

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS**  
**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MONDAY, OCTOBER 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2015**  
**CHAIRMAN MICHAEL WRIGHT**  
**VICE CHAIR MARVIN PERRILLOUX**

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 Monday, October 12, 2015, at 6:30 PM.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

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

**ABSENT:** None

Councilman Snyder led the Prayer. Councilwoman Hotard led the Pledge.

Legal Counsel Keith Green, Jr. present.

**INTRODUCTION OF BUSINESSES:**

**Natalie Robottom - New Business - Urgent Care**

The above item will be carried over to a later date.

**Natalie Robottom - New Business - IWS Gas & Supply**

Natalie Robottom introduced Rickey Chiasson, Founder of IWS Gas and Supply located at 133 E. Airline Highway, Monday through Friday from 7:00am - 5:00pm. IWS was established in 1981 and was primarily a Welding Company then developed into an Industrial Company selling welding, industrial tools, safety equipment, gases both medical and industrial to include specialty gases being offered to the community. The Council welcomed and wished the company great success. For more information visit the website at: [www.gasandsupply.com](http://www.gasandsupply.com) or call (985) 652-7225.

**Natalie Robottom - New Business - Elite Affairs**

Natalie Robottom introduced Jimmy and Pamela Brown Allen owners of Elite Affairs Rentals located at 625 Woodland Drive, LaPlace. The company rents event items such as tables, chairs, table clothes, premier linens, table skirts and sashes, anything you may need for that special event. For more information visit the website at: [www.eliteaffairseventrentals.com](http://www.eliteaffairseventrentals.com) or call you may call (985) 359-9199. The Council congratulated the Allen's and wished them a great success.

**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.

**Consent Agenda:**

**MOTION:** Councilman Wright motioned to suspend the rules to add Homecoming Parade Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 for 12:30pm - 2:00pm for West St. John High School. The motion passed with 1 absent (Snyder).

**MOTION:** Councilman Gauff moved and Councilman Smith seconded the motion to suspend the rules to add Homecoming Parade Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 for 12:30pm - 2:00pm for West St. John High School. The motion passed with 1 absent (Snyder).

**Items:** Approval of Minutes - September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015, Regular Meeting; Homecoming Parade - Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 for 12:30pm - 2:00pm for West St. John High School.

**MOTION:** Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Gauff seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes - September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015, Regular Meeting; Permit Approval - Homecoming Parade - Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 from 12:30pm - 2:00pm for West St. John High School. The motion passed with and 1 absent (Snyder).

**PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:**

There are no ordinances at this time.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Councilwoman Millet stated, *"At this time I'd like to make a motion to accept the items that were approved in the finance committee meeting earlier this evening."*

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to accept the recommendations of the finance committee. The motion passed with and 1 absent (Snyder).

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Natalie Robottom - Resolution - R15-34 - A Resolution for the State of Louisiana, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Hurricane Isaac recovery funding**

Natalie Robottom stated, *"This is relative to the \$32 million CDBG Grant that the parish received, a large portion of that went toward home repairs, business repairs, small business loans and about \$5 million to the school system to help with their recovery. This \$3.2 million would be an agreement with the Housing Authority who have been before us, who've worked with us since the storm because residents and buildings were destroyed during*

Hurricane Isaac as well, they've hired a consultant firm to help with redevelopment and with these dollars it's my understanding Ms. Henderson is here, would go toward demolition of that first set of buildings and it's something that HUD, Office Community Development and the Parish is in full support of in trying to help the Housing Authority move forward with redevelopment and this would be a first step in this. These dollars would be coming from the Economic Development portion, the infrastructure portion went to the school system for the schools and primarily the home and business portions of the dollars are going to our community or residents for repairs, elevations of small rental properties, first time homebuyers and small business grant and loan program, so this would be a separate allocation. Ms. Henderson did you want to say anything?"

Trina Henderson, Executive Director for the Housing Authority stated, "As you all are aware, I've been before the Council before, the Housing Authority is very excited that we've partnered with Columbia Residential and we're starting our redevelopment phases. We're proposing 4 Phases, Garyville happens to be a part of Phase 1, in that project we're anticipating that project will cost us about \$10 million. The \$3.2 million will serve as a tremendous source of funding in shortening that gap that we are seeking. We're working with Columbia Residential and going after our 2016 low income housing tax credit. We're showing the support that from the parish it strengthens our application, so I would ask that you seriously consider helping us rebuild affordable housing for St. John the Baptist Parish. Thank you."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Exactly what this \$3.2 million going to do and where will it be used?"

Trina Henderson stated, "It will be used in redeveloping the Garyville housing community, what we're looking at is demolishing, we have 54 units at the Garyville development. We're proposing bringing on 73 units, some of those units will be, because one of the questions was; you're bringing on more units so you're increasing you know number of families, well we are however the bedrooms sizes we're revamping bedroom sizes, our units now they're not livable. There's bedroom sizes you all have been in, they're not meeting the needs of our families, so we're looking at revamping parking we're looking at just building a community center, building a community. HUD isn't putting money into public housing and many times people have this stigma; Oh we're rebuilding public housing, public housing is pretty much no longer exist in HUD's eyes. What HUD is asking Housing Authority to do to partner, go out there in the community, seek grants, seek funds, work with your community leaders, your counties, your parishes or what not, your state entities, to try bring support in redeveloping what we're calling affordable housing. What it will be, it will not be public housing it will be affordable housing, but anyone who's perhaps working in our plants there will be market rate units along with public housing units, along with tax credit units. So basically, you may have someone who is on public assistance you'll never know it because everyone will be treated equally. You will not know who, what, when and how and that's the type of communities we want to build, we want to bring in the working community and basically all of that rubs off so we want to build a sense of community and we thought Garyville, number one it was hit by flooding, it was the most impacted by Hurricane Isaac however; Garyville is such a unique community and we thought why not there, will it score? We just

feel that if we put the resources we think we just show basically what affordable housing needs to look like in St. John the Baptist Parish. Tomorrow we're taking a tour, Columbia Residential Development Partner, they redeveloped the old St. Bernard Project as they would call it, well they won't do exactly the same thing but it just shows you the quality of work that they're going to put in redeveloping our property. So I would encourage you all, if you have an opportunity to join us on that tour, it'll give you to paint a clearer picture of basically where we're trying to lead affordable housing in the parish."

Councilman Snyder stated, "A couple of us are going, we've talked and a few of us will be making that trip tomorrow. But I'm just concerned about that \$3.2 million dollars and that's going toward Garyville, tearing down and building up, am I right?"

Trina Henderson stated, "Absolutely, absolutely."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Because the understanding is, wasn't the money already in that Economic Development for that, the \$3.2 million to tear it down?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "This is it."

Councilman Snyder asked, "This is it? To tear it down? So what are you asking us to do then?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "We proposed it. In order to move forward with the application, it requires a resolution from the Council. So this is a formality that has to take place, in addition to these dollars we've also worked with the Housing Authority with Louisiana Housing Incorporation in testifying in supporting their application for the additional tax credits. So it's bigger than just this amount of money, but this amount was set aside to help housing because they've been at the table with us since the storm, they had needs to and you know as residents of our community this is an opportunity to assist the residents however; the other thing Isaac expose we have very little affordable housing throughout the parish. So although we're looking at improvements for the residents there, there's very little affordable housing in the parish, which is why our residents had to leave the parish and stay outside of it after the storm because there wasn't homes or rental property they could afford to come back. And so, this will not only replace what's there but expand and make it more of a community."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Ms. Henderson you said they're tearing down the whole complex?"

Trina Henderson stated, "That's what we're proposing."

Councilman Snyder asked, "The whole complex?"

Trina Henderson stated, "Yes we are. We're proposing demolishing the entire 54 units. However, we still need HUD approval so a lot things are going in to this process so we're submitting to HUD for approval for demolition of all units."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well my support is for those people up there and I

think especially what you're saying now from 52-75 units, 75 units?

Trina Henderson stated, "73"

Councilman Snyder stated, "73 units, right affordable. Well that can help a lot of people you know, not only the people that's there now but some other people who may be just starting off in life. So for those people I'm willing to support this resolution, thank you ma'am."

Councilwoman Miller stated, "Ms. Henderson I think this is a terrific project and I think that the parish should really be involved in it. But I have a question; when you demolish these, are we making alternate plans for where these people will be residing and living in the short term?"

Trina Henderson stated, "Absolutely, as part..."

Councilwoman Miller interrupting asked, "Does that included in this funding as well or is that something separate?"

Trina Henderson stated, "That's something separate. HUD provides additional funding through capital funding that basically we can utilize our capital fund that we receive HUD and that would go towards relocation of those residents, assisting those residents."

Councilwoman Miller stated, "Perfect because I didn't want to see them have to leave the parish."

Trina Henderson stated, "Absolutely not."

Councilwoman Miller stated, "Thank you."

Councilman Gauff stated, "I'd like to say, I'm definitely in favor of this and supporting this. I know we've been working on this for a while, goes back to the committees that Mrs. Robottom first formed and I sat in on these housing committees and you sat on and it's been years we've been working on this and I think we saw then that it should start in Garyville, I think we had some representative that came in and had some bigger ideas they thought no, let's start in LaPlace, but we said let's start small, let's start in Garyville where we had fewer residents to displace and to move into other housing. I think this is a great idea, as I said it's a brighter future for St. John and this will help us with the affordable housing that we really need. So I am definitely in favor of this and hopefully we will get the support."

Councilman Madere stated, "Ms. Henderson you know I'm in favor of this because I've been to all of the meetings that you had, in fact we had one it was about a couple of months ago, the last one when the guy came down and Mr. Coburn was there, where the resident was able to walk around and select some different models they were concerned about you know and to pick the one that they, not necessarily one that's going to be there but it gave you an idea of what they were looking at and what you were looking at and I thought that was good and definitely you know it's a great project and something I strongly support you know from day one and I think you're handling it real well and partnership with the parish is good. Thank you!"

Trina Henderson stated, "Thank you."

Councilman Wilson asked, "With the existing property that you'll going to tear down, how many new developments will be put there?"

Trina Henderson stated, "We're proposing 73 in total."

Councilman Wilson asked, "In that same spot and will there will be 2 story units there also?"

Trina Henderson stated, "There will be 2 story units there also, yes sir."

Councilman Wilson stated, "Alright thank you!"

Councilman Gauff stated, "And I do want to say you know I see she's in the audience, I do want to say, thank you very much Ms. Eugene, she has also helped us a lot in partnering with, between the housing, between the parish, between Columbia Park, she has really worked hard in moving this project forward so I do want to kudos and shout out to her for her hard work. Thank you!"

Trina Henderson stated, "She's our partner through this, yes."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Ms. Henderson thank you for all that you do. I have a question. With the \$3.2 million let's say that the other pieces that you're talking about with HUD like they don't come through, do we have a backup plan, is there a contingency?"

Trina Henderson stated, "We have many backup plans."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Okay"

Trina Henderson stated, "It's funny that you should ask that, we were on the phone and I think we had a conference call and perhaps it was with FEMA if I'm not mistaken and so I said ok; Plan A ok this is Plan A, Plan B Plan B, Plan C, I think we got all the way to E, but it is challenging, I will not say it's a given. I just know that Columbia Residential, I'm very comfortable and very confident that they are capable, developer partnered, they're winners they're winners."

Natalie Robottom stated, "And when we talk about backup plans, one of the plans that we've discussed with you is the Billion Dollar Resiliency Grant Application, that application is utilizing all the unmet needs and housing will have unmet needs. So in addition to our CDGB partnership, they're also part of our resiliency grant, again another opportunity to either help with Garyville or to expand outside of that, but since housing was our greatest need as a result of Isaac, most of the funding and applications are driven towards housing."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Thank you, I guess you answered my question that we have all the way to Plan E. I am familiar with Columbia Park, I have seen some of the work they've done in New Orleans, I actually visited some of their properties with some friends I guess in New Orleans when they were building, so I'm very familiar and you're right they've done this, they're

*tested and tried and all of that good stuff, so you have a very good partner. Won't be able to be there tomorrow, we're end of nine weeks at school so I have to be at work tomorrow and deal with my students, but I'm sure it'll be a great tour and again I'm very familiar with them, their properties, thank you, thanks Ms. Eugene, I know she sent me the information but I won't be able to be on the tour, but thank you."*

Councilman Smith stated, "Yes Ms. Henderson, you know I was a former board member and it's a long time coming for this project. This project started way back yonder and it's, I mean it's great, it's a great, great project, if anyone of you guys have never been to Columbia Park you should visit it, I mean this is a model that it beats everything else that's been thrown out there and it's going to be great for some of our residents to move into something like that and you have my full support on this end."

Trina Henderson stated, "I appreciate that. The parish has been instrumental and not only on support but just a lot of their guidance. I can't speak to the level of the Council Members that joined us at the Housing Authority Board Meetings and I thank you, because basically if you don't know it's very hard to get up here and explain in ten or fifteen minutes, but I do appreciate you all coming here and hearing exactly what's going on at the Housing Authority and Parish President Robottom you know basically give us a call, shooting an email and make sure that we're at that table with the all the other stake holders there, so I'm very appreciative of everyone's support in basically helping us bring affordable housing into the parish. Can't do it alone."

**MOTION:** Councilman Gauff moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Resolution R15-34 - A Resolution for the State of Louisiana, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Hurricane Isaac recovery funding. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Wright stated, "Next also now, again at the request of Legal Counsel we do have Executive Session I'm asked that we're going to move this item up because of representatives present. We're going to be discussing Water bill issues - 133 Beechgrove, Reserve, LA., so this time I'll ask for a motion to suspend the rules to go into Executive Session to discuss Water bill issues - 133 Beechgrove, Reserve, LA."

**MOTION:** Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Snyder seconded the motion to suspend the rules to go into Executive Session to discuss Water bill issues - 133 Beechgrove, Reserve, LA. The motion passed with 1 absent (Hotard).

**MOTION:** Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to go into Executive Session. The motion passed with 1 absent (Hotard).

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to go back into regular session. The motion passed with 6 and 3 absent (Smith, Wilson and Snyder).

There was no action with the result of the Executive Session.

**DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:**

**Torri Buckles - Andouille Festival - Final update before festival weekend**

Torri Buckles provided an update on the Andouille Festival. For more information visit the website at: [www.anodouillefestival.com](http://www.anodouillefestival.com)

### **Blake Fogleman - Update**

Blake Fogleman stated, "Just real quick a few items, they should be coming up in front of you all for substantial completion here in the next couple of meetings, but 2 key projects at Lions is nearing completion and in substantial completion phase, one is the UV Disinfectant Project, Design Engineer Mr. C.J. Savoie and Sea Level Construction we had a deadline. When I came on aboard DHH pretty much handed me a letter and said by October 1<sup>st</sup> we're expecting this to be complete and I think there was a lot of hard work and cooperation between a few different entities and a few setbacks, but we were able to get it on line, get it disinfecting, it's running pretty well right now, we're getting training on it and learning all the about it but DHH is satisfied with the finished product and we do have punch list items and a lot of clean up for anybody that goes go by lines, you'll see that but we're in operation on that project as a whole. Next project in the next two weeks or so we're looking to have the water line crossing under the Mississippi River under substantial completion. Substantial completion to us is the ability for the parish to utilize it for its intended purposes. So by no means is this a final product, but this is certainly a huge step in the right direction with the availability of water for both East and the Westbank, fire protection, redundancy on the Westbank and supplemental water back to the Eastbank in times of need. So it's a huge step, I know you all have seen this through the process and I appreciate all your support on it and like I said as far as the financial side and the contract side should be coming in front of you all here in the next few weeks or next couple of meetings, I'm sorry. So Ms. Robottom asked that I just give you'll a quick update but we will discuss it you know when that item comes up as substantial for your acceptance of those projects."

Councilman Gauff stated, "The project Reserve, LaPlace, Hwy. 44 right at DuPont, seems like you're doing some finishing touches on that? That seems to be, besides for your project, it seems we have a safety issue there. It seems like more cars go in the ditch there than anywhere else, so I'm kind of concerned with the project and us maintaining some sort of integrity with the project because so many cars actually go in the ditch there, so I don't know if you're, if you've looked at that."

Blake Fogleman stated, "Yes we have recently, there's a few it all happened back to back to back, I think there was 2 accidents that caused leaks there that we had to go and repair that we repaired in house but there was a leak that was caused due to the work that was done in March when they were organizing. At the beginning of the year they came and redid all the valving and everything like that, one of those pipes had shifted on us. The contractor that's still on the warranty, that contractor had to come back and do that repair but that is something on the LaPlace side, if it's in that location very seldom did we put anybody out of water, because we do have the valving in place to do that and most recent ones no one has been affected just because that area is a key area if we ever the Reserve to LaPlace or LaPlace to Reserve. But on a normal operation when they are separated we can isolate those and do a lot of the work without any interference to any

residents. But speed limit signs got bent over and stuck into our pipe, well you know you can't really, that can happen along all of 44 you know, it's just that curve is pretty bad."

Councilman Gauff stated, "Yeah and I guess the only thing would be to look at some sort of safeguard for that area or something."

Blake Fogleman stated, "Barricade or something."

Councilman Gauff stated, "Yeah something. Something to help us with the integrity of the pipe."

Blake Fogleman stated, "Our pipe runs directly under that shallow ditch that is there. So any valves anything along there, it's pretty much dead center of that ditch, so and that's on the edge."

Councilman Gauff stated, "Thank you."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Blake, yesterday I passed by the Reserve Plant and there was water coming out, were you washing the line, flushing the line on the other side of the river?"

Blake Fogleman stated, "Yes sir, well we were actually just putting water in that line but that water, it was on top of the levee?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yeah right on top, peak of the levee."

Blake Fogleman stated, "Yeah, yeah. We opened a little valve to make sure we were getting water in it. It was a visual indicator for our contractor to make sure that the water was flowing where we wanted it to."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Flowing from?"

Blake Fogleman stated, "The lines aren't connected yet. We're taking everything under the river and in the lines always one section and then Edgard side is just over the levee."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Ok"

Blake Fogleman stated, "And then once we make sure DHH approves both of those sections of line, we'll tie them together and then we'll be good."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Gotcha, thank you."

Blake Fogleman stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Madere stated, "That's one of the items I had on the agenda so you can discuss it now since it's similar to what everyone is talking about. You gave us an update on everything and that area that Mr. Gauff is talking about, that's the same area I mentioned a meeting ago and I said I knew they had a leak there because the water was just sitting there days after days and at that time I was told there wasn't a leak, but the next day you'll were out there fixing the pipe and I was out there, like I said we took a ride Friday and I appreciate you and Mr. Warren Lennix going with me and running around

to several other locations. One question is; we have utility workers all over the parish, meter readers, some of the locations I brought you to that they had leaks, actually had water sitting in the ditch, now I would think that someone would be alerted to the fact that if it hadn't rained in 2 or 3 months and then you see an area where water is just sitting in the ditch, that's an alert there's a leak somewhere, ok and I'm just, I don't if the workers are instructed when they see something like that to report it, because like I said down 14<sup>th</sup> Street, you went to a location and they actually did the repairs and the guys did a good job and they were down in there. So my thing is I just would like for them to pay more attention, especially in the older areas where you know it hadn't rained in several months and you see standing water that we try to find out exactly what that is and not wait until you know 3 months or so go buy and when you talk to the residents, oh that water been there for months. Maybe they can just jot that down and maybe someone can look and see. But I appreciate the fact that you'll went on that trip with me and brought you to several locations and did anyone go back and check 14<sup>th</sup> to see if the repairs held?"

Blake Fogleman stated, "The repairs on 14<sup>th</sup> are good. Yes sir."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yeah they held?"

Blake Fogleman stated, "Yes sir, as I spoke that day we're moving forward with the repairs on the concrete and everything like that. You know we were going to put that in motion regardless of waiting but yeah we haven't heard anything from the field that those repairs..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "I know the one in DuPont curve is holding because that area is bone dry right now."

Blake Fogleman stated, "And they did reshape after our meeting that day we made sure that the contractor did reshape that entire area."

Councilman Madere stated, "You know I went check. It's shaped."

**Larry Snyder - (Carry Over 10-13-14) Discussion Lions Water Plant Phase VIII design**

The above item will be carried over.

**Lennix Madere - (Carry Over 7-14-15) Update on drainage issues Hickory Street and E. 26<sup>th</sup> Street**

Brian Nunes stated, "We've talked about 26<sup>th</sup> plenty times, I think we're done with that one. But Hickory I've got nothing new on it unfortunately it's still on our list, we just had a bunch of things come up we're working on right now trying to get some of the pressing issues out of the way and then we're going to move on to the other ones that's been sitting around."

Councilman Madere stated, "I understand don't get me wrong, I understand the fact that Public Works has a lot of work to be done, I know a lot of work again I said it before and I'll say it again, we probably need more workers to try and get some this work caught up. But when you have a situation myself, you went out there and also a couple of other people went out there

with me and we saw the problem and this has been over a year, we told the residents on Hickory Street that we were going to come and dig this out and I think they've been extremely patient and for them to hear that they're still sitting on the list a year later that doesn't sit with them well and whenever I see one of them they let me know about it. So I have to do what I have to do and that is to let you know about it, you know that it's been over a year and we need to try and do something and that involves getting the contractor or something to go out there because it's on both sides and everyday trees are getting bigger and bigger in those canals and we have to do something you know and to tell them that they're on the list, you know if someone tell you, well you on the list and you've been on the list over a year, that's not too good, so we have to try to do something to speed this up and get the work actually done on that street because every time they have a rain storm those people are getting bombarded back there. And it's not just Hickory Street, I've been speaking for everybody else in the parish. But this one was told to them personally that they were going to take care of this so we need to try and speed this up, I think a year is long enough."

Brian Nunes stated, "I agree a year is a long time. We did some work out there, we did the fronts on both sides of the street we just didn't do any behind the houses."

Councilman Madere stated, "Well that's where the issue is, behind the houses getting the water to the front, okay that's the issue so we need to try and get this done, hopefully you know within the next couple of weeks and see some action. Because we have the approval of the private property owners."

Brian Nunes stated, "Right I don't have that signed yet, what I can do to show you some progress, I can get that signed and maybe get some quotes to remove the trees and you'll see that we're doing something and we'll meet after that and decide which direction we want to go."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay from the back to the front."

**Jaclyn Hotard - (Carry Over 8-25-15) Update on Canal Clearing in Place Park/Erosion Issues**

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I'll just read the comments. I did speak with the resident again the other day but we'll just keep them updated. It says, a plan has been devised using concrete blocks along the canal banks to prevent future erosion and it will be completed once the equipment needed is available. Is there any addition to that, do you know when the equipment will be available? Completion of the Haydel canal project will also help prevent erosion."

Brian Nunes stated, "It changes every day. Right now I have all my available equipment out at the incinerator, we're doing a total cleanup at the site because I think we have an inspection coming up, we want to make sure everything is going right over there, plus we need to make sure it's clean anyway."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "How long will that take?"

Brian Nunes stated, "We're hoping to have it done this week actually. But I

*have all my dump trucks committed over there and what not. It's the trucks that's the biggest thing because we need to haul all that trash off, so...*

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "A debris truck?"

Brian Nunes stated, "Sorry"

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "A debris truck?"

Brian Nunes stated, "No we use another dump trucks and what not over there, we're just loading with machines trying to get everything out as fast as we can, so these dump trucks that's what we need to get the concrete out to LaPlace Park. I'm hoping we'll have it done this week at the incinerator and then we can start hitting some of these other ones."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "You don't have any other avenue to have someone haul this concrete in the meantime?"

Brian Nunes stated, "Outside of hiring a truck or something I don't think so. But I think you know a week we'll be done and we can jump on it."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Okay okay, sounds good."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Where do we get that concrete from?"

Brian Nunes stated, "A lot of times when we break up our own concrete we just stock pile it"

Councilman Snyder stated, "There you go good thank you that what I needed to know."

**Larry Snyder - (Carry Over 8-25-15) Discussion - Creation of new position/job description**

The above item will be carried over.

**Ranney Wilson - Speed bumps**

Councilman Wilson stated, "Yeah I'm receiving calls from areas that was resurfaced that we haven't put the speed bumps back on those streets and also I'm getting calls like from NW 4<sup>th</sup> Street that they finished, they started but they haven't finished it. But in the areas where they had speed bumps and resurfaced the streets they're wanting their speed bumps back."

Natalie Robottom stated, "If you can get us that list."

Councilman Wilson stated, "On Toni Drive, on the East side of the last 200 feet is all covered, it's all underground, there's no clean outs, I don't know if, can our truck can reach 200 feet?"

Brian Nunes stated, "Oh I'm sorry we jumped to the next item, I'm sorry. I thought we were talking about the speed bumps."

Michael Coburn stated, "We're talking about speed bumps."

Councilman Wilson stated, "Oh no, I'm off the speed bumps now. I'm talking about the drainage on Toni Drive. Yeah well I'm finished on the speed bumps."

Councilman Madere stated, "My suggestion was over a year ago because I had that same problem in my district when they did the streets and removed the speed bumps and then when I requested the speed bumps back no one had any records as to where the speed bumps go. So my suggestion was at that time when you do a street, put some type of indicator on the side that you know that when you finish those speed bumps go back in those certain areas and that..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "Maybe our Engineer who does the plans might want to put it on there."

Councilman Madere stated, "Well either or, either or." Okay if they, that would be the smart thing, that would be the smart thing to do. But someone have to come up with an idea, either you put on mark on the side or you put a mark on the plans because what you have is, you go back to records, no one have the records as to where the speed bumps was and to ask the people to go back and get papers and sign and everything again is a problem. So we need to have some type of indication and when we do a street that the speed bumps are located back in the same spot and you're going to solve that problem."

Councilman Wright asked, "Ms. Robottom can come to the mic please?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "We're in the process of getting ready to start our 2016 road list, so as parish engineer is drafting the specs and coming up with estimates, we can make sure he identifies on his specs, where there are, when you know he sends people out to access it for what's needed and then you know as part of the inspection process before accepting the road is complete, then it may need to be back."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right and I think that's a great idea because that way they're going to inspect and we know exactly how many feet and how many they had on the location. Because now the last 2 years we've done these new roads and the people are asking me back for these speed bumps, I refer back to the office and the office doesn't have indication where the speed bumps go and the only solution they have for me is to tell them to do it again and that's a very good solution. So that's a good idea, excellent idea to put it on the specs and that way we'll know where they are. But should have taken that advice last year."

Councilman Wilson stated, "Yes there was one I missed. A couple of months ago I requested a speed bump by Fatty's Restaurant in Garyville, also some striping and some signage on that street for a pedestrian crosswalk and they really need some attention there because people fly through there, they run the stop sign, that's just one area I'd like to see it sooner than later. So now can we go to Toni Drive?"

Councilman Madere stated, "One more comment about the speed bumps. Ms. Robottom, Ms. Robottom..."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I'm sorry, I'm just trying to clarify. Do want a

*speed bump in front of Fatty's?"*

*Councilman Wilson stated, "That and some striping."*

*Natalie Robottom stated, "Speed bump and striping."*

*Councilman Wilson stated, "And striping and signage. Same crosswalk, pedestrian crosswalk. It's right there even with the stairway and they put the signage."*

*Councilman Wright stated, "Mr. Wilson you need to just call tomorrow clarify with administration exactly specifically what they want to do in that area."*

*Councilman Gauff stated, "Didn't you say we had a stop sign there that they're running but you want a speed bump there? It's either we usually use the..."*

*Councilman Wilson interrupting stated, "There's a stop sign coming one way and that's coming from the West, that crosses over to get to Ned's Grocery but I mean people are walking out that restaurant and they have vehicles park right there and when these people downhill they're coming fast and somebody it's just a matter of time, somebody's going to get hit."*

*Natalie Robottom stated, "We'll get Public Safety to look into this."*

*Councilman Wright stated, "Even if we start with signage and striping and maybe look at the speed bump later, but signage and striping."*

*Councilman Madere stated, "One more comment on speed bumps and this is something that the Council has to do as an ordinance on the speed bump. Okay I was called asking Mr. Wilson on NW 4<sup>th</sup> Street where they didn't complete that speed bump and it was a big problem that night, that day and the guy just asked me to come out there. What happened was, this individual signed for speed bumps but I think in our ordinance we need to place and that's something we have to do, that if you sign for a speed bump, there's a possibility it may be in front of your house. The individual signed, he said he signed, what do you want in front his house? So that's an area we have to straighten out in that ordinance and when you sign you can't determine where that speed bump is going to be placed. If it falls within 150 feet range, then you have to be aware that it could be by your house and he said he didn't want it by his house and the next guy heard it, that he didn't want so he said don't put it by my house. So now we are going all the way down the street, no one want it in their house so you there with no speed bump. So I think that's something that the Council has to do, get with Legal and place that in the ordinance, that once you sign, there's a possibility you may have a speed bump somewhere by your property to avoid that kind of conflict."*

*Councilman Wilson stated, "You know speed bumps is, some of them see how fast they can go in between bumps. That's not something else these needs to happen with the speed bumps. I mean for the ambulance it's a problem, for the fire trucks it's a problem, for the sheriff's office it's a problem but a you know the people are going to have to try and work with us and like they said if it falls in front of your house, if we can maybe put it in between kind of 2 houses or something, a few feet makes a difference, but I wouldn't want one*

*in front of my house. You'd hear that blub, blub, blub, blub, all night long and people that sign these things don't understand what's going to happen if they get stuck with them in front their house. Ok now, can we go to Toni Drive?"*

#### **Ranney Wilson - Toni Drive - drainage**

Councilman Wilson stated, "The last, at the end of Toni Drive on the East side..."

Brian Nunes interrupting asked, "Towards the tracks?"

Councilman Wilson stated, "Yeah towards the tracks on the east side there's a lot that's real real low right there, that's actually contains all the rain water and it runs out of there very slow but there's 200 feet from where the culvert starts to the railroad track. There's no clean outs, there's nothing there, can our trucks blow that far?"

Brian Nunes stated, "Probably not to 200. I don't think we can get 200 feet."

Councilman Wilson stated, "Well we need to dig it up and found out what's down there and fix it. I know you had told me that that Toni Drive project wasn't finished."

Brian Nunes asked, "But this one is in the back of the house?"

Councilman Wilson stated, "On the street itself."

Brian Nunes stated, "Ok"

Councilman Wilson stated, "Now on Toni Drive on the west side behind the houses that's another major problem. I mean you'll going to have to do that by hand and wheel barrows or whatever because you can't get equipment in there but it has to be cleaned."

Brian Nunes stated, "The Toni Drive one it is in the Phase 2 project and that one has been designed completely. We can look at it for now see if we could do a temporary fix but they're going to have all new culverts out there."

Councilman Wilson stated, "Yeah well okay, so as long as we get it straight and want the people to know that you know it is coming, but I just hope nobody floods until then."

Brian Nunes stated, "I agree."

#### **Ranney Wilson - Railroad Issues**

The above item will be carried over.

#### **Larry Snyder - Update on graffiti at Old Bowling Alley**

Michael Coburn stated, "Yes sir Mr. Snyder. A violation notice was mailed on September 24th and a re-inspection conducted on October 6th. The owner is installing a fence around the property and again painting over the graffiti."

*When we contacted them they wanted to put up the fence before they started painting because if they painted it over, the kids would come back and do that, as of yesterday the fence is up, so we're back in touch with the owners and I think they're going to do the repainting of the side of that building."*

*Councilman Snyder stated, "Well thank you Coach I really appreciate it that because it was really abusive. It was like abusive type stuff to some of the people that live behind there you know and they did a good job. When that fence is completed, they have bob wire on it so now they going to paint it, I think the Sheriff he said that he would help in some way, if they want him to. So that's up to you'll how you'll handle that, thanks Coach."*

#### **Larry Snyder - Spraying and Dredging of Canal embankments**

*Councilman Snyder stated, "You have something you on there you want to tell us?"*

*Brian Nunes stated, "Well I just reiterate what we talked on the phone the other day. I do agree that spraying of the canal embankments is going to kill the grass and that'll lead to erosion problems. So we have instructed our contractor not to spray any of the banks, just within the limits of the canal, that's the only place his spray would go. Because I don't want those things to erode because that's bad for all of us. So we need to keep the grass on the embankments and only spray what's growing inside the canal."*

*Councilman Snyder asked, "So those people that spray the canal, they spray all of our canals, our large canals?"*

*Brian Nunes stated, "Yes we have one contractor for all canals."*

*Councilman Snyder stated, "One contractor spray all our large canals. Ok, but we're still responsible for cutting the grass on them?"*

*Brian Nunes stated, "Yes"*

*Councilman Snyder asked, "Okay, so we going to make some head way on that then?"*

*Brian Nunes stated, "Definitely, we already spoken with them."*

*Councilman Snyder stated, "Thank you, cause in the long run it's going to cost us a lot of money. He and I talked about that, it's happening over there right now in LaPlace Park and we have to spend money to get equipment in there, trucks in there and we could stop that thing and get some grass growing it might help us out a little bit."*

*Brian Nunes stated, "I agree."*

*Councilman Snyder stated, "Thank you Mr. Nunes appreciate it."*

*Brian Nunes stated, "You're welcome."*

*Councilman Madere stated, "What I have a couple of items down is basically the same thing because I'm concerned about parish servitude and you said you cut the canals. On East 26<sup>th</sup> Street, now any one of the streets in the*

*district the parish is responsible for cutting servitude right?"*

Brian Nunes stated, "Yes"

*Councilman Madere stated, "On East 26<sup>th</sup> Street there's a servitude that haven't been cut in a very long time and there's houses on both side and it's across from 166 East 26<sup>th</sup> Street as soon as you go around that curve, you're going to see the old dairy farm, in fact one of the residents actually went over on that side and cut it and planted some nice trees and stuff he maintained across from his house, we don't need to cut that one, nice little palm tree he maintains it. But on the other side right pass that we have grass about 8 feet high, right across from this lady house, so we need to get someone out there as soon as possible to cut that one down."*

*Brian Nunes stated, "Actually that one I sent my Supervisor out this morning, he looked at it, he said it was bad, he was going to get it done before the end of the day today, I didn't get a chance to go out this afternoon but it should be..."*

*Councilman Madere stated, "I'll tell you in the morning."*

Brian Nunes stated, "Ok"

*Councilman Snyder stated, "Brian one other thing, also on that canal, the main canal that's Vicknair Canal, I think from our Woodland Bridge going toward the front, they don't cut that grass in there, you know like the right of way part of it, I don't know what happened I don't know maybe they couldn't get back there but you may want to send someone to look at it see if we could do something about that, because it's..."*

*Brian Nunes interrupting asked, "Going towards the interstate or coming towards airline?"*

*Councilman Snyder stated, "The Woodland Bridge coming toward the front, going south, right. It seems like they can't get back there and cut that grass for some reason, I don't know, I really don't know but other than that, it looks good back there, they keep the grass cut nice on that right of way back there, on that Vicknair Canal, get someone to look at it for me."*

Brian Nunes stated, "I'll do that tomorrow."

**Larry Snyder - Discussion regarding grass cutting on parish right-of-ways**

*Councilman Snyder stated, "What I really wanted to say was that, those guys are doing a great job. I'm serious, I am serious, our areas are starting to look nice, they're keep it down nice and clean, they don't throw it on the street where it can clog up our drainage and I've been keeping my eyes on it, especially on Woodland and I know upfront and part of Cambridge they have been doing a real good job on taking care of our right-of-ways. So that's why I throw that in there because sometimes we don't give those people enough credit, even though they're under contract but they are doing a good job."*

Brian Nunes stated, "That's good to hear, thank you."

**Larry Snyder - Reserve Water Plant - dismantling of old filters future plans on cost**

Blake Fogelman stated, "We had a quick discussion with the parish engineer, we are going to work with the contractors that are on sight, obviously there's a lot of work going on right now that we want to kind of clear out of the way but we are in discussions with the parish engineer at this time."

Councilman Snyder stated, "That's good and that's all we're trying to here because if we kind of be proactive about his we can look down the road to see what we could do to help ourselves down the road and at least one thing just sitting there and if we had to pay taxes, we'll be paying taxes on it, but we don't have to pay the taxes on it so therefore; it's just sitting there because I guarantee if we had to pay taxes on it, we would have had it down by now. But, let's look at it Blake and see if we could do something with that thing."

Blake Fogleman stated, "And I got with C.J. last week, we were trying to line up a time that we'd both meet up in town, we're going to meet with the contractor and we'll go from there."

Councilman Snyder stated, "As long as we're thinking about it, that's all."

Blake Fogleman stated, "Yes sir sure."

**Larry Snyder - Discussion curbing the burglaries, break-ins and theft**

Councilman Snyder stated, "The Sheriff and I talked about that and I got information from him and I'm satisfied, thank you."

**Lennix Madere - Update on repairs from Utilities and Public Works**

The above item will be carried over.

**Lennix Madere - Parish Servitude - whose responsibility is it in the District**

The above item will be carried over.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

There was no old business.

There was no executive session.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

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

Lennix Madere - Update and concerns regarding home on E. 30<sup>th</sup> Street - regarding health and safety conditions

Larry Snyder - Hurricane Preparation plans

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

Parish Buildings - Security

Water bill issues - 133 Beechgrove, Reserve, LA

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

Lennix Madere - Water bills - amoeba update

Water District #1 System issues/State DHH order

Any and all pending legal matters

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:**

**15-54** An ordinance establishing fees for documents reproduced in response to Public Records Requests by adding to Chapter 2, Article VI, Section: 2-193 (N. Robottom)

**15-55** An ordinance granting approval of revised Lots 1 through 16 (formerly lots 1-21), located on Tuscany Drive, LaPlace, Louisiana; both preliminary and conditional approval obtained by the Utility Board on 6.2.15, the Planning Commission on 6.15.15, and the Council on 7.14.15 (PZS-15-1115) (N. Robottom)

**15-56** An ordinance to grant a subdivision modification under Section 111-29 (J. Hotard and M. Perrilloux)

**PRESIDENT REPORT:**

Good evening. I'd like to acknowledge our firefighters, police officers and emergency personnel who put their lives in danger for us each day. These brave men and women run to emergencies rather than away from them to protect and serve. I'd also like to thank St. Joan of Arc for spearheading the annual Blue Mass and luncheon in their honor and visiting priests and others from Ascension of Our Lord, OLG and St. Peter. Please keep our first responders in your prayers and join us in thanking them for their service. I'd like to thank everyone who attended the Courthouse ribbon cutting ceremony after months of construction. Over \$2 million in renovations are finally complete and the Courthouse is much improved. I want to thank the employees who worked with us through the project as it was not always easy to use a building and renovate it at the same time. Residents are invited to visit the courthouse during business hours, Monday-Friday, 8:00a.m.-4:30p.m. We joined the staff and owners of LA Dental Center for a ribbon cutting recently at their beautiful facility at 393 Belle Terre Blvd. in LaPlace and want to wish them the best of luck. Patients can schedule appointments by contacting the office at 985-652-8767 or through the website at [www.ladentalcenter.com](http://www.ladentalcenter.com). We also joined officials from the National Weather Service, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Governor's Office last month to dedicate new weather equipment and sensors that allow us to detect water levels and storm surge

height from pending storms. This will significantly improve storm surge modeling and preparedness on our end. We are excited about the new equipment and look forward to a long-standing relationship with these partner agencies. This past weekend over 85 children participated in a free New Orleans Pelicans Junior Training Camp hosted by our Recreation Department at REGALA gym. Participants learned critical basketball skills, the benefits of a healthy lifestyle and interacted with the mascot and dance team members. Thank you to the Pelicans organization, our staff and volunteers for a successful camp for our youth. Last week, I had the opportunity to welcome employers from across the region to an Employer Summit and Luncheon at the Community Center. The Summit was presented by Mr. Joe Lewis with Opportunity Now with a focus on opportunity, re-entry and employment for all residents, despite gender, race or incarceration history. There was participation from a variety of agencies and employers whose goal is to make everyone employable. More information can be found by visiting [myoppnow.com](http://myoppnow.com). Congratulations to Rev. Vernon Alexander Sr. of Greater New St. Peter Baptist Church for celebrating his 38th pastoral anniversary through service and song. I was able to attend due to a scheduling mistake, but we wish you many more years of service. Best wishes to Pamela Brown Allen and Elite Affairs, LLC staff for the opening of their new rental company. The store is located at 625 Woodland Dr. Suite 103 in LaPlace. It caters all event needs, including linens, chairs, chair covers, tables and more. Please call 504-615-5468 for rental information. Congratulations to our recently crowned 2015 Andouille Queens, Miss Madison King and Teen Queen Tabitha Tregre. Both reign over the Andouille Festival this weekend and promote a Smokin' Good Time. Congratulations to our other Andouille Pageant winners in the baby through Congratulations to our other Andouille Pageant in the baby through 12 year old age group. Also, a special thank you to my staff for coordinating another successful Andouille Pageant. This week the testing of the water line connecting the Lyons Water Plant with the Edgard Water Plant as part of the Waterline under the River Project will be finished this week. This project will provide a significant increase in water supply for fire protection to the West Bank, provide an increase in capacity to the West Bank and provide an alternate source of water to the East Bank should the Parish have problems with Lyons Water Plant. This project is a huge improvement and connects the east and west bank water system, which has never been done before. We want to again invite everyone to the 2015 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.anodouillefestival.com](http://www.anodouillefestival.com). **REMINDER:** The Park will be closed until October 26 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. **REMINDER:**

Tomorrow night is Night out Against Crime - Please be careful in the neighborhoods as there are about forty-five parties scheduled. Join us with an emphasis on fighting crime. A public meeting to discuss Phase 2 of the National Resiliency Grant will be held on Monday, October 19, 2015 in the Council Chambers from 6:00pm - 8:00pm. Residents are invited to provide input on the long-term future of St. John with a special emphasis on building resilience. Residents are encouraged to get engaged to the October 24<sup>th</sup> election by early voting now until Saturday, October 17 from 8:30am - 6:00pm at the Registrar of Voter's Office located in the Percy Hebert Building in LaPlace and the West Bank Courthouse in Edgard. A sample ballot and list of polling locations can be found on the Louisiana Secretary of State's website or by calling the St. John Parish Registrar of Voters Office. Thank you.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

At 8:38PM, Councilman Smith moved and Councilman Snyder seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with 8 yeas and Councilman Perrilloux absent.

/s/Michael Wright  
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche  
Council Secretary