

**AGENDA**  
**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH**  
**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017**  
**CHAIRMAN LARRY SNYDER**  
**VICE-CHAIR JACLYN HOTARD**

The Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session in the Joel McTopy Chambers, LaPlace, Louisiana on Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017 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, Thomas Malik, Councilman District VII, Jaclyn Hotard, Councilwoman-at-Large, Div. B

**ABSENT:** None

Councilwoman Remondet led the Prayer. Councilman Becnel led the Pledge.

Legal Counsel Keith Green, Jr., Geoffrey Michel, and Law Clerk Kennilyn Schmill were present.

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

*"Good Afternoon Council, on behalf of the public we wanted to ask you all concerning the agenda that if you all would make it clear that..."*

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, *"Hold up, would you state your name?"*

Shandrelle Perrilloux stated, *"On the behalf of the public, we would like to know if the council would consider after each item being presented on the agenda that you will allow out input before voting. Because the way that it's worded now it is limiting us to speak on your item that we don't have much detail on."*

Councilman Snyder stated, *"Thank you ma'am appreciate your input."*

Shandrelle Perrilloux stated, *"The request is for the council to consider to, it's not clear to public."*

Councilman Snyder stated, *"Well we got to get to that point, you got your 2 minutes and if you got anything else to say on that's fine you might have another minute or so."*

Shandrelle Perrilloux stated, *"Oh no that's all I just wanted to bring to your attention I'm not up my 2 minutes right? So that's what we want to know to make sure that we have a chance to respond back to each item."*

Councilman Snyder asked, *"Each item?"*

Shandrelle Perrilloux stated, *"On the agenda as it's relevant to the public, because the way that it is written the public is only, some of the public is under the impression that their voice is only allowed before the meeting. Last*

week that was a concern. A lady wanted to address about the water bill and was not aware she could have."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well, on the agenda items and what the agenda items pertaining to. And that was a report from the Parish President, the Parish President was absent last week so she didn't give a report. Ok so therefore, we may discuss that at that time, but other than that each item on the agenda, it don't pertain to what you want to speak about."

Shandrelle Perrilloux stated, "I don't think you understand what I'm asking. I think..."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Look you got 2 minutes, that's good. I'm sorry."

Shandrelle Perrilloux asked, "It's about 2 minutes?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Wait till we get to that point. Yes ma'am."

Shandrelle Perrilloux stated, "Ok, ok."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Thank you."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "Councilman Snyder if I may, have a comment. We're on public comment."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Ma'am?"

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I said we're on public comment. I'd like to have a quick comment."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Somebody got another comment?"

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I do."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yes ma'am."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Real quickly, I understand what you're saying, it does look and just for clarity we do open up every item on the agenda as well for public comment. But I do agree that it could appear that we only open it up in the beginning of the meeting. We could even add something to the agenda in parenthesis public can comment on the individual items, but we do open each item before we get to it, you'll hear Chairman Snyder do that before each item, Public Comment is Open, but I do agree on the agenda it appears if only you can talk in the beginning. So I wanted to just say that."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Thank you ma'am."

#### **INTRODUCTION OF BUSINESSES:**

Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to suspend the rules to move up the first item under New Business - Hugh Martin/Natalie Robottom Resolution - R17-39. The motion passed unanimously.

Natalie Robottom stated, "Excuse me, would you like to move the second one to?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Ma'am, both of them both of them. That's the one with

the Six Million Dollars (\$6,000,000) and the one with the One Billion Dollars (\$1,000,000,000) right?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Right, right. I think you only moved one, so I'm asking them to move both of them."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Oh you just asked for one?"

Councilman Wright stated, "I offer another motion to move up Hugh Martin/Natalie Robottom Resolution - R17-38."

Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to suspend the rules to move up the first item under New Business - Hugh Martin/Natalie Robottom Resolution - R17-38. The motion passed unanimously.

**Hugh Martin/Natalie Robottom - Resolution - R17-39 - A Resolution granting preliminary approval to the issuance of not exceeding One Billion Dollars (\$1,000,000,000) of Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana Revenue Refunding Bonds, in one or more series; applying to the State Bond Commission for approval of said Bonds; authorizing the publication of a Notice of Public Hearing, if required; and providing for other matters with respect to the foregoing**

Hugh Martin stated, "Thank you Chairman Snyder and thank you ladies and gentlemen for moving us up. A Resolution was just read to you is a request on behalf of Marathon Oil Company to do a refunding or refinancing of its outstanding GO Zone Bonds which were issued in 2007 after Katrina. Congress recognized after Katrina that the State of Louisiana as well as other states suffered some extreme damage and injury to the economy and adopted legislation which permitted parishes and the state to issue GO Zone Bonds for purposes of new construction and repairing the damage that was done during the Hurricane. Company was awarded One Billion Dollars (\$1,000,000,000) of these bonds and they were issued as I said in 2007. And these Bonds are issued by the Parish for the sole responsibility for repayment of the Bonds is the company. It guarantees the payment and also guarantees that the, and holds harmless the Parish from any and all liabilities and expenses. If you were one who bought such a Bond it would say so, on the face of the bond and all of the documents relating to the security of the Bonds all say the same thing. So the Parish is not out any money, but by endorsing these bonds, but the company does get a benefit in reduced interest rate from the bonds is tax free. This is only a first step in the issuance of the bonds. If you see fit to adopt this resolution this evening, application would be submitted to the State Bond Commission for authority to issue the Bonds. And once the authority is obtained, then it would, the company would come back with a financing plan to provide for the issuance of the bonds containing all the details and guarantees in those documents. It's to the advantage to the company to try and get this finished before the end of the year, and so the request is that we would proceed tonight with this step one. In a nut shell that these bonds have been out since 2007 and all of the agreements have worked very well, the Parish has, it's almost invisible because they worked so well and everything is automatic and paid off and it doesn't cause any upset to the parish. So the request is for that you adopt this resolution."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Thank you sir. Any input, can I get a motion?"

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Yes Mr. Hugh, last meeting I had with you we had a discussion, we were trying to borrow some money for water projects and you told me that we had to you could not..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "Mr. Sorapuru not this one. I think we got one coming up next if you got any questions on that. Well that's got nothing to do with that."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "But the question I want to ask you, do we have to consult a financial advisor with this type of implication?"

Hugh Martin asked, "With this type?"

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Yes."

Hugh Martin asked, "Not this particular type, for Marathon you mean?"

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Yes."

Hugh Martin stated, "Not this particular I do know."

Councilman Sorapuru stated "Ok and I just want to be clear on what's going on."

Hugh Martin stated, "A company of that size and organization has its own expert Financial Advisors."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Ok."

Hugh Martin stated, "So one is not needed."

Councilman Sorapuru stated "Ok."

Hugh Martin stated, "Right."

Councilman Sorapuru stated "Right, thank you."

Hugh Martin stated, "Yeah."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Alright, anyone else got any questions? Clarity, everybody understand what we're doing here? This is only the first step, we got a few more steps we got to go through but to try and get us started and get on schedule, that's why we decided to do this tonight. For my understanding I talked Mr. Hugh's and I talked with our District Attorney and I've talked with the Marathon people, this is only a first step. So we need to get this started since it's time sensitive."

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to approve Resolution R17-39. A resolution granting preliminary approval to the issuance of not exceeding One Billion Dollars (\$1,000,000,000) of Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana Revenue Refunding Bonds, in one or more series; applying to the State Bond Commission for approval of said Bonds; authorizing the publication of a Notice of Public Hearing, if required; and providing for other matters with respect to the foregoing. The motion passed unanimously.

**Hugh Martin/Natalie Robottom - Resolution - R17-38 - A Resolution giving preliminary approval to the issuance of not exceeding Six Million Dollars (\$6,000,000) of Taxable Sales Tax Bonds (DEQ) of St. John the Baptist Parish**

**Sales Tax District; providing certain terms of said bonds; making application to the State Bond Commission for approval of said Bonds; providing for the employment of professionals in connection with the Bonds; and providing for other matters in connection therewith**

Natalie Robottom stated, "This is the first step in securing funding in an amount up to \$6,000,000 through a low interest loan to address water meter or register issues. A final ordinance will be presented at a later date to set all terms and conditions of the Bonds. Delivery could take place as early as early as January of 2018 pending completion of the design process. This I think was an item that was brought up you'll find in addition to our Bond Attorneys' being here our Municipal or Financial Advisor Mr. Nambi Thompson is also here. This would be one where as a Parish we would be required to have a Municipal Advisor, so unlike the one that was just approved this one is slightly different. Attached to this document and Mr. Hugh will address further. I think there was a question about what would be the best rates and you will see Mr. Thompson actually put this chart together, showing our best option is to pursue the low interest loan from DEQ at the rate of .95%. Again we're not locked in to Six Million Dollars (\$6,000,000) it's for 6 up to \$6,000,000, we've been preapproved for that, the timeline is going as quickly as possible, but I did want to make sure everyone to knows it's not as simple as getting the money we still have to design to design a project. So, we want to start working on that very soon, however we can work on this simultaneously so Mr. Hugh and his firm can start the process for these bonds, but we will have to start on our end as well. So I'll turn it over to Mr. Hugh."

Hugh Martin stated, "Thank you. The comparison of the cost borrowing between DEQ or borrowing from a market over 10 years and over 20 years was prepared by your Financial Advisor and it shows clearly, cheapest way to go is DEQ. The Bonds are considered really sole it's just the paperwork has to catch up and can be done very quickly, we can have as was stated the delivery of the Bonds in January provided the engineering is at a point which is sufficient to be reviewed by DEQ and approved by them. If any questions about the Resolution, I'll be happy to try and answer them."

Councilman Snyder asked, "I just got one question I just, since I know very little about providing for the employment of professionals in connection with the Bonds; and providing for other matters in connection therewith. What does that mean?"

Hugh Martin stated, "Well that means you're hiring our firm, some of the professionals and Nambi's Firm."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I think we already have an agreement in place with Mr. Thompson's firm to serve as our Municipal Advisor it was approved by the Council, but that is already in place."

Hugh Martin stated, "Right and Section 4 of the Resolution, ratifies that."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Thank you Mr. Hugh."

Hugh Martin stated, "Thank you all very much we appreciate it again for moving us up."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Thank you for the gentleman and the lady, gentlemen coming down from Marathon we appreciate you showing your interest in this. Good

luck to you, see y'all on the 22<sup>nd</sup> or 24<sup>th</sup>."

Jackie Landeche stated, "24<sup>th</sup>."

Councilman Snyder stated, "24<sup>th</sup>."

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Remondet moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to approve Resolution R17-38. A resolution giving preliminary approval to the issuance of not exceeding Six Million Dollars (\$6,000,000) of Taxable Sales Tax Bonds (DEQ) of St. John the Baptist Parish Sales Tax District; providing certain terms of said bonds; making application to the State Bond Commission for approval of said Bonds; providing for the employment of professionals in connection with the Bonds; and providing for other matters in connection therewith. The motion passed unanimously.

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

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

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

Natalie Robottom read the proclamation for October as Fire Prevention Month.

**Natalie Robottom - Proclamation - Bicentenary of the Birth of Baha - October 22, 2017**

Natalie Robottom read the proclamation for Bicentenary of the Birth of Baha - October 22, 2017.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**ITEMS:** Approval of Minutes - September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017, Regular Meeting; Permit Approval - West St. John High School Homecoming Parade - Friday, 10/13/17 from Noon until 2:00 PM

**MOTION:** Councilman Becnel moved and Councilman Sorapura seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes - September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017, Regular Meeting; Permit Approval - West St. John High School Homecoming Parade - Friday, 10/13/17 from Noon until 2:00 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:**

**17-43** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance to amend St. John the Baptist Parish Code of Ordinances to create Chapter - Council Agenda Briefing - Each Tuesday preceding a regularly scheduled Parish Council Meeting there shall be a Council Agenda Briefing, at 2:30 p.m., in the Council Office, to provide good order and efficiencies in conducting business of the Governing Authority by determining the urgency and necessity of placing a particular item on the Council Meeting Agenda, to read as follows (L. Snyder)

Natalie Robottom stated, "We really didn't have much discussion on this and the previous item was removed and administrative if this is an attempt to circumvent the Home Rule Charter, obviously were opposed. But what I can say is; we are open to attending these meetings, there's a very specific email sent out about how the agenda should be developed, the content for it to meet the open meetings law,

it's been addressed in all of our orientations. However, the tone the tenor of these meetings have fallen off which is why we stopped. But, if they're useful we actually would love to be there, but they weren't and we're hoping that that changes because we submit our items, they're written as clear as they should be but that's not happening. I know there's a DA, ADA in attendance there but that hasn't changed, but I don't think it's been successful and some of my staff felt very badgered at those meetings, so that was the reason that they stopped attending."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Thank you Councilman Snyder, and just to give little bit of history on this and it's the Council pleasure let me just say that. But I wanted to give a little bit of history of where it'/agenda meetings started. In, I'd say right when I came in Joel McTopy was the Chairman at the time, 2004 he actually enjoyed, I'm doing this and so the intent of the time was; we needed to get everything to the newspaper in a timely fashion. It had to be sent by 2:30 I believe the day before, we had to get it a week before I mean. And so we said okay, we're going to have a meeting at 2:30 the Tuesday before the meeting and Joel was the Chairman at the time and so he ran what was called the Agenda Meeting. You know he actually started having them in EOC he liked this it was a big old fanfare thing. Well after a couple of years went by and practiced, the intent was always just to have the items on the agenda on a timely manner that was it. At then at some point they changed from meeting to briefing, because technically it's not a true meeting if you a meeting that has to be advertised to the public, and so we're where we are now. But the intent and the whole the spirit of even having an Agenda Briefing or whatever was only for the purpose of setting a deadline. Because what would happen is; you'd get items all you know on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, they missed the deadline they couldn't get into the paper. So that was the intent of this, to get them on the deadline. My thoughts on it have always been if you can't attend the briefing, often times there's discussion that takes place in the briefing, where is if you have an item on the agenda you're not there to even you know to listen to some of the discussion, because there is discussion that takes place at the briefing. On my particular items if I have gotten to the point where I got to place it on the agenda, I'm talking about it Tuesday night at 6:30 at the Council Meeting, so that's my approach for the items. I almost would like you know and often times when we have to put something on the agenda it's because we haven't been able to get it resolved, and what will happen is you put it on the agenda or you submit it to Jackie to get on the agenda and then you get a phone call about you know, not having it on the agenda this kind of thing, so I've always, I'll send my items if I have to put something I send it to Jackie, just put it on the agenda. It doesn't even have to make it at the agenda meeting at this point it's going on the agenda. But I just wanted to share the history, the intent was not to have a true meeting, if that's the pleasure of the council that's fine, but the whole purpose was to set a deadline, 2:30 the Tuesday before the meeting, if you don't get your item to the Council Secretary by that time, it won't get on the agenda. And we used to not amend you know the agenda all the time, of course things come up and you have to. But that was the whole intent of it, not to truly have a meeting and again like I said there's a lot of discussions that will take place in the agenda briefings or whatever you call it, and if you're not there you don't you know, you don't get the benefit of that discussion. But again, its council's pleasure, just wanted to share the history who started this and why it started. Thank you."

Councilwoman Remondet stated, "I just wanted to echo what Ms. Hotard said. It was a process in getting everything in on time that was the main concern getting it in on time. At one time the Council Secretary was part-time, so you had to get in

at a certain time when she was in the office to get it straight. But I think we've modernized things with emails and at the time if you faxed there were 20 people on one fax machine. So, I mean I would like to see us try it with no set briefing and see how it works. Does it improve it? Have our guidelines of what should make the agenda and not make the agenda and see how it goes. And change it later if we see a need for it, just to give it a shot. Thank you."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Yeah, yeah I agree because I don't want to have to force Administration. I've been to some of those meetings and I didn't, I choose not to attend because it just was a back and forth argument and I don't want to force them to go if they don't want to go. I can just say I can send these, what I'm going to put on the agenda, when I do put something I just call Jackie and put it on, and get that feedback from Administration or call them myself. But to force them to come to meeting, I'm not forcing them to go to a meeting, I don't want to force to go to an agenda meeting because that was a volunteer thing just to get information."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes and I've been to a few of them I haven't been in a while. But I'd like to correct something Administration said about when they went, they felt badgered or whatever. First of all, that's the council briefing/agenda meeting, okay it's the council agenda. To me it was more like administration was trying to dictate what was on those agenda's okay, instead of participating. So that's the badgering part I don't I disagree with that, I didn't see any of that. Okay first of all like I said; this the council agenda and not administration agenda, okay so you should have been there just getting information and not trying to possibly dictate what's on it or what's not, and what shouldn't be on it. Okay I didn't see any badgering, okay because once it's once again it's the council agenda meeting briefing."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Yeah, I've attended several meetings and I thought the meetings were very productive, whether I agreed with administration or administration agreed with me or anything else being discussed. But here it is, we are responsible for everything that goes on within this parish. And to me it sheds light on taking the opportunity to make things right. Have the right alignment, don't come up here and try to make an issue out of something we could have solved before it got on the agenda. Maybe the meetings should be more constructive towards, we don't have to put things on the agenda have that discussion at that time. If it takes an hour to do that, it let's do it. We're all grown adults, we all have responsibilities and we're all responsible for moving this parish forward. So I want to be in favor of continuing to have these meetings and think it should be mandatory that administration sit in on these meetings. Thank you."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "You said something, and we've been talking about this at retreats. Agenda items; we should discuss agenda items and we said what we wasn't going to do on agenda items but we're doing opposite of what we said. We fill the agenda items with 3 pages, well you said like you say, you can get a phone call, get a phone call and solve what you need and get back to your constituents say; hey this is what taking place, this is what's going to happen now. Now if you don't get any results as Ms. Hotard said, then we put it on the agenda, that's how we should do it. But I'm not going to sit and force them to come, I'm just going to leave it for volunteer basis I'm not forcing the, I'm not going to direct them to come to a meeting. I'm say leave it for a volunteer thing. So I can't support that as to force them to come to the meeting. It's the Council agenda meeting, but we are doing opposite of what we said we were going

to do in the retreat. So we got to follow our own rules before I demand what they do."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Thanks, and to add what to what Councilman Perrilloux said and to respond to what you said Councilman Sorapuru, the proper forum to discuss items, is right here! When the public is on notice, the public can attend, it's televised. At the agenda briefing we're calling them now, they're in the conference room if the public can't come at 2:00/2:30 it's not televised all of these things, and so, they probably are productive in a sense that you could talk about your items, but as far as having the discussion that we all benefit from and we're making decisions and the public participates in it, that's not really taking place at the briefing. And so, it's kind of like again what we said; if you're not getting resolved on an item and we do, that's how they get to the agenda, but if I'm not getting resolved on an item, I just want, I want to handle it at the council meeting. I don't, I've exhausted trying to handle it you know offline or on the phone or anything like that, and now I have to put it on the agenda. So I just want add that that really the proper forum to debate issues, is really an open meeting where the public does have the benefit of being able to participate in the discussion. Not that meeting with administration, at any point or calling them is not productive because I call and email all day long, but if it's an item that's not being resolved, I believe that you know the proper forum is to handle it at a council meeting so that you could put the residents on notice, you put administration on notice, the council on notice, hey look I want to discuss this item in an open council meeting. So I just wanted to add that."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes, I appreciate all the comments and it's good to hear different viewpoints, because we obviously have our own. We spend a lot time trying to put our items that we send to Jackie in a format that's clear and understandable, and our purpose I think for going to the meetings was to make sure that they were clear, at the agenda meeting. At some point it changed to; well you know oh we have the answer to that, so maybe you know we can just address it. Because we have encouraged you all, if you have a question, which are what some of these agenda items have, are, they're just a question. You can call, you can ask you can email, again, I know that sometimes yawl don't get a response, well then copy me on your email or your question, so I can make sure that you get a response. Again, it's not that we want to hide anything from public discussion, but some of these are just a simple question or some of them are not clear enough for us to bring the information to the meeting, so now we have to go back and find it, yet if you'd had called or let us know; hey this is what I'm looking for, then we could have been prepared. So our idea of doing these, you know I understand fully the place for the discussion is at the meeting. We would like for the items to meet the requirement and standard that we have discussed at retreats and that are part of the open meetings law of notifying the public exactly what you're going to speak on. But unfortunately I know what you said Mr. Madere, I haven't been to an agenda briefing in a long time. But I have people in the building telling me they can hear the yelling outside of the building, outside of the conference room. So you know it was becoming problematic, I don't have any problem with trying to resolve this issue. But to force well one, you're attempting to force me which you know I have you know a lot of things to do and basically what was happening is, we were having 2 hour agenda meetings and spending three at the council meetings. Now if we had an agenda meeting, that resolved most of the issues and then we got here and everything was fine, but we're spending double the time twice a week on the same things with not resolve and no clarity. So you know we're open to working with you, I implore the ADA who had some really good ideas in his email that we work

on that that we try to get to that, because there is a set of guidelines that determines what type of motions, what goes on the agenda, what's discussion versus an agenda item, you know what is business versus what is discussion. And you know I think the meetings would be more productive if we try to go that way. Most of the items that we put on are action items they require some type of action before we can move forward. So it's critical that it's clear to you before you get here what it is we're asking you to do. If we can work pass that, I think you know that's where we need to go, there is some question on finding people whatever, but it seems like you know most of the council members at least understand that should not be a forced meeting, and again we're not opposed to trying to work this out. But, I don't think my staff should be subjected to what they've been subjected to."

Councilman Madere stated, "Once again Ms. Robottom, you said that people told you they heard from the outside. Well, I'm the type of person I don't go by hear say, and have been to several of those meetings, like I said; I haven't been in a while and I've been in some meetings where we kind of disagreed on anything but, I never been to a meeting where it was that loud that it penetrated the walls, that people on the outside could hear what's going on..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "I meant outside the conference room."

Councilman Madere stated, "I understood what you said..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "And it did."

Councilman Madere stated, "I understood what you said, okay and that that does not happen."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yeah it did."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay and what did happen you understand, when we have these council meetings was more that the administration whoever you sent, was trying to dictate what the council was putting on, on the agenda and that's not what they're there for. When I have an item on the agenda, it concerns me and it concerns people in my District. Okay and I don't think anybody from administration have the right to try to alter it or change it. And that's where this agreement came in at, at some of those meetings. This is our council meeting, okay and when I put something on that agenda it's for myself, and the people in my district who I represent. Okay, now you may not like the format, you may not like what it is but it is what it is, and I represent my people. Okay and whatever I have on that agenda okay, if you don't understand it do what yawl always been doing, call! You call, if we're not clear. Okay but one thing I'm going to make clear, that I'm a put anything and everything that affects the people in my district on that agenda whether administration come or don't come. Okay like I said the disagreement wasn't about the agenda item, it was who was controlling what goes on the agenda. That's where the misunderstanding was, and if your people felt as though they were handled wrong, then they stepped over the line trying to say what goes on the agenda."

Councilman Wright stated, "Thank you, Ms. Hotard I think said it best to, and it is a briefing not a debate. I do appreciate administration's comments and willingness to work with us, and I do appreciate the councils' looking to move forward and Mr. Michel put together a great email and suggestions on what we can do on our end. So I think there's room for improvement on both ends, so I do look forward to resolving this. I would preferably like to see this outside of an

Ordinance first, and see what we can do and if we can get some productivity going, and we have to we can revisit."

Councilman Becnel stated, "Yeah, when I first started and I would put items on the agenda, it's like it worked both ways. Because like you said Mr. Madere, it's the constituent, right. If somebody calls me and say, I got an issue with speedbumps and I put it on there and I expect it going to be discussed at the council meeting. But sometime I would get a call and say; is there anything I can do and I'd say; I'll appreciate it to a certain extent. But still don't deny/deprive that person from coming here and speaking out, because it's just like we threw water and it right now and hopefully it goes away. These people been having that build-up in them for like 2 or 3 weeks or a month or whatever, but I'm just saying it works both ways sometimes y'all call and we might solve it on the spot. But I always did say; as long as I'm Councilman every tax paying citizen, if they want to get on the agenda they're going to get on the agenda at the council meeting. And that's the way I'm going to leave it."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Guys what I'm going to do here, I'm going to enforce/invoke parliamentary procedure (mean that we have an item here to vote on) and I'm going to stop all discussion. Ok? So we're going vote on this item, as far as parliamentary procedures concerned, we can do that. You can have only one discussion on parliamentary, if you want to really evoke this, we can have only one discussion on a voting item. Most of you have been around twice, am I right? Now, if someone hadn't spoken yet can speak other than that, I'm going to invoke that as parliamentary procedure."

Shandrelle Perrilloux stated, "Can you clarify for the public and I know yawl are speaking about placing on the agenda, one of the council members classified that he would only place his constituents on the agenda, and another councilman said; anybody in the parish can be placed on the agenda if they reach out to him, so the public needs clarification. What happens in the event if our council members are not in a timely manner able to respond to us, how are you going to handle that and address that to the public? We need clarification on that."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well, we don't have clarification tonight and we're talking about this agenda item right now..."

Shandrelle Perrilloux interrupting stated, "That is this agenda item."

Councilman Snyder stated, "No, no, I'm talking about this one as far as this what we're about to vote on right now. Ok?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "And you're going to clarify that for the public because..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting asked, "Clarify what, this agenda item?"

Shandrelle Perrilloux stated, "Yeah, what was said."

Councilman Snyder stated, "What they were saying was that; that whenever somebody in his District want to know something, and he'll put it on the agenda. And the other councilman was saying that anybody in his District, if they have an issue he's going to put it on there, and that's all it was. They both were saying the same thing."

Shandrelle Perrilloux stated, "Okay to get results, what are you all going to do

to invoke that, because he made a strong point."

Councilman Snyder stated, "This group here can put anything on the agenda they want."

Shandrelle Perrilloux asked, "Ok, yawl got that on the record?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Ma'am that's the law!"

Shandrelle Perrilloux asked, "Okay!"

Councilman Snyder stated, "That's our agenda. Okay!"

**MOTION:** Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Sorapuru seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 17-43. The motion failed with four (4) in favor and five (5) against.

**17-44** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the re-subdivision of the northerly 40 ft. of Lot 29 and the southerly 20 ft. of Lot 30, Block B, Englade Subdivision into Lot 29A, Block B, Englade Subdivision, located in the area generally bounded by the Illinois Central Railroad, Trigger Ln./East 29<sup>th</sup> St., Chad B. Baker St., and East 30<sup>th</sup> St., containing municipal addresses 214 Chad B. Baker St., Reserve, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana as shown in a survey prepared by Stephen P. Flynn, P.L.S. on June 19, 2017. (PZS-17-1171) (N. Robotom)

Alex Carter stated, "On September 18, 2017, the Planning Commission unanimously recommended approval of this request. Administration recommends approval."

**MOTION:** Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Sorapuru seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 17-44. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Chairman Snyder, before we move on if I may have the floor for a moment to remedy an item from the last meeting, if I may."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yes ma'am you got it."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Ok, just for clarity purposes at the last meeting we actually took up an item that was incidentally removed off of the agenda, that we need to correct that and just to give a 30 second snap shot of what happened for the public to know. We had an item on the agenda, it was Ordinance #17-39 to amend Ordinance 11-52, Sale of Adjudicated Property, at the time Administration recommended leaving the ordinance on the table it was table in supported renewing an expired CEA. At that I offered a motion which Councilman Perrilloux seconded it to go ahead and renew the expired CEA, that passed unanimously and then Legal Counsel accurately made me aware that the CEA was actually not on the agenda, the ordinance was, and so we withdrew the motion and the second. There were a couple of questions at the time about how do we dispose of the original motion, and I made the comment that if there wasn't a motion, a second the motion had failed, it appeared as if maybe the motion had died, I offered an inquiry to administration is to how to go ahead and edit the ordinance so that it would pass and there was the request for some time to make some changes. And procedurally the ordinance at the time, was only introduced and so you couldn't make changes to the ordinance because it hadn't been approved. It's like trying to amend something that's not technically a law. And so, it seemed like in the confusion there was the idea that it had failed because there was no motion and second. And so the original ordinance was never offered for a motion, it was unintentionally removed from the agenda, and so in the spirit of clarity, I will motion to add it

back, but legally it should have not been removed. But just so that we clear up everything and I look back at the tape again today, because it wasn't even clear from the minutes as to what happened, and that's kind of how it took place. The recommendation was made to approve one piece, table the other we approved it, but the CEA wasn't on the agenda but again, the recommendation to make the amendments we couldn't even do that it was Mr. Snyder's ordinance, so any changes would have to come from him, okay? So my motion right now is to go ahead and correct our agenda if you will, to add back Ordinance 11-39 - the ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 11-52, Division 2 - Sale of Adjudicated Property. The Ordinance was actually properly placed on the agenda for several meetings, so this isn't a new item or an out of sequence item and again it was on the table at the last meeting, taken off so technically it's still a live item. At this time Councilman Snyder it is your Ordinance, I'll yield to you it's your pleasure, but that's my motion. Let's go ahead and correct the agenda for the record."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I have just a clarity I guess because yawl took it out, y'all renamed one of these other ones or y'all took it off? Y'all went to 40 and 39 is that 38, so 39 is missing, so y'all went from 38 to 40 and took out 39? Is that what happened?"

Jackie Landeche, Council Secretary stated, "No, this is Ordinance 17-39."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Right we actually covered Ordinances 17-38 with Mr. Hugh and 17-40 and..."

Jackie Landeche stated, "That's resolutions with Mr. Hugh."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Ok, I'm sorry. But I do have a question, and I wasn't at the meeting. But it's my understanding based on our meeting with the District Attorney's Office and our other partners that; we were going to extend this CEA and work on another one to make sure that all of our items or issues were addressed and I thought we were going to do the same thing with our ordinance, to make sure that everything was covered. Was that not the discussion? Because again both of those were created without necessarily speaking with administration and administratively our Planning & Zoning Office and our Finance Office had some questions or concerns, and I think we all made some suggestions that we thought would work, but that weren't initially included in the documents."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Just to answer that for procedural, Chairman I'd like to go ahead and just vote, because we technically haven't placed the item on the agenda, and then to answer the question, it is Councilman Snyder's ordinance, so any changes to the ordinance would have to be initiated through Councilman Snyder. Once an ordinance is approved, then you can introduce and ordinance to an ordinance but until an ordinance is technically on the book, that's law, you can't amend what's not there. But if there are changed I would yield that over to Councilman Snyder, but first let's vote to put this on there."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Its Ordinance 17-39?"

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Have everybody had a chance to read it am I right? Everybody had a chance to read it and understand what it's all about? It only set the ground work our handling Adjudicated Properties. And it's up to this Council to determine exactly how we're going to do that, and in the ordinance it explains if the administration, if we decide to let administration do it for the steps you

need to go through to get it done. If we need to get a third party to do it, the steps we need to get it done. And if we decide to get another inter-government agency to do it, the steps are written down, so it's just up to us. Once this thing is passed, then it's in our hands to determine exactly how we want it done to take care of our Adjudicated Properties and that's all this is. That's all this is. Alright, any questions?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "I'd like to add to that, and..."

Councilwoman Hotard interrupting stated, "Wait just for procedurally it's not on the agenda yet, let's just vote to put it on the agenda and then we can formally discuss it."

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Remondet seconded the motion to correct the agenda and add back Ordinance 17-39. The motion passed unanimously.

**17-39** (Public Hearing Held) (Tabled 09-12-17) An ordinance to amend Ord. 11-52, "Division 2 - Sale of Adjudicated Property" of the St. John the Baptist Parish Code of Ordinances by changing the title to "Division 2 - Disposition of Adjudicated Property" and by providing for a legally compliant and consistent process and procedure for St. John the Baptist Parish to legally dispose of properties that have been adjudicated to the Parish for at least five (5) years from the date that the *Certificate of Adjudication* was filed in the official land records of the Clerk of Court for St. John the Baptist Parish. (L. Snyder)

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Thank you. Just for point of clarification so we understand; if there's any changes that you would like to make to this ordinance it's your ordinance, that's your pleasure, the council can approve it, administration can offer amendments at the next meeting, or again Councilman Snyder, you can you know."

Councilman Snyder stated, "As long as we don't change the intent to some degree, I'll just net anything with this motion. But, it's written right there exactly what we're trying to do and what we want to do. If you got something to do with that, some questions on that, I'll listen at anything, If not..."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I have something. I think the meeting was productive, I think the ordinance adds one additional option that wasn't in the previous ordinance. And because some most of you were not there and there appears to be some misunderstanding that possible we want to do it, we don't! Okay? We like the way it's being done out of our office, however; there were steps placed in these CEA's and Ordinance directing Administration to do things without input from administration or not knowing what is our current process. So we're fine with it staying with the DA, but we want to input any procedure that involves us because nobody up here or there knows what our current procedure is and how it would fit in that procedure. So again, we have no problems with y'all adding that the DA is an option as it wasn't in the previous ordinance. So it can be done by a third party administrator, it could be done by administration and I think you added a governmental entity and we're fine with that. However, the references that are put in there in terms of what we will be doing, we wanted to discuss and have some input in because what was currently taking place, kind of left all the other entities out and we were having some problems. But I do think the meeting was productive, we all came up with ideas to keep us all connected, but that wasn't reflected in the documents that were prepared without our input. Now on the CEA that was just approved, did we have a new one because the dates are old? Are we going to have to change that, because it has expiring August 2015? So how do y'all want or do we need a new document or we just going to do a cover sheet to

*extend the expired one for 4 months?"*

Councilman Snyder stated, *"It would be retroactive."*

Councilwoman Hotard stated, *"It was 4 months, a 4 month extension of the original term."*

Natalie Robottom stated, *"From ok."*

Councilman Snyder stated, *"Right."*

Natalie Robottom asked, *"So we have to draft the document to do that?"*

Councilman Snyder stated, *"No."*

Councilwoman Hotard stated, *"It's already drafted. It's in here."*

Councilman Snyder stated, *"It's already drafted we're using that. That's the date on it, retroactive."*

Natalie Robottom stated, *"I'm sorry. What I'm reading here is that one of the WHEREAS statements says; that it was effective August 12, 2015 and it terminated August 11, 2015. So I'm thinking that's an error."*

Councilwoman Hotard asked, *"And he said it's the amendment to extend it."*

Natalie Robottom asked, *"Ok, did y'all want to change this incorrect date?"*

Councilwoman Hotard (turned to Keith Green, Jr.) stated, *"She said the date is incorrect."*

Natalie Robottom stated, *"Because it's ending after it started."*

Councilwoman Hotard stated, *"Yeah those at the top. The original expired, it says the 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at the top, and then in the WHERAS, I believe refers to the actual original CEA, it expired on 17 and so the reference from the CEA says; 4 month extension from the original term which expired August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017. So it would be 4 months on top of August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017."*

Natalie Robottom stated, *"Ok, unless I'm reading, it's the second WHEREAS, third WHEREAS, date correct? Oh we're good, we're 4 months from the 17<sup>th</sup> of August."*

**MOTION:** Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 17-39. The motion passed unanimously.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Councilman Madere stated, *"I'd like to make a motion that the council accept the results of the finance committee."*

**MOTION:** Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to accept the results of the finance committee. The motion passed unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

There is no old business.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Natalie Robottom - Resolution - R17-40** - A Resolution authorizing the Parish President to execute any and all documents in connection with the amended Hurricane Isaac Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Parish Recovery Proposal

Natalie Robottom stated, "To allow the Housing Authority to move forward with the Garyville Redevelopment project, this resolution is needed to finalize allocation of \$2.25 million for a total of \$5.45 million in CDBG funds. The project is on track to close in January of 2018 and is tentatively scheduled for completion in January of 2019. The resolution was approved by the Office of Community Development and Administration recommends approval."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Ok, I got one question. This is just pull down another 2.25 Million Dollars from a lot of the money? Did we get a report from the Housing Authority on how things are going and where we're spending this money at?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "They actually haven't spent any. They're still finalizing their design, I think they submitted to the parish and the parish engineer who's actually reviewing the document, you guys may have gotten a report, however, I think Alex is working or will be working with Mr. Savoie's office for some additional information, but you guys should of received a report from our parish engineer, because he did review the document. That would have been within the last month."

Councilman Snyder asked, "What was he reason for reviewing the documents?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "As our parish engineer he reviews all commercial and you know structure plans submitted through Planning & Zoning, you know like he typically does. You get a report on something he approves that needs a back-flow preventer, you know it his review."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yeah he got a list of a couple of things I think he looks through most of it things like that, water connection, gas connection, light connection."

Natalie Robottom stated, "And so, he was reviewing their plan for that, I think the report is dated September 29th, 2017, so they are working through the process, they haven't started the building, they're getting approval for the project."

Councilman Snyder asked, "So in other words it's going to be 5 point something million dollars that they're going to be pulling down, so that's sitting in the bank some place?"

Natalie Robottom stated "Actually it's still with the state, yes."

Councilman Snyder asked, "With the state?"

Natalie Robottom stated "Yes."

Councilman Snyder asked, "What about this other three million dollars?"

Natalie Robottom stated "It's still there to. They haven't actually started taking any of it down. Originally I think, they were trying to do a much larger

*project then they were applying for some tax credits and so this has been going for a while. And what they ended up doing was scaling the project back somewhat to fit the dollar they had, and this was part of that. So the project, this is the Garyville Redevelopment Center, we can probably Alex can get you copies of the plan but I know it's in the process, Mr. Savoie recently reviewed what was sent to him, it's not finalized yet, but they are trying to get to that point."*

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "Does that include the partnership, the joint venture with Columbia? Is the Housing Authority on their own or with Columbia?"

Natalie Robottom stated "Yes, well they're with Columbia that is their project. Columbia is helping steer them through this, so most of the submittals are coming from their partner Columbia, but it's with authorization from the Housing Authority."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Ok, alright thank you."

**MOTION:** Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Sorapuru seconded the motion to approve Resolution R17-40. A resolution authorizing the Parish Present to execute any and all documents in connection with the amended Hurricane Isaac Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Parish Recovery Proposal. The motion passed unanimously.

**Larry Snyder - Resolution - R17-41** - A Resolution imploring the St. John the Baptist Parish Congressional Delegation to continue with unrelenting resolve, to vehemently push for approval of the West Shore Lake Pontchartrain Levee Project, by providing the portion of federal funding needed to initiate and complete local development of levees, flood walls, and pump stations, for the protection of St. John the Baptist Parish homes, businesses, and industries from storm surge created by high flood waters, tropical depressions, and/or hurricanes, and neighboring parishes' improved coastal flood protection infrastructures

Natalie Robottom stated, "I think we pulled, we did approve a similar Resolution 17-29, which I think it was kind of after we had our bond issue approved and we wanted to make sure they were aware you know we have our funds, they need to start getting theirs together. So we did just recently send one, but if you guys want to send another one that's fine, but I did want to take the opportunity to say, in addition to these resolutions we need some help. So if you guys want to do some other things, our business owners, anybody, other elected officials, I know the Sheriffs' not here tonight but he was here during the storm, and the shear threat and fear and constant worrying about title influence is wearing on us as well as our residents, our business owners. So if there's other things that you guys can do, the resolution has already gone there, and I know we did, we're fortunate enough to have Congressman Graves come and meet with the staff, talk about some other opportunities outside of just the federal funding, but we have to we have to figure out a way to do this, so I don't that another resolution is going to do help, but we have to do something else but they already have received a resolution imploring them to fund our construction of this project."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Yes thank you, and I had a discussion with Mr. Snyder on this a few days ago and we had a meeting. You hit the nail on the head Ms. Robottom, because what we need to do and this an Economic Development opportunity to, so Mr. Jones you can listen to. Because we need to get our industry Marathon, Denka, DuPont, Stockhausen, Nalco, Bayou Steel, get with their CEO's and Plant Managers and get their lobbyist's in DC to help us out with this. That's the kind of task force we need to get some of this money from them, because us passing and sending paperwork up there it's not doing it. We got to

get those people involved to say why we need this levee protection in St. John Parish, because they all play a part in these industries because we need their people to come run these businesses, these industries. So and they got the lobbyist in D.C. already, they can help us get this funding and getting this levee. So I think that's the route we need to go and get this task force moving along with this Council and the Parish President and the Sheriff and the Assessor, we can get that going and then let's march down and let's go and try and get this going."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yes the school board also sent a Resolution in and I think a couple weeks pretty much the same thing to the same group here. And that kind of prompt me to thinking about doing this like this, it doesn't matter whether how many resolutions we sent but we got to do something, we can't just sit with our hands sitting on our hands and don't do anything okay. It won't cost us a dime, we all can fly up there you know and take about ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) out the parish money and go up there and fly and talk to these same people, so let's you know that's my reason for getting a resolution together and if we need to go up there, then we'll send our delegation up there if we need to go up there. That's what I got to say, thank you."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Thank you, any further comments from the council? I'll just add I do appreciate the resolution, I think it's a good idea and Butch I think that's also an excellent idea. Because you're right, they've got much more buying and bargaining power than we do industry, so they have a lot more to protect and this is a good start of it you know to send another resolution up there, but also I do like that idea. We do need to bring some of those folks, we have that bargaining power to the table and can move folks in D.C. quicker than we can. I appreciate that."

**MOTION:** Councilman Snyder moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Resolution R17-41. A resolution imploring the St. John the Baptist Parish Congressional Delegation to continue with unrelenting resolve, the vehemently push for approval of the West Shore Lake Pontchartrain Levee Project, by providing the portion of federal funding needed to initiate and complete local development of levees, flood walls, and pump stations, for the protection of St. John the Baptist Parish homes, businesses, and industries from storm surge created by high flood waters, tropical depressions, and/or hurricanes, and neighboring parishes' improved coastal flood protection infrastructures. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS**

Alex Carter stated, "Good Evening Council, there are a couple of things Administration would like to make you guys aware of. I think we've had a lot of calls from the public regarding three (3) particular items: Roseau Cane Scale, the Maurapas, Hope Canal Diversion, and Historic District Commission and their formation thereof. So I'd to give you guys just an update on those three (3) things so that everybody is on the same page about what exactly we're dealing with. So with regards to the Roseau Cane Scale, this is an invasive insect that attacks Roseau Cane and causes die-offs. When the Roseau Cane dies a land is lost to open water. And this decreases our ability to withstand storms and flood events. The insect in the acres are the Manchac area of St. John and in ten (10) other Louisiana Parishes. The LSU Ag Center has started a research effort to track the insect, prevent its spread, and find possible insecticides or other ways to combat the insect in cane die-off. The LSU AG Center is in need of funds to pay for this research, and has the support of CPRA the Governor's Office of Coastal Affairs, the Louisiana Congressional Delegation and LA PACE. However,

they still need approximately a hundred and fifty-one thousand dollars (\$151,000) to help further their research. St. John can contribute to this effort by allocating funds, the suggested amount is ninety-five hundred (\$9500) and that's supporting the AG Center, their research. So we're going to be putting something on the agenda for next council meeting, a Resolution for that amount, but we wanted to make sure you guys understood exactly what the Roseau Cane Scale was, and how it was affecting our parish and other parishes in Louisiana."

Councilman Snyder asked, "What's the name of that insect again?"

Alex Carter stated, "It's called the Roseau Cane Scale. There's a scientific name that I'm not even going to attempt say, but what I can do is forward you this information so you have it available and handy, should you have any questions from the public."

Councilman Snyder asked, "You said ninety-five hundred dollars (\$9500)?"

Alex Carter stated, "Ninety-five hundred (\$9500), so nine thousand five hundred (\$9,500), a little less than ten grand (\$10,000)."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Mr. Snyder."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yes ma'am."

Natalie Robottom stated, "On the Roseau Cane again, we kind of had a head start on you guys, but that is what is out there in the marsh that helps prevent storm surge. So they found it out in Manchac and our area but they found it throughout the coast, so it's important that we deal with this issue because it's eating away one of our last defenses to storm surge and they did locate some in St. John Parish. They tried to make request and a lot of the other parishes where it was detected are also participating. And I think in addition to our ninety-five hundred dollars (\$9500), we are also going to provide some use of our fire department's drone, so an in kind donation, so it may have been more money had we not you know had that ability, but it is something that's new, CPRA did make an allocation to them a larger one but they needed additional money so they went to the parishes, but I think it's something important. Alex has been working on the Resolution, it is something that all of our parishes that it was detected in or concerned about and I wasn't, you'll did send it last week, right? But you weren't able to make."

Alex Carter stated, "We weren't able to make to the meeting last week, so we'll push it to this week, and I can send you guys this information and also the map that has all the locations in Southern Louisiana that have detected the Roseau Cane Scale, at this point it's only affecting like, Roseau Cane in the marsh areas, right? It's not affecting commercial, sugar cane crops inside of parishes so we don't you know cause any alarm, but it is affecting areas in the wetlands and having large die-off that can affect the affect their ability to prevent against storm surge."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Oh yeah! Okay, question to that. This Roseau Cane, is that the insect or is that what's attacking?"

Alex Carter stated, "That is the cane. So the Roseau Cane is the marsh cane, the actual plant, the species of the plant. The scale is the insect."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Everybody understand that, great, good, alright."

Alex Carter stated, "All of our fishermen are aware of this. They're the ones that are seeing it die-off or calling into the office and talking to Coastal Zone Advisory, Board Members we just briefed to them on the October 4<sup>th</sup> meeting, so we wanted to make sure the public and also the council was updated on this item."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Good, you said we'll have something next council meeting, right?"

Alex Carter stated, "Yes. The next item was the Maurapas and the Hope Canal Diversion. I'm sure you all have seen that CPRA has awarded a \$14.2 Million Dollar Grant from the restore council, to complete the engineering and design activities for the Mississippi River Reintroduction into Maurapas Swamp. This is a fresh water settlement diversion project that will divert water through a 5 mile Covance Chanel in Garyville to the Maurapas Swamp. The water and the settlement would nourish the swamp forest area and counter act subsidence and salt water intrusion, the Maurapas Swamp functions as a buffer to hurricanes and floods and serves a critical ecological and recreational function. And I think the key take away here and we had the project manager with CPRA at our last Coastal Zone Advisory Committee. The key take away is that this isn't designed as drainage project. So can't do..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting asked, "Make sure you said that. You said isn't?"

Alex Carter stated, "IS NOT, IT'S NOT A DRAINAGE PROJECT. I want to be very clear because there is some confusion with the public about what exactly this project is designed to do. And CPRA is really about Coastal Restoration, right and settlement Reintroduction and building fortifying the swamp areas and I think everybody needs to be clear that it's not that it wasn't thought of, but you can't do both. You can't do drainage and settlement diversion in the same project, the design to just won't function to achieve both goals. And so this was always designed as a settlement diversion and should you all have questions or the public has questions I would say; divert them to Planning & Zoning, and I'll send you guys Brad Miller, he is the Project Manager on this with CPRA. It's not a parish project, I think that's another important point to make, this is a CPRA Project that's funded through Restore. So, while we will try to answer questions as best as possible, it may be most appropriate to talk with Brad. So I'm going to send you guys his contact information if you have questions or the public has questions, that's going to be the most efficient way to address them."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes and this has been going on for a long time. This project has been talked about, they've had public hearings. I think it was sometimes between '04 and '07 that I knew about it, but obviously they didn't have funding to continue the project but, with the Restore being very restrictive, you can only use those dollars on these kinds of projects. The state's master plan included this as a project, but it's been years in the making, and finally some funding has just recently been allocated. As Alex said, it is a CPRA Project our Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Project, they did send out an announcement recently, saying that the project moved forward just for informational purposes, it's along the same alignment with our levee, we had a big meeting early on, it's Pin Oaks, it's diversion and then the levee, we're concerned with a conflict with the footprint, all the entities got together obviously avoiding any type of conflict, but this is something that is a diversion, they're doing several around the state, trying to build back up some of our marsh area and wetlands."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Good, questions? Mr. Sorapuru."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "As far as the funding..."

Councilwoman Hotard interrupting stated, "If I will just point of order really quickly. This is just a department report and it's not an agenda item, so I just don't want us to...we've already kind of overextended budgetary request and things like that, this is just a department report."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Great, you got any questions?"

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "But is the funding tied to the Louisiana Save Project? Is that tied to the funding with Louisiana Save?"

Alex Carter stated, "It's different it's different."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Ok."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Alright what's the other one you got?"

Alex Carter stated, "The last item is just on the Historic District Commission. So it's just for the public's reference because we have been getting questions about when these applications are incoming, when we're going to start meeting, and I think we just want to clear the air and just note that as per Ordinance 17-27; Administration and/or Council are asked or tasked with appointing seven (7) members to Historic District Commission with the ability to review proposals, within the established Historic Districts and make determinations as to the appropriateness. And so in preparation for such appointments, Council Members have been encouraged to attend Historic District Commission Meetings in other parishes, so there was on October 5<sup>th</sup> in the City of New Orleans, there will be one on October 18<sup>th</sup> in the City of Hammond, and again on Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup> in the City of Mandeville, and this is just to help you guys to get a sense of what these meetings are going to entail, so that when you choose your commission member you sort of know what they're getting themselves into. Administration also request that the Council move forward with the appointment of Commission Members no later than November 14<sup>th</sup>, and that's a Council Meeting in order to embark on the Commissions meeting's schedule which we anticipate beginning in November or early December. So the public is really asking, you know when are these going to start. So that's the timetable, we just want to let everyone know what we're attending meetings in other parishes right now to make sure we get this right, and that we anticipate the commission in starting sometime in November or early December."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Thank you very much. Appreciate it, Alex."

Jerry Jones stated, "Good Evening Council and St. John the Baptist Parish. The festival is set to take place from Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017 in true Southeast Louisiana Style. This year's festival will include a 2<sup>nd</sup> Line Parade which will be on Sunday, the Andouille Run, Dang Douille Eating Contest, the Andouille Gumbo Cook-off and more at the St. John the Baptist Parish Community Center located at 2900 Highway 51 in LaPlace. The following events will take place Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 PM to Midnight, it will be our \$1.00 night again, if you bring a can good and adults will get in for \$1.00. Friday night and Saturday will have our RTC Furnishings Football Fan Zone for those who enjoy football, the tent will be used to highlight football games that are going on throughout South Louisiana. Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM to Midnight, will once again be the RTC Home Furnishing Football Fan Zone, the Gumbo Cook-off, the cooking demonstrations, Dang Douille Eating Contest, the Children's Art Tent, and

Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017, 11:00 AM to 9:00 PM will be the Annual Andouille Run, the Gospel Tent, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Line Parade and once again the Children's Art Tent. We're asking that if you need any additional information from the public to either call our department, our office or access the website at [www.andouillefestival.com](http://www.andouillefestival.com) or look on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/andouillefestival](https://www.facebook.com/andouillefestival). Our sponsorship goal, you might not know that, Councilman Madere always loves to hear this particular number; our sponsorship goal amount this year was \$100,000. We are right now with the numbers reported, we're at 98 for certain, but we feel comfortable that we're going to easily cross over the \$100,000 sponsorship. And no, we didn't call Tom Benson."

**Larry Sorapuru/Kurt Becnel - (Tabled 09-12-17) Request for a Water Bill Payment Center on the Westbank**

The above item will remain on the table.

**Lennix Madere - (Carry Over 09-26-17) Update from Parish President on recent DEQ meeting**

Natalie Robottom stated, "Other than the meeting, I think it was in July that was held. There hasn't been any other recent meetings regarding Denka, as a result of that meeting, which was not our meeting and wasn't a public meeting, information was released to the public and to the school system. I could read kind of what's on here, it was basically there were concerns about opening 5<sup>th</sup> Ward School, there were physicians and medical physicians, and people were asked, you know is there some concern, it was very clear in the meeting that they were not concerned about opening school, which is why they wanted to put this out and that question is answered in their flyer that they thought it was safe to go to school. They updated us on the progress of what Denka was actually doing to meet their administrative order which they were moving along and seeing some results, which there's a graph that was showing those results. Again, this is all old it's from July, however, they also had not at the time but committed to creating a DEQ/EPA website, and that has been completed at <http://deg.louisiana.gov/page/denka>. So they provide regular updates on that website. I/we did talk to Dr. Brown about coming to make a presentation because they are the ones who are monitoring the progress, originally he was scheduled to come on October 24<sup>th</sup>, however, he's going to be out of time and asked to be placed on the agenda for November 14<sup>th</sup>."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes, I'd like to make a comment. I put this on the agenda several meetings ago, and the information that you just gave to the council is very similar to what I wanted to be said 3 meetings ago. But instead, You sort of gave a presentation and update as to what happened in that meeting, since I was not there myself physically to hear the information. So my whole intention was to give the council an opportunity to hear from you, what you heard from Chuck Brown. Okay, like you basically did just now and told us what the main purpose of the meeting was. Okay, it's unfortunate that it had to take 3 or 4 meetings to get this out. Okay, I knew you were out of town, but you have had individuals before give presentations or give that type of information. But all I was getting was; go to the website, go to this, go there. Okay, that's not what I was asking for. And maybe if we attend some of these agenda meetings or we pay attention in the meeting, they would have known what I was asking for. It basically was a semi-presentation of what you just gave, instead of just telling me and this council to go to a website. That's what I asked for, a simple presentation of what you was first hand able to hear, and understand and ask questions that I was not there for. So I just wanted a firsthand presentation

from you as to what went on and what happened and I wanted you to give it to the council like you just did. Okay you gave some detail, but if there was any more detail, that's what I was looking for. But at those meetings that you were not here, I kept getting refer to the website, go to the website go to the website, and that's where I got frustrated and said, I'm not going to a website, I asked for a presentation."

**Larry Sorapuru - (Tabled 09-26-17) Update from DOTD on culvert under Airline Hwy at Granier Blvd**

**MOTION:** Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Sorapuru seconded the motion to remove Update from DOTD on culvert under Airline Hwy. at Granier Blvd. from the table. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "And I would just like to remove that item."

Jackie Landeche asked, "Oh you just want it removed from the agenda?"

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Yes cause we're going to put it back we got to reword it. So, just remove it."

**Lennix Madere/Larry Sorapuru - Update on drainage on E. 24<sup>th</sup>, E. 26<sup>th</sup>, E. 27<sup>th</sup> Street, Chad B. Baker, Melius Drive and all Railroad crossings**

Brian Nunes stated, "I have an update from this received during this meeting. The gas company has completed all the relocations that were required for the installation of these culverts and the last 200 feet of pipe will be completed by next Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup>. So that project will be substantially completed, there will still be some clean-up work, there will be some grass work things of you know that nature, but the installation should be done by next Friday. As far as the railroad issue, Kansas City Southern has recently cleaned culverts along their railroads, specifically in the Homewood area, and any additional cleaning request will be forwarded to the railroad companies. If you have questions about the project, I have the design engineer here if there are other issues I'd be happy to listen."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes okay, before this project is ended they had a lot of individuals that was given to you, names, address and things that had to be done before y'all get out. Have any of those things been taken care of?"

Merrill Pollach, Buchart-Horn stated, "Good Evening, yes they have been completing some of those items, I don't have an exhausted list of which ones complete and which ones still need to be completed. But before the project is finally complete, we will make sure all of the punch list items have been addressed."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay I know there was some additional ones I gave to Ms. Robottom, that been added to the list to?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes I spoke directly to the company, some of them were you know they were familiar with all but I think one of them and their commitment was to get those done working with Merrill. But I did share all of them, the names and addresses."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay now at the last meeting, they had a response concerning the worker that we had the problem with and they said it was going to be addressed, information was going to be given to me, I've never received that

information."

Brian Nunes stated, "The understanding that I got from talking with the contractor directly, was that he was going to reprimand the employee and put something in his personnel file, I never received a copy of that letter but that's what I was told was going to be done."

Councilman Madere asked, "So administration was satisfied with that?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Actually I think you shared with me your concerns, I called the company and then again, within our boundaries we all have a responsibility. I can't dictate somebody else's employees, however, we expressed your concerns, we tried to get all the issues resolved, I think he was aware of some of your initial complaints because he may have been in the neighborhood and I think all we can do is make those recommendations to the owner of the company. Merrill works with us, he can't control the contractor who the low bid's employees, but we did follow-up with the concerns and expected a change. Now when I spoke with the owner, I guess because the project was almost completed and their staffing was limited and he wanted to finish the project, and couldn't afford necessarily get rid of his employee because he's not that big a company, so then we couldn't finish our project. So with regard to dictating to someone else how they discipline or manage or fire or terminate their employees, I don't think that's within our scope or in our authority to do that. However, you're concerns were expressed on more than one occasion in writing, I think these guys addressed them as well, and more importantly we were trying to get resolved the issues that remained ongoing like the catch basins, the fence, the survey and the things that actually were something that could be done."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay now regarding all that what you said about the catch basins and everything. I didn't have a problem with catch basins, I had a problem with an individual person working there. Now here are some of the problems I have; okay I'm just now been told that we don't have better authority to tell someone how to handle their employee, okay but they're not working for free, we're paying them. So they are basically our employee, okay we just recently put out application for part-time employees okay and we want them to be communicating with the public and everything else and be respectable to the public. Okay these people that's coming work in this parish, they're not working for free okay we expect the same thing. We expect the same thing okay, and the fact that they're a small company have no baring. No baring, on what the results should have been, he should have been removed..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "Talk about drainage."

Councilman Madere stated, "It's on drainage, because that's something, if anything would have happened out there, any type of fight, okay this parish is going be the one that's going to have to foot that lawsuit. And I think someone in administration or someone had the authority to simply tell that guy, put him somewhere else. Put him somewhere else."

Natalie Robottom asked, "Well can we ask legal if we have the authority to, a legal opinion on whether or not we have the authority to direct a private company whose low bidder's employees?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Ms. Robottom, let me tell you something. Regardless to what legal tell me here, that's our project and we if we got one employee there that's disrespecting people in our district, you got every right to do it, he

didn't ask for to be fired, he was asking to have him moved out and put someone else there. You understand that? Now, I've had issues in my district...

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "That's what he asked me, he asked me to have him fired."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "I didn't ask you to have him fired."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Hold up, hold up. I have an in my district with some other people with the garbage people, someone being disrespectful to an old lady. You know what they did? They kicked him off the line off the truck, I just butted I didn't tell him what to do, I told him what happened and he got rid of him. Now, don't tell me we can't anything, we're paying these people a lot a many million dollars to their job and one person cannot, I know we can't tell them what to do, but we sure can make a strong suggestion. Now legal you want to say something in here, fine. Let's go, let's go. You got anything to say?"

Councilman Madere stated, "I want to answer that to."

Councilman Snyder stated, "And look you got two."

Councilman Madere stated, "Oh I got. I'm going to answer this to because let me tell you something, cause we're talking out of two sides of our mouth. Okay we want to hire some contractors to do some work for us and we going to tell them how to treat the public, but then on the other hand you tell me we have some people paying millions of dollars to and we can't tell them how to treat the public? Oh we can't do that? That's talking out of two sides out of our mouth, okay either we going to do the same thing that they're doing and let them talk crazy to our residents or we going to handle them. Now simple phone call to that individual, I don't care how small his company is he can't be that small he doing a million dollar job, three million dollar job. He can simply move that guy somewhere else, that's all we requesting. I'd never tell you about firing anyone, I said that at this meeting several times, not for that guy to be fired just for him to be placed somewhere else. That's what I asked for okay, and the fact that we can't get that done and we're paying millions of dollars but someone who's giving us no dollars can tell you who to invite to a meeting. Something seem to be wrong there."

Councilman Snyder stated "I think they got your point over there Mr. Madere."

**Thomas Malik - Discussion regarding spending within the Economic Development Department**

Jerry Jones stated, "The administration response is: spending in all departments is being monitored and problem areas are being addressed. Spending in this department has been and continues to be addressed, especially items identified by Councilman Malik in an informal meeting. Administrative policies and procedures are being addressed through management training scheduled before the end of the year. Additionally, tighter controls on the approval process are being implemented."

Councilman Malik stated, "Three quick easy questions for you. How long have you been the Director for Economic Development?"

Jerry Jones stated, "I've been the Director for Economic Development in the parish for a year and maybe six months."

Councilman Malik stated, "1.6 years, ok. Do you feel you are personally spending money responsibly, tax money?"

Jerry Jones stated, "Absolutely."

Councilman Malik stated, "Ok. What city do you live in?"

Jerry Jones stated, "Gonzales, Louisiana."

Councilman Malik stated, "Gonzales, Gonzales, ok. And this is just, alright very quickly, do you know what those are?"

Jerry Jones stated, "Yes sir I do."

Councilman Malik stated, "Alright, they are?"

Jerry Jones stated, "These are the invoices to the shirts that have on the St. John the Baptist Parish, Department of Economic Development that I purchased when I first got here to St. John. In Economic Development we typically do market the parish by wearing items to work that has Economic Development on it. So yes I do."

Councilman Malik stated, "So of the 37 shirts, there's 31 (2X) and 3X. Where did those go to?"

Jerry Jones stated, "The 2X shirts are, well let's first back up for a moment."

Councilman Malik stated, "Sure."

Jerry Jones stated, "The shirts that you're seeing here where it says, and I want to see where you're saying 32."

Councilman Malik stated, "That's a total. 7/13 there is (8) 2X, (14), there's a raincoat 6/23, there's a \$240.00 raincoat. Where are the raincoats? So in total if you go through all those, there's (1) small, (2) medium, (2) large (1) X-large and then what do we have?"

Jerry Jones stated, "Well let's first hold on wait, hold on for a moment..."

Councilman Malik interrupting stated, "And so the total is that is \$2,224.90 for (31) shirts. And the question is of those (31), where did they go?"

Jerry Jones asked, "And can I answer?"

Councilman Malik stated, "Sure you can answer."

Jerry Jones stated, "Thank you. The shirts that I'm and for the purpose of clarification, the shirts that you're speaking of and I want to make sure I'm looking at this correctly. The only shirts that I have in my possession are the thirteen (13) items on this back page here."

Councilman Malik stated, "The (13) ok."

Jerry Jones stated, "Yes sir and this is, you have a copy of this?"

Councilman Malik stated, "Yep!"

Jerry Jones stated, "Ok, so on the back page this is what is in my possession. Let's go back through here, these here say ladies, so they're definitely not mine. And these shirts here are the Andouille Festival shirts, the Maroon, the Black and the Texas Orange that all of us wear. So then let's go to this page."

Councilman Malik asked, "All of us who?"

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Council and Administration."

Councilman Malik stated, "Ok."

Jerry Jones stated, "We've even ordered 2X-3X shirts."

Councilman Malik asked, "Everybody got the same size?"

Jerry Jones stated, "Yeah, well not the same size. Here on the last, the 2<sup>nd</sup> to last page, it say 3XLT, those are mine. The other ones are for someone throughout the parish that works in that in that regard. I can get you that information."

Councilman Malik stated "That's the total shirts that I asked. So..."

Jerry Jones interrupting asked, "Don't you want me to finish explaining it?"

Councilman Malik stated "Go head."

Jerry Jones stated, "Ok. The rain jackets that you seeing here, this is for the logo when I first got here to St. John the Baptist Parish. It was expressed that everyone who gets here gets a rain jacket with the parish logo. So the \$19.00 that you're seeing here, that's for the logo. That's the 3<sup>rd</sup> to last page."

Councilman Malik stated "A \$104.00 for a raincoat and a \$240.00 for a raincoat."

Jerry Jones stated, "I'm going through them because you want me to explain it. Let's see here. These here the 3XL's, those invoices that you see on the 4<sup>th</sup> to last page, which is Black and Texas Orange, those are not in my possession. We ordered those shirts for others who need those shirts for the Andouille Festival. Let's go to the next page, the next page that says shirt for ED, this was the original shirt order that none of them could fit me, and since my department both the administrative assistant and the coordinator did not have Economic Development shirts, they split those shirts among themselves so they would have something in order to represent the department as well. Let's go to the next one. Oh, this right here is the 4<sup>th</sup> of July shirts, that everyone who is on the administrative level and council staff receives these shirts, when I first got here they made me a shirt, that I can't fit anymore because I ate a little too much. Um the raincoat that you're referencing, I still to this day don't know where that coat is, and not only did I not know where the coat is, it's not even it shouldn't be in my system cause my signature is not affixed to it. If you notice the ones that I approved, have my signature on it. This one doesn't."

Councilman Malik stated "Hang on. We paid for it, we paid for it, that's what I'm saying. Go on to the next one."

Jerry Jones stated, "The ones that you can see that you have on a copy, my signatures are always affixed to them. As you can see my signature is not affixed to the ones that you're referencing, it's not on there because it's not on there."

Councilman Malik stated "Ok. So we paid for it and it's no longer with us and it never showed up, never got here so for whatever reason hah? Ok! In here again, why did we buy shirts? For every time..."

Jerry Jones asked, "Which shirts are you referencing?"

Councilman Malik stated "We've got all these different shirts, but it's not the shirts, it's every time we turn around we're buying shirts. It seems like it's a waste alright, it's a waste that's what I'm saying. Okay? So anyway, we managed to spend \$2,224.90 on shirts, and anyway, alright."

LaVerne Toombs asked, "Councilman Malik may I say something please, if you don't mind?"

Councilman Malik stated "Hang on a second."

LaVerne Toombs stated, "Ok."

Councilman Malik stated "You said that the only shirts you have were the \$785.00? Right?"

Jerry Jones stated, "I can go into my closet and take a picture of each and every shirt or I can bring them to you personally."

Councilman Malik asked, "Where's the fleece's?"

Jerry Jones stated, "If you like, those are what I'm referencing. Anything on that last page is in my possession."

Councilman Malik asked, "You didn't have a shirt, you didn't have any shirts until 2/10/2017."

Jerry Jones stated, "Everything that's on this back page is in my possession."

Councilman Malik stated "Ok."

Jerry Jones asked, "You want me to?"

Councilman Malik stated "I don't want them, no."

Jerry Jones stated, "Oh I thought you wanted to see them"

Councilman Malik stated "No, I'm asking you where they are. This is unusual. Now first of all, hang on a second. You know why we're talking about this?"

Jerry Jones stated, "I don't know because this is my first time speaking with you."

Councilman Malik stated "Ok, because there's about nine or ten parish employees brought it to my attention. And that's why."

Jerry Jones stated, "This is my first time speaking to you so I don't know."

Councilman Malik stated "Ok good! Alright so anyway. It seems extraordinaire, alright? On the other spending, there we go. So we have..."

Jerry Jones asked, "Is that my copy that you gave me?"

Councilman Malik stated "Yeah that's your copy."

Jerry Jones stated, "Ok."

Councilman Malik stated "Now, so you've got the, what did you get here? Nine (9) shirts, (4) fleeces..."

Jerry Jones asked, "Are we talking about the shirts? Or are you talking about this?"

Councilman Malik stated "No, nine (9) shirts the (4) fleeces, ok. Seems extraordinary to need four (4) fleece jackets, because the winters here last all of 2 days. Okay so anyway, let's go on and take a look at this."

Jerry Jones asked, "You need me to respond to that?"

Councilman Malik stated "No I don't, it's a statement."

Jerry Jones stated, "Oh ok! Ok!"

Councilman Malik stated "Ok I don't know why you need four (4) fleece jackets for four (4) different colors, when we had one cold day last year. That's a statement, it's not a question."

Jerry Jones asked, "Ok."

Councilman Malik stated "Ok, so going through the spending, just real quick umm and this is for my benefit as well as everybody else that's listening. You're mandated with drumming up business for the parish?"

Jerry Jones asked, "Is that a question?"

Councilman Malik stated "Economic Development, that's a question, yes."

Jerry Jones stated, "Ok, yes."

Councilman Malik stated "Ok."

Jerry Jones stated, "Well yes jobs helping to create jobs."

Councilman Malik stated "Helping to create jobs, ok. But specifically spending so we've got, we have, who do you get hotels from in a, at the Hampton Inn in LaPlace?"

Jerry Jones stated, "In order to make sure I answer that question properly, which page are you on?"

Councilman Malik stated "That's going to be the second page dated 1/05, which is January 5<sup>th</sup>."

Jerry Jones asked, "Second page?"

Councilman Malik stated "That's going to say January 2017 at the top right."

Jerry Jones stated, "January 2017. Wait January 2017 let's see here. Can you exactly show me where because I want to make sure I answer you correctly?"

Councilman Malik stated "Yeah, let me see you're."

LaVerne Toombs stated, "I can look at it."

Councilman Malik stated "Now, were all of these charges approved?"

Jerry Jones stated, "Well before I can answer that, I think that's a question you were getting ready to ask me. Before I can answer that I need to be able to see the document."

Councilman Malik stated "Ok."

Jerry Jones stated, "I don't want to give you a false answer. Is that it? Is that what he's talking about? Let me see them."

LaVerne Toombs stated, "Councilman I understand that's when it was posted, but actually it's for October the fourth, sixteen, which was during the Andouille Festival."

Councilman Malik stated "Yep!"

LaVerne Toombs stated, "Okay, and so that's when we actually had our judges and..."

Councilman Malik interrupting stated "Cause it has your arrival date right next to the right, but I'm going by the transition and then the post date."

LaVerne Toombs stated, "Yeah the post date was in January, but the actual room was reserved and for our judges, who judged the Andouille Festival."

Councilman Malik stated "Alright, so a..."

LaVerne Toombs stated, "So look at the dates to your right, rather than the ones on the left."

Councilman Malik stated "Yeah, Yeah."

LaVerne Toombs stated, "Ok."

Councilman Malik stated "Ok but we're not going to go by the dates, I'm questioning by the transaction date."

LaVerne Toombs stated, "Ok."

Councilman Malik stated "That's easier to find. Alright, so then you go off to, we got a couple of IAD, which is Washington."

Jerry Jones stated, "IADC."

Councilman Malik stated "IAD yeah. There's coding at the bottom, this is going to be one eleven. It's on the same page. MSY/UAVIAD, which is Moisant/United Airline, IAD, which is Washington. What's that trip about?"

Jerry Jones stated, *"That is the Washington Mardi Gras, we got to it every year as a parish."*

Councilwoman Hotard stated, *"And we host a breakfast."*

Jerry Jones stated, *"And we host a breakfast, which is through RREDI the River Region Economic Development Institute..."*

Councilman Malik interrupting asked *"And we're paying for who to travel?"*

Jerry Jones stated, *"You'll be receiving an invite to that as well. What was the question? I'm sorry."*

Councilman Malik asked *"We're paying for whom to travel?"*

Jerry Jones stated, *"We're paying for the staff to travel."*

Councilman Malik stated *"For the staff to travel!"*

Jerry Jones stated, *"In an effort to make sure that paperwork was stream lined and to make sure that we are trying to be efficient in the department, we thought that it'd be best that if all purchases for those things were to be made one time in my name. So you're probably seeing a whole lot of flights, but I can only fly in one spot so."*

Councilman Malik stated *"Well it's Economic Development's card, it's not your card so I understand that. You know?"*

Jerry Jones stated, *"Correct!"*

Councilman Malik stated *"So anyway, going down to the next page which is February 27<sup>th</sup>, Crowne Plaza, tell me about that would you please?"*

Jerry Jones stated, *"Oh I already know about that one. That is for our Louisiana Association of Fairs & Festivals. We have staff, as well as our Queens who go and attend that, to represent the parish as well. Which is also one of the events where I was wearing one of the shirts to."*

Councilman Malik asked *"So all of these things right here are for the Queens?"*

Jerry Jones stated, *"Yes sir."*

LaVerne Toombs stated, *"Yes that is correct."*

Councilman Malik stated *"Ok good! Ok."*

Jerry Jones stated, *"But make sure that we clear on that, that's just not just the Queens because I heard that last statement that you made, and I didn't want it to come back and..."*

Councilman Malik asked *"Who else is in there?"*

Jerry Jones stated, *"Well we have staff, administrative staff, my staff as well participates in that..."*

Councilman Malik interrupting stated *"No I'm just speaking specifically about the*

hotel rooms because there is what are we at, a little over two thousand dollars (\$2,000) for hotel rooms. One, two, three, four, five, five (5) hotel rooms."

Jerry Jones stated, "That's true. Also the parents of the Queens, they have to, the Teen Queen has to have a parent that stays with them. So, but yes sir."

Councilman Malik asked "They're staying in the same room?"

Jerry Jones stated, "Yes sir."

LaVerne Toombs stated, "But Councilman, this is a three (3) day activity, if I'm not mistaken. I believe it starts on Thursday evening and ends on a Sunday morning, and so you have the Queen who is the Queen of Andouille who participates in this Queen of Queens, and so as he stated the parents come but also the Parish President and I, we both attend. Now there's times when we stay overnight because we want to participate and support the Queen. So there again, you have Mr. Jones and his staff that attends and assist with this particular..."

Councilman Malik interrupting stated "No I understand all that, but what I'm asking specifically is because when we started looking at this, nobody could tell me what all these trips were."

Jerry Jones stated, "Oh I could have. I didn't know that you wanted, I hadn't had a conversation with you about it."

**Larry Snyder/Lennix Madere - Update on personnel needed in Utilities and Public Works to satisfy work orders and emergency work loads**

Natalie Robottom stated, "Staffing is fluent in both departments due to retirements, resignations, terminations and leaves of absence. Vacancies are posted, interviews conducted, and the employment process completed when needed. However, attendance, accountability and department structure are issues being addressed administratively. There are six (6) vacancies in Utilities and five (5) vacancies in PW that are in the process of being filled."

**Larry Snyder - Update on drinking water infrastructure for LaPlace and discussion regarding the drilling of a new well**

Councilman Snyder requested to have this item carried over until the October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017 meeting.

**Larry Snyder - Discussion relative to ring levees, a protection levee for LaPlace and drainage pumps**

Councilman Snyder requested to have this item carried over until the October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017 meeting.

**Larry Sorapuru - Update on the contract with C&S Consultants, Inc. for the West Bank WWTP's Tank Rehabilitation Project**

Natalie Robottom stated, "Initially when the contract was approved we didn't have contract, we completed one, Legal Counsel approved it, I signed it I think it was approved when I was out of town. I've signed it it's been mailed or sent to the company for signature. I know they've actually met with the Utilities Department and to walk through scope, but they should be expecting that contract document signed by me and in the mail."

**Larry Sorapuru/Lennix Madere - Discussion regarding the street sweeper use throughout the parish**

Brian Nunes stated, "Just a brief statement is that the street sweepers utilized on concrete roads with subsurface drainage."

Councilman Madere stated, "Well my concern with that is; I think you were the one who told me at one time we couldn't use on asphalt because it messes up the brushes right?"

Brian Nunes stated, "It tears up the brooms and brushes and they're very expensive to replace."

Councilman Madere stated, "But we also use it on asphalt when we have the carnival parade, we come down Central with it."

Brian Nunes stated, "Right and we have to repair it after that."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yeah that's what I'm saying and you'll need to stop using it down Central then. Okay well why tear it up for one event and if it cost up money, okay you just get some regular brooms and some guys and let them sweep it up themselves."

Natalie Robottom stated, "And we still contract some out so we're not using ours."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yeah right so we need to stop using those street sweepers down the asphalt streets, okay because if you're going to use it down that street and tear the brushes up on all the asphalt streets, I wouldn't mind you tearing it up and so we not use it at all. Let's not use it down asphalt streets, but I do have some problems with it not going Scarlet Oaks, not going down Homewood and Homewood floods, when it rains you know Homewood is going to flood. So that street sweeper should go down Homewood on both sides of that street the time that rain storm is coming, cause it's not so much the residents, it's these guys that throw these papers around, okay I don't know why people just don't pick up and then they're in the street and later on they go to the drain and make a nice tight seal, so I think that street sweeper should definitely go down Homewood on rain events, before that rain event happen we should go down Homewood and use that street sweeper on both sides and we should pass through Scarlet Oaks. They haven't been in those two subdivisions and they do have cement roads."

Brian Nunes stated, "Yeah you're right, I'm sure they have been through there."

Councilman Madere stated, "Not."

Brian Nunes stated, "Ok, alright."

Councilman Madere stated, "Not with the brush roller. They just passed through it."

Brian Nunes stated, "Ah ok."

Councilman Madere stated, "Never, never been there."

Natalie Robottom asked, "Is that true?"

Councilman Madere stated, "Never been there."

Brian Nunes stated, "I'll send it down Homewood this week."

Councilman Madere asked, "You going to send it?"

Brian Nunes stated, "Sure."

There was no executive session.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Parish Buildings - Security

Any and all pending legal matters

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:**

**17-45** An ordinance authorizing Natalie Robottom, President of St. John the Baptist Parish to execute an Act of Donation accepting the following described property on behalf of St. John the Baptist Parish, and under such other terms and conditions deemed fit and proper by the Parish President in her discretion, and upon review by legal counsel. The property is described as a certain tract or parcel of land designated as "Belle Pointe Lift Station" located in Section Seventy-Seven (77), Township Eleven South (T-11-S), Range Seven East (R-7-E), Southeastern Land District, East of the Mississippi River, St. John the Baptist Parish, State of Louisiana, containing 86,859 Sq. Ft. (1.994 Acres). (N. Robottom)

**PRESIDENT REPORT:**

Natalie Robottom stated, "Good evening. We were very fortunate that Hurricane Nate turned out to be a non-event this weekend, but the Parish was ready and prepared. My staff, parish employees and partner agencies who worked long hours last week and weekend in preparation for the storm, deserve a great deal of thanks. It was another good training exercise for the parish and only revealed further what we already know, we cannot continue to undergo these events without a levee system in place. We all know that if Nate would have slowed down or moved slightly to the West, we may not have been so lucky and we just cannot continue taking these chances. I was just in Washington D.C. meeting with Congressman Graves on funding for the levee and working with his team on moving toward constructions. Residents and business owners are encouraged to write and call their state and federal delegation on behalf of the levee project. Sample letters can be found on our website. We want to again invite everyone to the 2017 Andouille Festival presented by Marathon Petroleum Company, LP. The festival is Friday, Saturday and Sunday at the Community Center and Thomas F. Daley Memorial Park. The band lineup, food & craft vendors and a list of all special events and activities can be found on the Andouille Festival website at [www.andouillefestival.com](http://www.andouillefestival.com). WGNO News with a Twist will be broadcasting a live show beginning at 5pm at the festival grounds and another one at 6:00 p.m. Don't miss this fun event airing live on WGNO Channel 26 at 5 pm and 6 pm Friday from our festival grounds. REMINDER: Thomas F. Daley Memorial Park is closed until October 19 for Andouille Festival logistics. Cambridge, Belle Pointe, Emily C. Watkins, Greenwood, and REGALA Parks are available with walking paths or visit [sjbparish.com](http://sjbparish.com) for all park locations. For those who did not vote early, don't

*forget to vote on Election Day this Saturday, October 14. The election includes public school mileage renewal, special school board member seat and three constitutional amendments. Polling sites will be open from 7:00 am - 8:00 p.m. The Parish sample ballot and list of polling locations can be found on the Louisiana Secretary of State's website. The Sheriff's Office will host Night Out Against Crime on Tuesday, October 17. Residents interested in hosting parties and participating should register with the Sheriff's Office at (985)652-9513. To close, we hope everyone has a great weekend and hopefully see you at the fest! Thank you.*

**ADJOURNMENT:**

At 10:03 PM, Councilman Madere and Councilwoman Remondet seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Perrilloux absent.

/s/Larry Snyder  
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche  
COUNCIL SECRETARY