to the Council again and say oh, now it's canoe! Why couldn't it be kayak and canoe?"*

*Rene Pastorek stated, "He specifically runs a kayak business. I don't know that we would you know..."*

*Councilman Perrilloux interrupting stated, "Cuz normally when you open a kayak a canoe right around the corner. That's why I'm asking, we just do the Ordinance one time."*

*Rene Pastorek stated, "Yeah, this is specific to his property..."*

*Councilman Perrilloux interrupting stated, "To his property."*

*Rene Pastorek stated, "His business. He run's a kayak business, so this is conditionally use permit. The rural zoning district allows pretty much any use as a conditional use with the Parish Council approval and this is to open up a new business for kayak rentals and storage."*

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

*Councilman Madere stated, "I have one question. Is this...oh I'm sorry Mr. Snyder, you had a question?"*

*Councilman Snyder stated, "Larry stole my question, cuz I was asking the same question. I think I asked you that night of that meeting, and my understanding was that with this lodging, is there going to be a trailer put back there, there's going to be something built? Did they bring that up at the Planning & Zoning Commission meeting?"*

*Rene Pastorek stated, "I wasn't present at the meeting. The applicant did provide some conceptual plans, which any structure that's placed in this location would have to meet the flood zone requirement. So there's going to be some elevation requirements and foundational requirements would have to be met. But structurally, I mean this is about the use, this is about the kayak rental, a lodging portion and retail and sales."*

*Councilman Snyder stated, "You know I have no problem with that because there's*

*lots of camps back there and other people living back there, I have no problem with that. But when you said lodging, first thing I thought about was a trailer park."*

Rene Pastorek stated, "No, this is not. The applicant specifically said one lodging unit."

Councilman Snyder stated, "One lodging unit. Okay alright, thank you."

Rene Pastorek stated, "Which already be permitted the zoning district without Council..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "Right, exactly, that's why I have no problem with that."

Councilman Madere asked, "Rene, is this the same guy that come out here on 51 and those kayaks be out there?"

Rene Pastorek stated, "I don't know if it's that same guy, but it is someone who is presently working in the parish. I think he's boosted his business and he's looking for a permanently location..."

Councilman Madere interrupting asked, "You're familiar with the area I'm talking about?"

Rene Pastorek stated, "Mm-hm."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yeah well I mean everyday someone is out there."

Rene Pastorek stated, "Yeah, so he's looking for a permanent location to permanently establish within the parish."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay thank you."

**MOTION:** Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Malik seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 18-33. The motion passed with Councilman Wright absent.

**18-34** (Public Hearing Held) A millage ordinance - An ordinance providing for the levy and collection of ad valorem taxes in the Parish of St. John the Baptist, to be spread upon the 2018 Assessment Roll (N. Robottom)

Robert Figuero stated, "Thank you Council. Adoption of an ordinance specifying the levy and collection of Ad valorem taxes through mileages is required annually. There are no changes compared with the 2017 mileages and Administration recommends approval."

Councilman Snyder asked, "This is just by law we're doing this right, something we got to do?"

Robert Figuero stated, "That is correct, yes sir."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Thank you."

**MOTION:** Councilman Sorapuru moved and Councilman Snyder seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 18-34. The motion passed with Councilman Wright absent.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "I'd like to make a motion to accept the minutes from the finance committee."

**MOTION:** Councilman Sorapuru moved and Councilman Malik seconded the motion to accept the finance committee. The motion passed with Councilman Wright absent.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

There was no old business.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Natalie Robottom - Resolution - R18-26 - A Resolution to adopt the required CDBG-DR LA SAFE PROGRAM Policies and Procedures; accepts the receipt of program funds be administered in accordance with OCD-DRU Grantee Administrative Manual; appoint various coordinators/officers; authorize individuals to execute the request for payment; authorize the PARISH PRESIDENT to execute all documents related to the LA SAFE PROGRAM**

Natalie Robottom stated, "This resolution is required for receipt of LA SAFE Program Funds. This is the \$6 point, right at \$6.5 Million Dollars awarded for Airline and Main program, it is a requirement of the State and we do have with us Ms. Julie Bordelon, whose working with Office of Community Development Disaster Recovery on the LA SAFE Program, it's similar to other Federal Programs that we have. We assign people on our staff to receive the documents and input them with regard to paying them and reviewing invoices, there's some basic requirements that we identify certain people with our program that are going to monitor and manage the federal guideline (all that is included). And again this is the beginning of receipt of these funds, I think they're still working on a CEA that will have to come before the Council demonstrating what everybody's role will be, in moving this project forward. But this is the Complete Streets Program that will include some Water Management, we do have some road transfer dollars to go along with this program, RPC is working with us on it, but the largest component of the award is through the LA SAFE grant, which was a leftover from that resiliency application we'd had applied for and actually received these funds. I think some of you actually came to the announcement with the Governor when the project was laid out."

"I'm Julie Bordelon and I have worked with this, with the Parish before on CDBG Programs. The State with this program has under contract, Pan American Engineers. The State is paying for the Administration and one of the goals is to make this as simple and compliant as possible as they've learned through the Administration of various disasters. So with this said, this Resolution encompasses all of the policies that are required under CDBG and one Resolution, so we can make sure you're compliant. The Parish has actually adopted these policies previously, and they're required individually for every time you receive CDBG Funds before. So it's nothing new it's no new compliance, we've just wanted to memorialize it in one document to try and simplify it and make it easy for you to show your compliance. I'll just add that this document, the programs and procedures have been vetted with not only the State OCD, but they had HUD review them to, to make sure they were satisfactory and they met everybody's approval. So this is the first step in the program and we ask for your adoption."

Councilman Perrilloux asked, "I just have a question really for Ms. Robottom, because I was getting calls after they read it in the L'Observateur about this funding for this project. And the question was, are we going to have any Public Hearing on it or show them the model on what we're planning on doing, because they were asking me and I didn't know."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Actually we did have some, we had numerous meetings but like before we even got the awards. You remember they actually set-up meetings around the parish, I know you guys went. So this is, not that it's over, but that's how we got to this project. We had to get input from our residents and the grant funders were there promoting and they actually had several to choose from this one was selected. But that's with all the programs, we typically remained engaged. I know there's some questions about the route, well it doesn't go north it goes on Main Street toward its Airline Highway and Main Street toward River Road that was one of the questions or concerns. But that is the preliminary it's not enfind with design, that was concept that was actually accepted, we do have we did have input repeatedly throughout the process and as with all these funds. We typically are required to do that before we move forward with the final design. Cuz we just have a concept right now, we haven't picked a firm to finely design it we haven't decided where we're going to construct, so before we even got to this point we had to have numerous hearings."

Julie Bordelon stated, "This is the first step, the first step in a lengthy process. And you know as Ms. Robottom referenced the CEA will be the next step. And once that is approved you will move forward procuring your design firm and also the other firm you'll need is for Environmental clearance. So those'll work hand in hand, but at least it's starting to move."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Thank you so much Ms. Robottom, Ms. Bordelon, and see if you can double the money maybe we go to Central Avenue in Reserve."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "Yes and what's the timeline, we have on completion starting and completion of project of this size?"

Julie Bordelon stated, "I think they have and I can't remember the deadline..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "It's 4 years. Now keep in mind we've designed a project that's \$12 Million Dollars, for the whole thing. That's okay, but we'd like to get the design done, and we'll probably will construct in phases as we've done before, but in order to do the whole area it would cost more. However, we think we can definitely fund the entire design and environmental clearance, so as we get additional funds we can continue the project. But for these funds, it's a four year timeframe to have your project completed. And that's, that's, different compared to other awards, this is new I know with Isaac we had a certain amount of time to spent the money and that's been coming with some of their later funding. Opportunities you have a, you just can't hang on to the money forever, you have a timeframe to spend it in 4 years is what's designated for this one."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Thank you."

**MOTION:** Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilwoman Remonet seconded the motion to approve Resolution R18-26. The motion passed with Councilman Wright absent.

**Larry Snyder - To direct the administration to compose a RFP for consulting services for the West Shore Lake Pontchartrain Flood Risk Reduction Project**

Councilman Snyder stated, "After talking with a couple of Councilmen when they looked at this, it might be a little premature, so I would like to just take it off, then we can have more discussion on it from the agenda."

**DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:**

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

The above item remained tabled.

**Jaclyn Hotard - Update from Administration and Royal relative to the CDBG project**

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Thank you and I see that we have some Representatives from Royal here, if we can just get maybe a brief lil update of where we are and..."

Scott Reddock stated, "Absolutely, Good evening Scott Reddock with Royal Engineers. So I see a skipping ahead there's also a report from Royal Engineers on CDBG work that we're going to be doing. Could I combine those two items and give you guys just an overall program status?"

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "You can. Let me just for procedural purposes if it's okay, I can make the motion that we combine the items right now, so move."

Councilman Madere stated, "That's okay? That's your item Mr. Snyder."

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Malik seconded the motion to combine the two (2) items relative to Royal Engineers on the CDBG Project. The motion passed with Councilman Wright absent.

Scott Reddock stated, "So Good Evening. Currently, where we are is we've got 243 projects complete. There's a total of 315 total that we're going to do within the program, and 243 of those are completed, done, Homeowners and Contractors are out. A little breakdown on that, 203 were Homeowner Rehab only, 20 of them were Homeowner Rehab with Elevation, 14 Reconstruction projects, and 6 where there was just elevation only. Currently under construction and we consider under construction meaning a project was started with a contractor as we all know there was a loan funding where we had to stop for a little bit. But we have 44 projects that are currently under active construction, contractors are working on all those projects now. The breakdown on that is 21 that are Homeowner Rehabs, 2 that are Homeowner Rehab with elevation, 8 that are elevation only, two (2) that are Small Rental Rehab and then two (2) that are Small Rental Rehab with elevation, so that comprises at 44. So we have a total of 13 projects right now that are on hold and I know earlier we were talking about duplication of benefits, right? We have 13 of those that we have not moved into construction yet, as we are working to clear that duplication of benefits to make sure that there is not an issue with any of those 13 projects. That's an ongoing process, obviously you guys were very involved earlier in the whole deal, Pivotal is a major component to that, they're our inspection arm that goes out and verifies the items that are being done, so obviously as that comes forward we're going to move and press that onward. We have been able to complete some duplication of benefit reviews that did not require Pivotal to be involved in, which we consider a desktop review, that's either a situation where the homeowner has no insurance and no proceeds they've ever received, or they did have insurance and did receive proceeds but they had very specific itemized list they were able to do kind of desktop review on. So those are the project that we're waiting on DOB reviews that Pivotal is

involved in, there are other projects that we've been able to put in construction from a desktop review. So moving on, we have projects that are to be rebid, these projects where either bid them before and they came in over the cap, or projects where there was an additional work item we discovered when we went out for our first site visit. So we have five (5) of those that are waiting to rebid, and those five (5) are included in that original number for the duplication of benefit review as well. So once that clear the DOB, then we'll do a rebid for those guys and then hopefully move those projects into construction as well. Now with regard to duplication of benefits process, this was something and I'm not sure exactly how much history you guys have on it but, December 20<sup>th</sup> of 2017 is the first time that the state mentioned something to us about this, okay? Since that time we've been feverously with them to try and get a process working forward that they would accept, this was a new thing they put up on us okay! About six (6) weeks ago, would you say six (6) weeks ago? We got the process approved and they asked us to give them ten (10) samples. We provided the ten (10) samples and about probably four (4) weeks ago we got the final-okay this is great, go ahead and move. Since that process has been approved, we've cleared 121 duplication of benefits out of the 350, okay? These were ones that we could do a desktop review on. So 121 have been cleared the remaining 194 are work in progress, we're working on those actively every day, there's an input that we need from Pivotal, there's also input that we require from OCDDRU, they have to look in their data bases and tell us about Road Home, SBA, any monies they've received from any other disasters. Again you know this was something new and there's a lot of players involved in order for us to be able to gather all the information we need in order to make a final determination. But, we're moving forward and everything so far is going pretty well, we expect to have those completed obviously by the end of our contract which is the 31<sup>st</sup> of March of 2019. So, that's the current status on the DOB's. Obviously as we close these projects out, we're doing a closeout effort in concert with everything else that we're doing, we're not waiting until all the current construction complete the closeout effort. Obviously the closeout effort is going to be substantial, so we had started that closeout effort a Fall of last year, as these projects are beginning to come to a close, we've closed out the Homebuyer's Assistance Program, and we've closed out the or we're in the process of closing out the Small Business Grants and Loans Program. So Homeowner Rehab and the Elevation Programs will be the ones that we'll be closing next, so we'll start that procedure just as soon as we get construction completed on those."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Let me ask you really quickly. When you mentioned the renovation with elevation, so how many homes did you say we actually elevated?"

Scott Reddock stated, "We elevated, let me pull it back up. Elevated 20 in the Elevation only program and then Homeowner Rehab with Elevation (no excuse me), we elevated six (6) elevation only and then we elevated 20 with Rehab and Elevation."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "And do you know, and you may not have this in front of you. Do you know how many people applied for elevation and there were funds available?"

Scott Reddock stated, "I don't know the number off the top of my head, I can certainly find that out for you."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Okay. Oh no go head..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "I'm not sure if you were here earlier, but

we have 22 that were on a list, that we applied for a Subsequent Grant, and that's listed on here. We actually received that grant in the amount of I think \$2.2 million dollars. This is the one that there is a 25% match that we're seeking other ways of possibly satisfying that. So there's at least 22, Homeowners that there wasn't enough funds in the existing grant, so we made application and we just received the letter we received that grant, but because there are some concerns about this group of people having to come up with a match and the other group didn't, we're actually trying to find mechanisms to assist them with their match. So there's at least 22."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Thank you."

Scott Reddoch stated, "Welcome."

Councilman Snyder asked, "So that's by law that that 25% match is in that..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "In that grant that we applied for, yes sir. Like this, that original money was part of this \$32 million, but when we ran out we were actually given an opportunity to apply for some additional funds and that set of funding requires that match. It's kind of like our Severe Repetitive Loss Program, where there's a 25% match but at least they identified the funding and I think as you said, some people actually have their match, but we are seeking to find some additional funding sources. Some in some cases you know again, it's kind of helpful and we don't want to say this really in a negative way, but the folks who had problems in Baton Rouge and Livingston, it's a much larger pool of money, they're running into some of the same problems so they seem to be finding solutions to help them that may benefit us. Because some of those same people are going to need assistance with this, so we're kind of you know trying to work through that as well."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Have we leverage some of our processes to them?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Everybody uses our process. We are a Ginny pig Mr. Snyder. They used all our stuff with everybody. After we worked through it they shared it!"

Scott Reddoch stated, "And Councilman Snyder. Just to kind of piggy back on President Robottom, we had a/we started discussions last week with some of these other possible funding sources, and there's a/at OCD-DRU, they have some specialist that work on stacking grants between FEMA and OCD, so using HUD dollars and FEMA dollars in concert for each other on specific programs. So we had a conference call with them Friday and they have some homework to do and get back with us on a couple of things, so we're reactively seeking the funding to try and do the 25% match from another funding source and get those projects out to construction as well."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well good. Is there any work going on right now?"

Scott Reddoch stated, "Yes sir. There's active construction on 44 projects."

Councilman Snyder stated, "44 projects!"

Scott Reddoch stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Okay. Talked to Mr. Becnel yet?"

Scott Reddoch stated, "Not yet."

Councilman Snyder stated, "That's okay then. Thank you."

Councilman Malik stated, "Yes sir, quick question for you. I was writing feverously. I'm sorry, you got to watch out for me. I was writing out some notes when you were speaking but you said you had 350 projects, 243 completed, which leaves us 170 excuse me 107, so there's 44 active, 13 on hold..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "Actually it's 14. We had an error on the, you said thirteen (13), there's twelve (12), one (1) and one (1) on hold and waiting, it's fourteen (14)."

Councilman Malik asked, "So there's fourteen (14)?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "There's a sheet in your packet."

Councilman Malik stated, "See I couldn't find that one."

Scott Reddoch stated, "And Councilman there's 315 total."

Councilman Malik stated, "Three hundred and fifteen (315)!"

Scott Reddoch stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Malik stated, "Okay that makes more sense then."

Scott Reddoch stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Malik stated, "Thank for keeping me straight appreciate that!"

Scott Reddoch stated, "Absolutely!"

Councilman Madere asked, "I just want you, what is desktop duplication of funds? You said that y'all did that, what is that?"

Scott Reddoch stated, "Yes sir, so there's three (3) different types of reviews that we do for the duplication of benefits. And a desktop review is kind of we had it broken into three (3) different Tiers. Okay so a Tier 1 - is where we either have substantial information in order to be able to make a determination just by looking at the files sitting at our desk, or there's zero (0) information because the Homeowner received zero (0) benefits during Hurricane Isaac. Anything beyond that would either be a Tier 2 or a Tier 3 being one that requires a field investigation and a field work to do verifications in order to make a determination on what money was spent where."

Councilman Madere asked, "And that's what that's Pivotal supposed to be doing?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes sir."

Scott Reddoch stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Madere asked, "Okay, but you did have some responsibility in your contract on duplication of funds? The desktop? Right, you said you did that."

Scott Reddoch stated, "Correct! We managed the overall process..."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right!"

Scott Reddoch stated, "And we make the final grant award determination."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right cuz what I'm saying, Pivotal is not going to go back and look at those ones that you already determined that's not duplication of funds, right? Or they going to go back and look over the ones that you did?"

Scott Reddoch stated, "No sir, they're not going back and look at anything I've done, but Pivotal is going and doing the inspection for any property where we don't have substantial information as to where the money was spent."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right, okay that's what I mean. But you know the duplication that you did is record. I mean because I remember we had a conversation on the phone about an individual in my area, and at that time you told me she had a received some finances for another previous storm, that's why she could not get any more. Okay so that's was something that y'all came up with yourselves. That was before Pivotal did anything, and so was that one of the desktop reviews?"

Scott Reddoch stated, "So and I'm not really familiar with the one that you're siting specifically..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "Well I'm not going to give a name or address, but I'm just saying you told me on the phone you know that she was not eligible for additional funds because she received some funds from a previous storm on the same claim, on the same item."

Scott Reddoch stated, "Okay so and again, I'd have to look at the specific file to be able to yay or nay on that."

Councilman Madere stated, "That's what I'm saying, that's part of what you call your desktop your duplication..."

Scott Reddoch interrupting stated, "The Grant award calculation is absolutely squarely in our wheelhouse, we're the ones that make that determination. We sign off on it we send it over to the parish for review, then the parish once they approve it sends it up to OCD-DRU for a final approval."

Councilman Madere asked, "Okay and the 13 houses that's on hold, they're on hold because of what?"

Scott Reddoch stated, "We are waiting to do the duplication of benefits review on those."

Councilman Madere asked, "Okay so it's only 13?"

Scott Reddoch stated, "There's 13 that are on hold."

Councilman Madere stated, "On hold, right!"

Scott Reddoch stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Madere asked, "And the duplication process is going to go through a whole process of the other one. Now the 243 that completed, they have to go back through that same process again to?"

Scott Reddoch stated, "I'd have to a DOB review on every single project that we touched."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay."

Scott Reddoch stated, "So there's 315 total that we need to do and we've cleared out a little over 121 so far."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay."

Scott Reddoch stated, "And the majority of that 121 was a desktop styled review where we didn't have to go back and look at the actual properties ourselves, we just had to analyze the documentation..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "So that's what I mean. How many that was desktop review?"

Scott Reddoch stated, "We've completed 121 so far."

Councilman Madere asked, "So that's a 121 that Pivotal don't have to worry about?"

Scott Reddoch stated, "That's correct."

Councilman Madere asked, "Okay. So that evaluation was done by Royal?"

Scott Reddoch stated, "Yes."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Tell me this. Why you think that they have you guys going back over all of these Road Home, DOB's and stuff like that? And some of that wasn't involved with this last Hurricane that we had?"

Scott Reddoch stated, "Councilman Snyder, I can't tell you exactly what I want to say on that. But..."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I don't want you to incriminate yourself here. [Laughter] If you can say something, if you can't I understand. I really do."

Scott Reddoch stated, "So OCD-DRU determined that through the Hurricane Isaac Grant that they could force a sub-applicant or a sub-grantee to basically be their police force to go back and look at past grants and disasters..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "That's enough. That's what I I'm sorry."

Scott Reddoch stated, "Don't get me started on that. We'll be here all night." [Laughter]

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "That's what I thought. I thought, that's what I thought. Thank you."

Scott Reddoch stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "Yes Scott. On the number of houses that's left to be repaired, are the bids in on those houses right now?"

Scott Reddoch stated, "Yes sir. We have bids on all the houses except for the few

that we need to rebid. But we have bids on those and we have construction contracts ready to be signed."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "So they're not signed, they're ready to be signed?"

Scott Reddoch stated, "They're ready to be signed, correct. Once we clear the DOB, then we'll be able to get those contracts active and move those people into construction."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "Okay but my question is I know we have a gap in timeframe of getting houses repaired, I'm wondering if you're going to have to rebid any of those projects?"

Scott Reddoch stated, "We've only got five (5) identified right now that need to be rebid."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "So?"

Scott Reddoch stated, "The ones that we active we/the contractors honor their price for 6 months. If in cases where we go beyond the 6 months, we can ask the contractor if they'll honor it passed that, and they'll just send us an email or something saying 'Yes' to honor them a price to write a contract for that. If they say absolutely not, the cost of paint went up and my price isn't good anymore, then we'd have to rebid it but we don't have any right now other than the five (5) that we've identified as rebids that we need to go back and do that with."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "Okay so if you're going to go back in and check for duplicated benefits, there could be some cost savings that you might have a house that somebody gave you a contract and give you a price on repairing that house, you might not have to make certain repairs to that home. Correct?"

Scott Reddoch stated, "That could be correct. Yes sir."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "And so we could possibly help some more people that's on that list that didn't make the cut?"

Scott Reddoch stated, "It's possible but it's too soon to tell right now."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Okay..."

Scott Reddoch stated, "We've got, we're cutting it pretty close with our budget. You know we've got enough budget to do what we have in front of us, and we have a little bit of contingency in that. But absolutely as we close-out other programs and our speaking with one of the other council members recently, and we're basically taking those buckets and we're dumping them into the Homeowner Rehab bucket. Okay?"

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "Gotcha!"

Scott Reddoch stated, "And as you all know, we had twelve hundred something applicants and we have 315 that we're serving right now."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Okay."

Scott Reddoch stated, "So if we have any additional monies, which we're trying to

nail that down so that we can look at our list and that the next ones include those persons as well, even if it's not for the complete scope of work that they originally had, if we have enough money to do a roof, or some windows, or whatever the most beneficial item would be for that homeowner. Then we're going to try to include as many people as we can out this."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "And I don't suspect that we have a lot of people that will have duplication of benefits but I just want to make sure that the tax payers' know that our dollars are going to be spent wisely, and if you going to have the government is going to force you/us to go back and backtrack on all of this work and we got people like Mr. Becnel described tonight, this lady is trying to get into her house and we're stumbling over something that's really, really, really a sharp edge that's unnecessarily being done with government bureaucracy, it's a disgrace that we have to be going through hardships like this. A anyhow thank you, you answered my question."

Scott Reddoch stated, "I couldn't agree with you more Councilman."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Yes thank you."

Scott Reddoch stated, "And Councilman Becnel, when I get a chance lets you and I chat and let me see who this individual is that you're dealing with and see if there's anything I can do on my end to try and help out in that situation."

Councilman Madere asked, "One other thing, your number haven't changed huh?"

Scott Reddoch stated, "I'm sorry Councilman."

Councilman Madere asked, "Your phone number haven't changed huh?"

Scott Reddoch stated, "No sir, it has not!" [Laughter]

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay."

Scott Reddoch asked, "Oh! You have been calling me?"

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes I called several times and didn't get a return phone call. I just want make sure I'm calling the right number."

Scott Reddoch stated, "I'm sorry let me double check that, but I got the same number."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay. My number haven't changed. "

Scott Reddoch stated, "I got the same number. You know I love talking to you so..."

Councilman Madere stated, "Oh yeah I love talking to you too!"

Scott Reddoch stated, "I take every call come from the Council."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay so when you get a chance just call me and give me your new number. Cuz I do have a question for you, okay?"

Scott Reddoch stated, "I'll call you tomorrow Councilman."

Councilman Madere stated, "Alright, thank you."

Scott Reddoch stated, "Yes sir."

**Lennix Madere - Update on drainage and road repair in District III**

Councilman Madere stated, "Hey, now before he say anything I can relieve you on a lot of pressure on this one, cause you weren't involved with this okay. It's more of Daron okay, the same problem we had I mentioned to you those sink holes that they repaired? Those sink holes are back! They're back again and the guy came to my house today and reported you know, but I already knew about it and I brought Daron out there I think it was Friday or one day and I think he sent to Ms. LaVerne, she got a copy of it and sent it back to this individual and I think he requested this time, that they don't put that sand in those holes. Cause all they're doing is coming back and I think they scheduled a final walk through, I don't know exactly what date that is, you know what date that is Ms. LaVerne?"

LaVerne Toombs stated, "I spoke to Mr. Cooper today, and it's my understanding that they did do the walk through. I thought it was done either on yesterday or today, but according to Mr. Cooper that matter has been addressed regarding those sink holes."

Councilman Madere asked, "It's been addressed?"

LaVerne Toombs stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay and they had a walk through?"

LaVerne Toombs stated, "But I can I will verify it, but he did call me regarding this matter today and probably thought that you were going mention it tonight at the Council meeting, so I will verify it and make sure that I am giving you the correct information, but I do believe that Mr. Cooper stated the fact that the matter has been resolved."

Councilman Madere asked, "Did Mr. Cooper out there? Do you know if he was part of that walk through or it was just that individual company?"

LaVerne Toombs stated, "I'm not clear. I don't know the answer to that question."

Councilman Madere stated, "Because I did request it that you know someone from the Parish or myself be present. Because I did a walk through the other day when those holes reappeared, and I found several more sink holes and so I don't know if those have been addressed. So..."

LaVerne Toombs interrupting stated, "I do know that Mr. Cooper stated the fact that there was other sink holes that were identified and that subterranean had addressed it. But if you would allow me Councilman, I will have an answer to you on tomorrow."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay and I'm saying I don't trust them, but I'm going to do a walk through myself, cause I found the sink holes that I reported. Like I said, I found an additional five (5) sink holes several days ago. So I will do a walk through myself, because once this month is over those sink holes become the property of this parish. So I want make sure all those sink holes are taken care of by that company before they get out of this contract, because Mr. Verdell have enough things to take care of besides repairing sink holes you know, so I am a

make sure that's taken care of. And also once again I'd like to thank Mr. Verdell for assisting us in everything that you know we ask him to do, you know concerning sink holes, road repairs and everything else. And also, some of the drainage issue. So thank you and I'll check on those sink holes."

LaVerne Toombs stated, "And I'll have an answer for you tomorrow."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay thank you."

**Larry Snyder/Lennix Madere - Report from Scott Reddoch, Royal Engineers, on the CDBG work he is doing and remaining work to be done by his company**

Motion was passed for the above item to be discussed with Councilwoman Hotard's item.

**Larry Snyder - Update on Utilities, operational and safety issues at all Waste Water plants - path moving forward**

Blake Fogleman stated, "Thank you Chairman. Utilities is addressing all immediate concerns finalizing a plan to address long term improvements. Mr. Snyder and I had individual conversations as well as Mr. Perrilloux on our ongoing updates and improvements in these plants. I will say that I think most of the immediate concerns that yawl have if not have been completed or being completed this week, specifically the ones that could be addressed immediately as I think as we all discussed. The little things that could be purchased in place there, we're looking at some of the Chlorine safety recommendations that you all had I am going over all that in all the plants. We are evaluating some of the larger equipment issues and trying to figure out money wise and what's the best way to move forward to consolidate some of the concerns we have, whether it's repairing a pump or replacing that pump and repairing it to have a back-up or you know to move us forward from always chasing the one pump that breaks or the one piece of equipment that breaks. I don't have the full list that you and I discussed on me tonight, if there's anything specific to that yawl are concerned with amongst that list, I can certainly address. I do know one of the residents we spoke off, Mr. Madere I know you've had close communications, I think that issue has been fully investigated and addressed and corrected so...I'd almost specifically Mr. Snyder, if there's anything specific to this list that you would like to discuss."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Really I want just this says down here you know. I want it where are we with this. I mean I've heard I hear you saying that we're looking into this, we're doing a study on this or that you know. There are some things that we reported that could have been done already. That's the way I see it."

Blake Fogleman stated, "And I Requisitions in or PO's issued and things ordered, that's they're all in stages of the process. So you know whether it was something that, I walked through the office today and saw some of the bouie's sitting on the front office where we've met before sat up there. So obviously those have already come in, they're just trying to get them into the plants at the locations that we need them. Just keep in mind that any of these recommendations we aren't close monitoring in it, any of these recommendations we're actually looking at the whole Utility Department. If there is anything, so in some of the water plants we're actually including some of this these updates as well."

Councilman Snyder stated, "And I understand that but..."

Blake Fogleman interrupting stated, "So we appreciate that input. Yes sir."

Councilman Snyder stated, "We were concerned about the Wastewater Plant."

Blake Fogleman interrupting stated, "Yeah I understand that!"

Councilman Snyder stated, "You know like for instance the escape pack, you know I don't know Cain may have something over there they can use tomorrow to enter into some of those plants you see."

Blake Fogleman stated, "Yeah we're discussing actually issuing every individual their own cartridge pack that they keep on their person. So it's a little cartridge that's an escape pack, that's essentially what it is. Obviously they're still are requirements that would have them have something more substantial there, that if they'd do to assist a fellow operator, they would need something there. So we're looking into what plants have what sizes and then when we want to you know purchase more and include more."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well tell me this, the (what I wanted to say) that alarm system you have over there, how often do yawl check that Chlorine Alarm System?"

Blake Fogleman stated, "Well all those Chlorine Systems is required to be calibrated once year and updated. So we do have somebody that goes through all those facilities once a year to check the Chlorine System as a whole. So the requirement of those flow proportional meters and everything in those little huts are in the scales and the whole nine yards are expected to be maintained once a year, at least once a year or as needed."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well you know that's to me that's such a, you know to me that's such an important aspect as part of those guy's job especially in the chlorine area there? I could understand you have no professional come in and check the equipment out, but to me that thing should be checked at least once a week, you know."

Blake Fogleman stated, "Okay."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Once a week at a certain time."

Blake Fogleman stated, "Sure."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Just check it to make sure it's, because you know put a little chlorine to it or something like that to see if it's working."

Blake Fogleman stated, "Okay."

Councilman Snyder stated, "You know cause once a year these, you know 11 months may pass you need it and at one time you know and you need to know that thing not working. To me that's a safety equipment that should be checked most often than anything you know what I'm saying so. You say yawl looking into getting that screen on the back doors back there?"

Blake Fogleman stated, "Yeah like I said, that's the kind of stuff we're pricing out different things and different I guess ideas to secure that better. Like I said, on the individual operators for escape packs, we're just looking at the most economical to get them all and potentially ask them to carry around. You

know something that they do have and that we would expect and that any of you all went to any of those plants, maybe that's we'd have that at the gates that you guys would have to carry around as well. You know if that's what we're going to ask of our employees, we certainly would ask that of everybody that you know enter that area."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yeah I think that, well I'm not going back there very often I just want to let you know. So they should have something like that on, you don't need but one, don't need but two, you know! Everybody wear the same ones..."

Blake Fogleman interrupting stated, "We certainly are..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "And I know Cain can help you get that easily."

Blake Fogleman stated, "I do have a list that I'm working on that as things progress, it's kind of a mess cause it's a lot of different colors, cause they're in different stages of where we are. There are some greens on there, we have sludge pumps that I think yawl saw that I reported to you guys that have been replaced, we're also repairing additional pumps as I said so we have backups engaged, we're moving on some of those items that were kind of already in the works a lot of the other stuff is coming in now. Anything that we did order is coming in now, I know they're working on the A/C units that were requested, I thing that was requested before you'll gotten involved and actually and before we came in front of the Council last week was already in house and being scheduled to be installed. So there's a lot of things that are moving that we've discussed."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Those bolts and things on the pumps, you see that stuff can be done just like that! With hardly no cost, you know just the bolts."

Blake Fogleman stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Snyder stated, "You know that to me that should be you know."

Blake Fogleman stated, "I would hope that when we discuss the day of that our, the people that we met with were you know, were the people that you all met with took into consideration that and would also agree that it could be done like this and nothing to it. So Yeah!"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well I mean it's up to them I mean up to you, or the Supervisor. I mean they got a supervisor out there, he can do that!"

Blake Fogleman stated, "Well no I agree. And that's what I'm just saying on the site guys, when they make a call on the site that something needs to be upgraded or repaired, it's you know I sign requisitions in the office you know, so if they send something through that they need something, we sign it and we move forward. Operational issues we sign and go forward with."

Councilman Snyder stated, "So you're saying that unless they do that, tell you about those bolts there's nothing going to get done about it?"

Blake Fogleman stated, "Well I mean I would hope that they would, if that needs to be repaired..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "Well I already told you that..."

Blake Fogleman interrupting stated, "Well I agree. If you see there's a...yeah..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "I already told you that."

Blake Fogleman stated, "Yeah well absolutely, absolutely! If we see something and we yeah, but I mean yeah but I mean the expectation is that on a daily basis, we're hoping on maintaining their plant as well. Not just waiting on you or myself to just walk through to say that's something's wrong for them to fix it. But it's either that's we're good, I agree."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Okay!"

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Yes I think Blake, yeah you and I did meet on some of the items and you're addressing those items, I'm glad to see you're moving forward on them and just keep us a report that's on, you know how it's a progressing. And a couple of more things as Mr. Snyder said like I told you then, maybe we develop a check sheet. Develop some type of training program to have these operators go through to check the equipment once a day, and have a check sheet, turn it in. If anything need to be repaired write it on the check sheet or put a work order in. That's how it should be done. The second/the next thing that we talked about is, consolidating, condemning and expanding these Sewage plants, maybe have a regional one. So maybe in the future have a sit down, I know we have some money coming in on a tax role shortly, we need to look at something maybe putting something together and I know a couple of them we could condemned right now (I told you about those), we can expand one let them consolidate along with the retention pomp. I think we'll have the storage we need to free sewage. So we need to look at that and get away from these disasters we have right now."

Blake Fogleman stated, "Right and our first attempt is going to get a good handle on cost to repair and bring up all these plants to where they need to be, which is obviously just a starting point on the discussion for either decommissioning, consolidating, so forth. Obviously right now we need to look at how we could continue to operate these. As you and I discussed, I understand that some of these might not be in the best shape, but unfortunately we in Utilities as being a 24 hours service, we can continue to operate on the best we can while we try to find manners to correct. If we didn't I think we'd have a lot of people upset with us. So you were never going to say that they're where they need to be, but we're going to continue to work and put things and money to where they do need to be."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Okay thank you. Just keep us posted."

Blake Fogleman stated, "Yes sir will do!"

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay Blake I think what Mr. Snyder is saying, I agree with him, like those items on that bolt on that pump, that was a pump huh Mr. Snyder?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yeah."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay that's been three (3) weeks ago. So that should have been addressed already okay, that's been three (3) weeks. That don't take a day to replace those bolts and put the right length bolt in there, because three (3) weeks ago those bolts were not even screwed all the way in, they didn't even

*clear the washer. I mean the nut itself, you know and it should be at least that far out of it and it was like that. And that's something I said that should be addressed already, and that was definitely at the...*

Blake Fogelman interrupting stated, "River Road Treatment Plant."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right!"

Blake Fogelman stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right, so maybe you need to have that individual check to see if they had replaced that because that definitely need to be replaced, and it shouldn't take three (3) weeks to do that. And I'm glad to see that you're taking care of the safety issues of the employees first. The other issues with the plant itself, is going to take a little time it's going to take a little money, okay to get it up to where it should be. Okay and I agree with Mr. Perrilloux, we need to move away from some those facilities and get something you know that's can handle on the East Bank and the West Bank and not all those different locations. I think we have seven (7) different locations now, so you have seven (7) different locations you have seven (7) different problems you know with equipment and everything else. So I think in future, we're going to have to the best we can right now and try to get these things working at that plant, the one we just talked about."

Blake Fogelman stated, *Mm-hm.*"

Councilman Madere stated, "That big screen. I know that's the one you'll supposed to be getting a...

Blake Fogelman stated, "Yeah it's in the works. They actually are fabricating it right now to put that one back in service. So...

Councilman Madere interrupting asked, "So you don't know how long that going to be? Cuz that's a very important part."

Blake Fogelman stated, "Oh absolutely! And I'd have to get, that's something they've been battling on that since in inception of that, we're hoping that with the operational changes we're making in plant as well as that upgrade that we're making to those screens that it'll solve that issue."

Councilman Madere stated, "And wait one other thing. Just the basic outlook of how the facility look? As far as things laying around, it should be removed you know, I think we need to clean that up. You know we need to clean that up, you know cause they got some, I saw a pump that was/well we need to find out who pump belong to. We need to find out who that pump belong to at that same location I was told the pump was sent to be repaired? And the people actually brought back the wrong pump? And we hadn't returned it back yet, and it's been over a year. So we need to get our pump back...

Blake Fogelman interrupting stated, "From my understanding it's longer than that."

Councilman Madere stated, "It's been about two (2) years they told me."

Blake Fogelman stated, "I did..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "I was trying to be kind by saying a year."

Blake Fogelman stated, "Well no I'd be, but..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "I was trying to be kind they told me two (2) years, but I was just trying to be kind by saying a year. No I mean if we send off something and they're bringing the wrong thing back, and we sit on it for two years..."

Blake Fogelman stated, "I'm not certain why we would even accept it!"

Councilman Madere stated, "Right! Okay and it's the best looking thing back there. It's on the ground it's nice and brand new, it's been sitting there for two years so we need to find out what happened to our pump from that company, so we can actually put that pump back in service. You know I was trying to be kind by saying a year but it is two (2) years."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I don't think Blake was here though! Blake wasn't here when that pump came back."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yeah, two (2) years."

Councilman Snyder stated, "That's a long time ago!"

Blake Fogelman stated, "I've been here three (3) years."

Councilman Madere stated, "He been here three (3) years."

Blake Fogelman stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Madere stated, "So we need return that pump and try and find out what happened to our pump."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yeah, let's try to sell it!" [Laughter]

Councilman Madere stated, "Yeah, sell it or something."

Blake Fogelman stated, "We will look into it Councilman."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay cuz we definitely need that pump working."

Councilman Snyder asked, "I know, are we looking at the budget for next year, Blake? And maybe looking at purchasing another dump truck?"

Blake Fogelman stated, "Oh well..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "I mean something that we use everyday..."

Blake Fogelman stated, "I've been fighting for a lot more than just a dump truck, Councilman. We are, unfortunately what we don't have in the Wastewater specifically, in water we have a fund that is a Capital Outlay Fund that can be used to purchase equipment. The way the Wastewater Fund is set up, if you purchase any, if you have any equipment purchases, it comes out of your cash balance or your fund balance. So we don't have that account that just dumps money into it, a portion of our money into. We have parish wide sewer, we have

*different things that are construction style funds. I'm trying to get more than just one dump truck or any one piece of equipment out of it, and I keep looking over to our CFO, cause...*

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "Well he tight! You know we know that."

Blake Fogelman stated, "Well and I know, look and we play that game, I think we've met more than any other department on..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "Yeah, Blake's a good beggar!"

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "Well what I'm saying is, we've paid..."

Blake Fogelman interrupting stated, "I've tried to demand but I end up begging. Yes!"

Councilman Snyder stated, "We are paying somebody to dig up our sludge."

Blake Fogelman stated, "We just started recently, yes!"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Right! So I don't know what it cost us to get rid of it. That's money there we could use to buy our own truck. And we they can use our trucks for other things, when it's not being used for that."

Blake Fogelman stated, "Well that truck has not been used for anything other than hauling sludge."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I guesst not cuz it can't go on the highway no more now."

Blake Fogelman stated, "No, no, no. I'm just saying from its exception that was specifically for wastewater specifically for that. They used it on the rare occasions to haul any equipment across the river, larger pieces of equipment across the river. But no we're again trying to alleviate the immediate need and figure out needs of what that's for long term operations. So that's why we're doing what we're doing right now, is trying to get over this hump and to sustain us through being able to work with Finance and find out the path forward and what's most economical for what we're..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "Well this, I don't think this is gone go away. So you know we need to do something."

Blake Fogelman stated, "Sure. And I encourage and look forward to that conversation."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Alright."

**Larry Snyder - Report/Update from Administration on the 2014 Bond Projects - Engineering completion, purchases and construction that has been started and completed**

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes Mr. Snyder we attached this, I'm not sure if you've had a chance to review it, but we have all of the bond issues on the Website on the Finance page, and they're broken up by Bond Issue. So we only printed the 2014 Bond Issue, as that's the one you requested. But this is where we are to date..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "This the one I wanted '14 right here."

Natalie Robottom stated, "This one right here. And you can see whether they're in design, complete construction, in some cases we purchased equipment, all of that is on here. The largest area is the HMGP Map Projects, now keep in mind this is just a match amount, you know the grant itself is in another fund. But this was a list of projects that we proposed right after the storm, I actually have a call with the Director of Governor's Office of Homeland Security, who manages these dollars. For example: we look at the first one-we couldn't wait for the HMGP dollars to fix the Airport pump, so we fixed it. So what could we do with these dollars, it wouldn't make any sense to keep that project going, this has been since 2012. So there's some on here we couldn't wait, we couldn't wait for them. You were in our meeting with the levee, I guess it was two (2) weeks ago, and when you look at their plan, they're looking at the Reserve Boat Launch and some issues with where it is and we've looked at Homewood and say we need larger retention space. So rather than fixing something that's there, is there a mechanism for us to kind of redo this and expand our space which is a problem and work within our project to move the boat launch or address that with their dollars but give us retention space. So there's some conversations we need to have regarding some of these dollars that at the time it seemed like it was the best project, but since then things have changed and we don't want to lose our money. We might want to shift it to something else that makes more sense. It hazard mitigation, it's mitigating against similar type problems so we should be able to use some of these dollars for some of the things that we need done in that compound..."

Councilman Snyder stated, "And I agree with that. You know what caught my eye what caught my eye. I was looking at some of these projects last week and all these - I know we don't have the money for some of these, but all these designs over here, that's why I asked I put designs down there. I'm looking at down here 67 just in design or have been completed. But the Airport Pump, Belle Pointe, Marigold..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "Now actually we have all that money."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I'm sorry!"

Natalie Robottom stated, "We/this is just our match for the Grant. For each one of these projects that money came out of that \$11.5 million dollar grant fund, but this was the parish's portion of the match we paid for it out of this bond issue. So that's why it's here. But this is just our portion, there's some other grant money that I'm saying when you combine that with our match, and we had money for an Airport Pump that we've already fixed, that money needs to go to something else."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I agree!"

Natalie Robottom stated, "And so that's my conversation. Now keep in mind, I was a little disturbed at our first with them when they talked about how easy it is to HMGP, we got this in 2013, and they just approved design. They take forever, the only project we've really gotten ready to move to construction is the Safe Room they've been working on this since 2013. So the amount of time it takes to do a design, send it in, get it approved, make the changes, send it back, go to GOSHEP they send it to FEMA, send it back. I mean we have been working on this since 2013, since we got the award. It's too long, they tried to share with Baton Rouge, how quickly it takes it's like NO it doesn't. Don't count of these

projects being done quickly, which is why I'm concerned about changing them now, because it's taking us so long to get, so I'm trying to get some help from the top! Cause it doesn't make sense to throw this on projects that we don't need. If we need to revisit them we need to revisit them and get some help in how we can do it and get the most for our bucks. Cause we had to come up with these projects quickly in the midst of our recovery, and it's like okay everybody is worried about drainage let's do these pumps, but since then a lot of things have changed, and these you know might not be the best projects. For example: adding a Bar Screen Cleaner to Homewood, when we know our retention space is not big enough. Okay so, that doesn't make sense to me and we have to figure out a way to make it a better project, we need more space in that retention pond rather than and if we add a Bar Screen Cleaner on there that's even less cause it's on the inner side of the, so it's little things like that that you know what it is? Hindsight 20/20!"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well that's what I agree with you there."

Natalie Robottom stated, "So that's what I'm working on with the people who might be able to help us figure out how to do that."

Councilman Snyder stated, "And maybe we should look at this and kind of put a number by the most pressing job that we might need to do..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Snyder stated, "And combine some of those combine some of those funds to do just that. You see we got designs for all of them."

Natalie Robottom stated, "And they actually didn't approval them all to go into construction, but some of them you know they been going back and forth with and changing, and of course then you do that! Well how many years later? Thirteen, five years later guess what? The price went up! So now I need a new cost estimate. So you know it's not a good system I've complained about it, that's my new life! It's going to be - this does not work! This system yawl call yawl selves set-up to help people - same thing like finishing people's houses from 2012, we've finishing their houses in 2019? Something's wrong with that picture. Okay..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "You got to look at who's writing up those procedures."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Right! You know people who are on the ground see this doesn't work. It may look good on paper, it doesn't work for the people."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Okay I got you. That's what I have I don't have anything else."

Councilman Madere asked, "Ms. Robottom, that's including that Belle Pointe Submergible Pump?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes, that's one of the projects on there."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yeah and you mentioned about the Bar Screen. Okay you say they have to have something bigger, retention area?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "That's for Homewood."

Councilman Madere stated, "For Homewood and a..."

Natalie Robottom stated, "For Homewood and the Airport."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yeah airport."

**Kurt Becnel - Robin Lumar - 157 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Edgard - question regarding new trailer placement and explanation of why it is being prohibited**

Councilman Becnel stated, "Okay on that subject there, we're going to remove it off. Ms. Lumar has had, she scheduled a meeting with you right Rene? And yawl have spoken and she's following the procedures and she's getting everything together and then we'll leave it. So right now we're just going to move forward with it."

**Larry Snyder - Discussion relative to employing a state lobbyist for the Parish**

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well I just want to be sure that we're thinking about this. I know the Parish President got some ideas on this, and she got some good ideas on this and she's right on some things we talked about. But a, that's just some things we need to start thinking about we know that Chris retired, Chris did an excellent job for us the whole time he was there. So we just need to just start thinking about this."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes sir."

There was no executive session.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

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

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

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

John Barrett vs. St. John the Baptist Parish, Docket #68043  
(Larry Snyder - Update on resolution to non-conforming signage at Airline Hwy and Cambridge Drive)

Parish Buildings - Security

Any and all pending legal matters

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:**

**18-35** An ordinance authorizing the acceptance of improvements and granting final subdivision approval of Lots 1-17 and Parcel A Summerlin Lake Subdivision, Phase 5 - Tuscan Dr., and releasing Landcraft, Inc. from a construction agreement in accordance with Ordinance No. 18-15 adopted on June 12, 2018, amended by motion of the Council on August 14, 2018 (N. Robottom)

**PRESIDENT REPORT:**

Natalie Robottom stated, "Good evening. Like most, we have been monitoring

Hurricane Michael very closely and although forecast to hit Florida as a Category 3 hurricane, we are beginning to feel the effects here locally. Strengthening easterly and southeasterly winds over the Gulf are leading to higher than normal tides of 1-3 feet and we are under a Coastal Flood Advisory through Thursday. Due to this, the Highway 51 low road is closed and we are seeing high water on Peavine Road. The current rainfall forecast is 1 inch throughout the event for southeast Louisiana however we could see higher rain amounts if any bands result in multiple storms passing over and short periods of heavy rainfall. We will continue to monitor this dangerous storm and send updates if necessary. Yesterday, we celebrated the beginning of the Motorist Assistance Patrol Program in St. John, St. Charles and St. James Parishes. DOTD Secretary Wilson's office, RPC Director Jeff Roesel, and State police joined us for the announcement that makes I-10 safer for all travelers by extending the program for 35 miles to the Sorrento/Gramercy exit. For those not familiar, the MAP program helps stranded motorists, clear freeways of minor accidents and assist stalled vehicles. They provide towing assistance, fuel, change flats and help protect first responders when working calls along interstate system. The service officially started on October 1<sup>st</sup> and during the first 5 days MAP responded to: 2 single vehicle and 6 multi vehicle accidents, 57 disabled vehicles and performed 153 services just in St. John Parish. From January 2017 through December 2017, MAP responded to 60,993 incidents and performed 140,690 services statewide. This is a much needed program and one that will help keep our motorists and first responders safe. We are excited to begin the program and even more excited that we do not have to pay a penny for the program which cost almost \$1 million annually. Residents can contact MAP by dialing \*LSP (577) from any phone. Please utilize this service for minor needs on the interstate. Of course, 911 remains available for emergencies. National Walk/Ride your Bike to School Day is Wednesday, October 10 at LaPlace Elementary School in the morning from 6:50 PM to 7:40 AM and at East St. John Preparatory Academy from 6:55 PM to 7:45 AM on Thursday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Safe Routes to Public Places, formerly Safe Routes to Schools is a national and international movement to create safe, convenient, and fun opportunities for children to bicycle and walk to and from school. St. John Parish received two grants totaling \$558,270 through the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development to execute the program. The full program includes an educational and safety component and construction of pedestrian sidewalks and crosswalks in the vicinity of schools and neighborhoods. Please join us. Last week, CAO LaVerne Toombs, Councilwoman Julia Remondet, Planning & Zoning Manager Rene Pastorek, and University of New Orleans Student Jennie Garcia made a presentation titled "Promoting Inclusiveness in Preservation Planning" at the annual conference of the Louisiana Chapter of the American Planning Association in Shreveport. The presentation detailed the work over the last several years to establish a comprehensive historic preservation strategy for the Parish and the Parish's recent designation as a Certified Local Government through the National Park Service. We received great feedback on the presentation. The 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Andouille Festival is next weekend at the Thomas F. Daley Memorial Park on Highway 51 in LaPlace. The festival will feature great food, music, and fun for all ages. The band lineup, craft and food lists can be found online at [www.andouillefestival.com](http://www.andouillefestival.com). This year's Kid's Tent will again feature arts, crafts, music and more all weekend. On Sunday, the Gospel Tent will be open for all attendees. Don't miss this exciting weekend in St. John Parish. Ride passes and posters are on sale at Dons, Greggs, Matherne's, the Edgard Courthouse and here at the Percy Hebert Building. Beat the lines and get your weekend or day ride passes at one of these locations. Also, Thomas F. Daley Memorial (Hwy 51) Park will be closed to allow for Andouille Festival preparations beginning this Friday. It will reopen after the Festival. This is for safety reasons and we appreciate the cooperation. For updates, you can "like" Andouille Festival on

Facebook, and on Instagram, or go to our website at [www.andouillefestival.com](http://www.andouillefestival.com). Information is also at our office and on the government access channel. Come out next weekend, October 19-21 for a Smokin' Good Time! The annual Pageant will take place this Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup> and the Baby and Junior Miss Pageant will take place Sunday, October 14<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are being sold at the St. John Theatre and Parish offices. The Sheriff's Office will hold the annual Night Out Against Crime on Tuesday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018. If you are hosting a party, please register your party with the Sheriff's Office by calling (985) 359-8753 or at [stjohnsheriff.org](http://stjohnsheriff.org) so that officers can come out and visit your location. Please participate in this great event that promotes community safety. Important elections are coming up and we don't want our community to miss out on the chance to vote. You can registrar at the Registrar of Voters Office in this building or on the Westbank at the Courthouse and online at [www.sos.la.gov](http://www.sos.la.gov). The deadline to register to vote for the 2018 General Election is October 16<sup>th</sup> - everyone 18 years and older who have not registered to vote, please do so. Early voting will take place Tuesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> - Tuesday, October 30<sup>th</sup> for the November 6<sup>th</sup> Open Primary/Congressional Election. You can early vote at the Registrar of Voters Offices at Percy Hebert Building in LaPlace and the Edgard Courthouse. Beginning November 5<sup>th</sup>, Parish services will be starting to transition over to the new Government Complex. Currently, all phone numbers are remaining the same. The first departments to move into the new complex will be Planning and Zoning and Utility Billing. Services should not be interrupted, however patience and cooperation is appreciated during the move. We will work to make the transition as smooth as possible however things do come up so again thank you in advance and we look forward to offering all parish services in a one-stop shop. We will also begin construction on a \$1.2 million Safe Room for emergencies and emergency responders in the next month or so. The site is next to the EOC in the space in front of the Council Office. Again, patience is requested during construction of this much needed facility. Thank you."

**ADJOURNMENT :**

At 9:20 PM, Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Malik seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilman Wright absent.

/s/Lennix Madere  
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche  
Council Secretary