

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23rd, 2012
CHAIR LUCIEN GAUFF
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, Edgard, Louisiana on Tuesday, October 23rd, 2012, at 6:30 PM.

CALL TO ORDER:

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

ABSENT: Ranney J. Wilson

Councilman Perrilloux led the Prayer. Councilman Madere led the Pledge.

Legal Counsel Jeff Perilloux, Billy O'Regan and Vercell Fiffie were present.

Natalie Robottom - Presentation - U.S. Representative Cedric Richmond

Cedric Richmond, U.S. Representative commented on his current works and plans for the River Parishes. He commented that they are fighting for a levee for this area and that the last visit to Washington with all of the Parish Presidents really showed a great front to the President and hopefully things will start to get done but that there is a concern for Mississippi as our neighboring state getting the run off if we build the levee but he wanted to assure the people of St. John Parish that he is constantly working for us.

Art Smith - Presentation - Patricia Mason - South Central Louisiana Human Service Authority

Patricia Mason, South Central Louisiana Human Service Authority, was present at the meeting and briefly explained the services that they offer for free to St. John the Baptist Parish. They are there to help and want to be a help through the recovery from Hurricane Isaac. They are located in the Becnel shopping center across from Home Depot and are a free service there to help counsel and direct people in the right direction to make them better individuals.

Lucien Gauff - Presentation - Buddy Boe - Young Entrepreneurs Academy

Buddy Boe, Young Entrepreneurs Academy with the River Region Chamber of Commerce, commented the academy is for students in grades 6-12 who have demonstrated creativity, innovative ideas, academic effort, determination, enthusiasm, the ability to communicate, and a commitment to their community and family. Students who apply to the Young

Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA!) should be responsible individuals who pursue goals with tenacity. No prior experience in business is required to attend. The academic year begins November and ends in June. The classes will meet every Tuesday from 4-7PM at John L. Ory. He invited all interested students to please apply.

BOARD OF REVIEW

Councilman Gauff stated, *"For a period of fifteen (15) days, beginning October 3, 2012 and ending October 17, 2012, this board of review has been opened to receive any written or oral complaints from taxpayers who wish to protest their assessment as determined by the Assessor. Complaining taxpayers must comply with Act 705 of 1976 in order for the Board of Review to consider any protest. The board of review is now opened to consider any protest."*

Consent Agenda

Items: Approval of Minutes October 9th, 2012, Regular Meeting; Permit Approval - St. John Parish Sheriff's Office Young Marines - 2nd Annual Veterans Day Parade - Sunday, 11/11/12

MOTION: Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Smith seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes October 9th, 2012, Regular Meeting; Permit Approval - St. John Parish Sheriff's Office Young Marines - 2nd Annual Veterans Day Parade - Sunday, 11/11/12. The motion passed with Councilman Wilson absent.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:

12-48 (Public Hearing Held) An Ordinance pursuant to the charter and code of ordinances of St. John the Baptist Parish to temporarily change two polling Places as defined in Chapter 2, Section 2:5 of the St. John the Baptist Parish Code of Ordinance for the November 2012, election. (N. Robottom)

Theresa Rodgers stated, *"These changes are required to provide alternative polling locations as a result of flooding during Hurricane Isaac (ESJH Freshman Academy & Lacour Center next to St. Peter)."*

MOTION: Councilman Smith moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 12-48. The motion passed with Councilman Wilson absent.

12-49 (Public Hearing Held) An Ordinance amending Ordinance 11-49 relative to the annual operating budgets for the St. John Parish General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, Enterprise Funds and Parishwide Sewerage Construction Fund for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2012 and ending December 31, 2012. (N. Robottom)

Randy Vincent stated, *"The 2012 budget amendments are based on the 2011 audited fund balances and administration recommends approval."*

Councilwoman Millet asked, *"This is strictly on the fund balances it has nothing to do with any other adjustments am I correct?"*

Randy Vincent stated, "That is correct."

MOTION: Councilman Snyder moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 12-49. The motion passed with Councilman Wilson absent.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

12-50 An Ordinance granting approval of a Re-subdivision of the Julius Hemple Tract & The Emile O. Hemple, Jr. Estate into lots herein Designated as Lot 1 & Lot 2 of the Hemple Estate situated in S-2, T-12S, R-19E, Lucy, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (PZS-12-1046) (N. Robottom)

12-51 An Ordinance introducing the annual operating budgets for the St. John Parish General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, Enterprise Funds and Parishwide Sewerage Construction Fund for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2013 and ending December 31, 2013 (N. Robottom)

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "At this time I would like to ask that the council accept the recommendation of the finance committee."

MOTION: Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to accept the recommendations of the finance committee. The motion passed with 7 yeas, 1 absent (Wilson) and 1 abstaining (Hotard).

DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:

Paige Falgoust, Public Information Officer, stated, "I just wanted to give an update. I know that during the storm there were some limited resources that residents could get information due to power outages and the situation that we were in however many of our residents were able to get some information through our website as well as Facebook and FirstCall. At this time we want to encourage our residents and push them to visit our website on a daily basis as well as visit our Facebook page and also sign up for FirstCall. Just to give you an idea St. John Parish currently has over 2,000 likes, 5,000 is the maximum you can have for a fan page and that is approximately 2,000 more than we had since August 16th, so that is something that we are pretty proud of even though it was during a disaster more residents did get involved with our Facebook page during the peak of the storm over 3,000 people were talking about our Facebook page and that was able to reach over 65,000 people and for those of you who may not know talking about a Facebook page is if someone came and liked our page or shared any kind of information and the more people you get to talk about your page it reaches more people. Our website has over 1,400 people that are signed up to receive news releases. Now although this is a pretty significant amount we do have 44,000 people in our parish and we would like to have more people sign up for our news releases so that they can get that

information as it is put out. Since August 26th, 425 people have signed up to receive news releases. Between August 26 and today over 177,700 have visited the website and 413,000 pages have been viewed. Currently between 900-1600 visit our page on a daily basis. FirstCall - In addition to the landlines that are already in the system, 920 registrations are geocoded in the FirstCall system to receive msgs on either the cell phone or the email. This is too low. In an effort to get more of our residents signed up for our emergency notifications and news releases, the Communication's Department is partnering with Entergy on a campaign for Emergency notifications. We are encouraging our residents to sign up now to receive emergency alerts as well as power outage notifications in the future. The Communication's Department and Entergy will be signing up residents for emergency notifications at locations throughout the parish including meetings and events. Churches and Homeowners Associations have also been asked to register residents to the FirstCall system and Entergy's Power Outage Notification System. Since yesterday, 50 residents have been registered to the system. We hope to continue this pace and increase the number of residents who are currently registered. We are asking our residents to please visit sjbparish.com to sign up for FirstCall today and visit entergy.com to sign up for power outage notifications. Residents can also text their account number and zip code to 378374 to register by phone. Anyone here tonight can visit the table outside the chamber to receive assistance in signing up for First Call."

Councilman Snyder asked, "What kind of information is sent out on the FirstCall?"

Paige Falgoust stated, "It is emergency information only since it is sent out to our residents and it has their land line information we can only send emergency information. On a regular basis we don't send just any information out but it is in an effort to send emergency notifications that occur."

Ranney Wilson - (Carry Over 9-11-12) Fire Department issues and concerns - allowing the Volunteer Fire Chiefs to maintain and take care of their department along with Mr. Boucvalt

Councilman Wilson was absent so his item will be carried over to the next council meeting.

Jaclyn Hotard - (Carry Over 10-09-12) Crevasse pumps

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I did speak with Mr. Nunes today and he is going to be looking into that item so I would just like to carry it over."

Art Smith - (Carry Over 10-09-12) Study Ruddock 3rd Well

Councilman Smith stated, "This is something I just wanted to ask the administration to look into because I know we were talking about bringing water from the Mississippi River and that is going to be a

long and costly process and I don't think we have 30 million dollars to build a new plant right now. I am just asking the administration to look into this process and give me some sort of answer as to what is the feasibility of having that 3rd well there to try to solve some of the water problems for the people in LaPlace. I know it isn't going to solve all of the problems but we don't have the money now to build a new water plant so we need to look at doing something in the interim to get some relief and help for the water situation in LaPlace."

Art Smith - (Carry Over 10-09-12) Comcast - West Bank Internet Service

Councilman Smith stated, "We have been waiting since I think February and we were promised that we were going to get equal service and fast speed internet and telephone service and everything in March then March became April then we met again in August then September and now it is almost November and I called this afternoon and we still don't have the same thing. So I am asking the administration to please get someone from Comcast so they can explain to us why we keep getting jacked around. I am tired of getting my leg pulled. I have been working with Paige and we talked this afternoon. I made a call at 4:55 PM again just to be sure that we are not getting the same services that are being offered on the East Bank at the same pay. So this is relatively new information and it is not her fault Comcast needs to be here to answer those questions as to why we are not getting the service that they have been promising since March. If we had went out in March and told the people on the West Bank that they were going to be getting the same services like they wanted us to do we would still be looking like fools but we look like fools now because we still are presenting their figures and it is not coming true. It is time for them to get off of their duffs and give us some good information and stop promising us these things and give us what we deserve. So if administration can make sure or try their best or if we have to take another route if they cannot deliver the services then maybe we need to look at another supplier."

Paige Falgoust stated, "Just to comment, I know that Mr. Smith and I have had conversations and I also have had conversations with our Comcast representative who is Francis Smith who has been in St. John Parish and met with us in the past. She has made herself available. I know that she stated she will be in the area. She is our representative but she is from Alabama and she will be in the area in the next three weeks so I told Mr. Smith if he wants to sit down obviously this is a new service that is available on the West Bank and we want it to work well for our residents. We want them to get the service they are paying for but there may be some problems that they have to work through. I know there was one that you brought up they looked through it and she said that they did find the problem and solved that issue. There may be some other issues that she might not be aware of. So I think a conversation with her on how things are going may be feasible and may help so I encourage you I will send her contact information she is more than happy to talk to you about any issue."

Councilman Gauff stated, "I would just like to say that I think it is unacceptable. I think just looking at the monitor and it seems to me we still don't have good service from Comcast and personally speaking my services at home don't work well. I have gotten numerous complaints and I have asked folks to hold up because they were working on the West

Bank they told us that they were going to tie into the system and the system would be much better once all the work on the West Bank was completed and as Mr. Smith said it just seems to be dragging out and still we can't get anyone here. We would like to ask questions and we would like to hear some answers from them. So that is my comment on that."

Councilman Madere stated, "I have some personal contact with the cable company in St. John Parish and I know they have been a problem for the council since they first came in the parish because I worked for them when they were Riverlands Cablevision and they promised the same thing for the West Bank then they went to Time Warner then they did the same thing and now we are here and Comcast and the council is still dealing with the same things. The people on the West Bank are not getting the complete service that the East Bank has been getting since cable has been in St. John Parish. I think this is entirely unacceptable that the people on the West Bank have to spend all these years basically trying to catch up to what has already been provided on the East Bank and I don't know how many councils have been in existence since we have been involved with cable but I think this council has to take a stand that either we get the service that the people deserve or we can look for someone else because I know that was presented to Riverlands five years into working for them that they needed to go to the West Bank or we were going to drop them completely out of the parish and that is how they ended up going on the West Bank. So I do know the history of the cable system in St. John Parish."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "Is it possible to have Mrs. Smith here at the next meeting and she can answer these questions for us?"

Paige Falgoust stated, "I will try. I have invited her to both meetings and she has said she had other plans or could not make it. I will ask her again. I know that she said she would be here within the next 2-3 weeks so I will ask again."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "Is it possible that we can have our District Attorney check into this as well since we have a franchise contract with them to find out if we have some teeth here to pull or what we can do."

Councilman Gauff stated, "I think the next meeting is on the West Bank so that would be very appropriate."

Jaclyn Hotard - Concrete Road Repairs

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "This item as well I did speak with Mr. Nunes today just to make sure that the streets that I had on the list are going to be repaired and we are actually working on finalizing some other streets so we can remove this item."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "Mrs. Robottom if your department could get us a list of the streets or concrete repairs that are ongoing. I know we are getting all of the code enforcement violations but can we get a list of the projects or Mr. Nunes if you could forward us the street repairs that are currently slated. I mean I know the blue marks are around the parish but if you could kind of give us an idea of where those locations are I would appreciate it."

Brian Nunes, Director of Public Works, stated, "I can give you the current list that we are working off of right now additionally I am meeting with the contractor tomorrow to add some more that we have notices, some more panels and curbing. So if there is anything specific that you would like targeted feel free to let me know."

Councilman Madere asked, "I know we were supposed to have some road repairs in District III. I know it is probably been slowed down due to the storm. What is the update? Are we still going to do these repairs?"

Brian Nunes stated, "We had to suspend all of our concrete and asphalt due to debris removal. It made no sense to drive those heavy trucks over a fresh road but we are picking up right where we left off in August."

Councilman Madere stated, "I was pretty sure that was the hold up and that is understandable. Thank you."

Councilman Smith stated, "Mr. Nunes on the road repair by Persimmon Street where the water system is supposed to work properly at I noticed this afternoon when I passed there is a lot of erosion happening even after they did the overlay and on the Southwest side all the dirt has just about eroded from there and the ditch is getting wider and wider and it is beginning to undercut the overlay you just put there. So there needs to be a shoulder that whole thing needs to be revamped or covered but something needs to be done because the erosion is going to continue to eat it up and eventually it is going to be in that guys house down there and his entire yard is going to be taken up because of erosion."

Brian Nunes stated, "Is that by the new control panel for the new pump, both the control panel and the road have a one year warranty so we will have the contractor's address it if it needs to happen."

Councilman Smith stated, "On the Southwest side all of the dirt is just about going from there already. It is going to collapse."

Brian Nunes stated, "Okay I am going to drive out there tomorrow and take a look at it."

Michael Wright - Peavine Boat Launch

Councilman Wright stated, "I know this is something that we have been working on for a while. I just want to get an update from administration as to where we are in the permitting and dredging process. I know it was crucial pre-Isaac and even more so now after."

Theresa Rodgers stated, "We actually recently received the completed survey that is a component of the permit application so that will be included with the full permit application to the Department of Natural Resources so that we can proceed with the dredging of the channel."

Councilman Wright asked, "Okay are we submitting that permit ourselves?"

Theresa Rodgers stated, "That is the plan. A meeting was held late this

afternoon and I didn't get the results on that between Mr. Daron Cooper in capital projects and Mr. Savoie, the parish engineer, but right now that is the plan but that could change."

Councilman Wright asked, "Mr. Savoie can you give an update?"

C.J. Savoie, Parish Engineer, stated, "Mrs. Rodgers is correct we did have a meeting this afternoon Daron Cooper and myself and we just started talking about this and he showed me what he had received, the survey and so forth and we discussed the possibility of commencing with the actual permit. It is going to be a joint permit between the Corp of Engineers and the Department of Natural Resources. We are looking at some other alternatives also in the fact of dredging and so forth so we are going to have another meeting, this was our first meeting so I don't have all of the answers right now for you but I should be able to give you an update in a couple of weeks."

Councilman Wright asked, "Do we have any possible estimated time? I know this is something that has been going on for a long time."

C.J. Savoie stated, "Well I am not going to lie to you. The permit process you are talking about has two areas. One you have a quiet water area which is enclosed inside that levee system in there where the launch is located and then they are talking about dredging out the channel which extends out some several thousand feet from there going out and those are the two locations that are talking about getting a permit. That isn't going to be quick. I don't want to lead you astray and tell you that is a quick process so it is going to take some time that is why we are looking at some other possible alternatives and possibly getting the permit quicker and that is what I don't have the answer to at this point."

Councilman Wright stated, "I guess I am just curious too as to what is taking so long to get this survey done and to get the permit submitted because I know we have been talking about this for a long time. Can anybody tell me, Mrs. Rodgers maybe, what has been the delay on this?"

Theresa Rodgers stated, "I can't pinpoint exactly what has taken so long. I just know that the survey was a critical piece and we just obtained that and we couldn't move forward with any other steps until we had the survey."

Councilman Wright asked, "When did they start the survey? Do we know when we asked them to?"

Theresa Rodgers stated, "I don't know when it was initiated. I know I just received it this month. Mr. Mike Carmouche has been working on this."

Councilman Wright stated, "Okay because I know we have been working on this since the beginning of the year. I think we also have some fishermen here that may have some concerns and I would like to open up the questioning to them."

Brent Beshing, Commercial Fisherman, stated, "I build boats but I am a commercial fisherman for a supplemental income. Some of the guys here make their living, their house notes, their grocery bills, their

tuition depends on them getting out of that driveway to go to work in the morning. I don't want to rebut people smarter than me but all we need is that excavator that you sent last time to pull the channel out. You are in 7 feet of water 100 yards from the rocks. We don't need thousands of feet in all due respect sir I know you are much smarter than I am but I go fish there every day and I am in 7 feet of water 100 yards pass the rocks. I damaged my boat last week \$550.00 of prop damages because I hit rocks. I had a lot to tell you but here it the thought I want to leave with you here tonight if every time the north wind blew you couldn't get out of your driveway to go to work no matter what you do if you own a company or work at a store or whatever but every time the north wind blows you can't go to work. You call up and say hey guys I won't be in today, tomorrow north wind again won't be in to work today after two or three days and a commercial fisherman has no backup funds he has got to fish. I was out there in Lake Pontchartrain Friday fishing for a corporate order and it was rough as heck but when the wind goes out that corporate order wouldn't have gotten filled. So I am begging you to take emergency action. I don't have time for you to study this because these guys income will stop and just ask yourself how would you feel if tomorrow you don't get paid you have to sit home with no income coming in and it is going to happen as soon as we get the first big blow. A simple excavator, bring me out 4 or 5 feet of water and everybody can live until we can get a better plan."

Casey Spencer, Commercial Fisherman, stated, "I've lived down Peavine Road since about the age of 5. I agree with everything Mr. Brent just said. I have a question on further damages now that this issue has come up. Who do we send the bill to? I don't see anybody raising their hands. So is there any kind of funding out there or any kind of programs that the parish offers while this is being worked on to be dredged? I would love any kind of answer because the damage isn't just to Mr. Brent's boat or my boat it is everybody and it has been ongoing for about 10 years when the launch isn't properly maintained. This is a navigable water way. It is just like a highway to us that is how we get into the lake. You use all the paved roads here to get to work. Your roads are pretty good why can't ours be?"

Councilman Gauff stated, "I will say I have been approached by area fishermen that have voiced your same concerns and I have gotten with Mr. Wright for this same cause saying we need to do something about it and hopefully the parish can help us. Whoever is out there that can help expedite this. We would appreciate it. I hear the permits that Mr. Savoie is talking about but it seems like there is something that is needed to be done just to dredge this 10 feet there has got to be something that the parish should be able to do to do that and then we go ahead on and try to get the other permits."

Councilman Smith asked, "Mr. Savoie is that a practical solution that they are asking for until we can get a more permanent solution in place?"

C.J. Savoie stated, "Like I said I was just brought in on this today but from my past history with that I think you are talking about within the quiet water area. Is that what you are referring to? Okay I don't know what the present permit says and what you are allowed as far as maintenance I think you probably Burke-Klienpeter did that permit some years ago we would have to research it and see what their maintenance

agreement is as far as the interior of the quiet water area and whether or not you are allowed to and if that is still in existence and you can maintain dredge that then they could go in there now and do something but I don't know the answer to that because I haven't seen that permit."

Councilman Smith asked, "Are you willing to meet with these gentlemen ASAP and look at what they are talking about?"

C. J. Savoie stated, "What I need to do first is find that permit and see what it states."

Councilman Smith stated, "Maybe administration can help you find that permit. All I am trying to ask is that we get a solution to these people this is their livelihood and if we could get a practical solution and get it done for them real quick until we get the permanent solution in place and let them get to work. All I am asking is that you meet with them, get something going, get the administration involved and find the permit and make a suggestion as to what we can and can't do."

C.J. Savoie stated, "You all can contact me but you will have to go through administration."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "That is what I was going to ask Chuck Savoie if you could and I would actually like to put it into a motion to instruct the parish engineer to expedite the research of these permits and expedite a solution to the problem that we are having at Peavine so that these people can get back to business. So I am offering that in the form of a motion."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Do we need a permit Chuck to do the maintenance on that pathway there so that those guys could get out there? Do we need a permit for that?"

C.J. Savoie stated, "It is their highway system but the fact is that it is still a waterway, it is controlled by the Corp of Engineers you have matters that affect everything and unfortunately the Department of Natural Resources and the Corp of Engineers who get very much involved and when you get those permits you usually get a maintenance permit to go with it. This administration has just come in and this was done prior to their time so in all due respect they probably don't know this but I remember when Burke-Kleinpeter did this it was several years ago but I have to find that permit and then see if there was a maintenance agreement that goes along with that and then I can answer your questions and if there is then you can go in and dredge it. They did do some dredging in there for a while for several years but I don't know where that started and where that ends and that is what I want to find out and that is the key to everything you are talking about. If it is still in existence and there is still a time element to do that then administration can react."

Councilman Gauff stated, "I know Mr. Wright wants the last word on this but I would like to say it seems like for as long as we have been asking for something to be done you are coming up with some suggestions now that should have been done from day one as far as looking into what we could do or what we couldn't do just to at least help them and then

as Mr. Smith said something temporarily and then something permanent or a quick fix because it seems like this has been going on for quite a while. I know Mr. Wright has had it on the agenda a couple of times. It seems like we could have done some of this ahead of time, gathering permits, gathering old or past data that would help us."

Councilman Wright stated, "Thank you Mr. Savoie and I want to thank the fishermen for coming out hopefully with the administration and Mr. Savoie we can make this a priority because it is crucial to our fishing industry. I know I put this on the agenda before and I have asked administration to keep me updated and they haven't. Again please keep me updated every time you guys meet please provide me with information or inform me that there is a meeting or both and Mr. Chairman I would like to carry this over to the next meeting."

MOTION: Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to instruct C.J. Savoie, Parish Engineer, to expedite the research of the permits and the solution to the problems at the Peavine Boat Launch. The motion passed with Councilman Wilson absent.

Larry Snyder - DRC payment to subcontractors

Councilman Snyder removed this item from the agenda.

Larry Snyder/Art Smith - Update Housing repair program

Councilman Snyder removed this item from the agenda all questions were answered in the finance meeting.

Larry Snyder - 2013 Budget study by Council

Councilman Snyder asked, "This was a thought I had that maybe we could get together with a group of three to sort of look at the budget and study it and it was just an idea I wanted to present to you guys for the budget for 2013. It was just a thought please keep that in mind."

Councilman Gauff stated, "I think they have started doing that."

Natalie Robottom stated, "We actually think that is a great idea Mr. Snyder. I think the finance staff actually met with three of the council members. It does take a little while. As you can see the document is extremely thick the system is the same as the finance report but when you are looking at a budget document we have actually altered the form this year to give a little more information at the beginning and explain what each fund is about and how it is generated. We do think it is a good idea. It is a little bit different from what you have had in the past but we welcome that opportunity and we do think that within the next few weeks we do need to sit down and go over the entire budget."

Councilman Snyder asked, "If we decide to break-up into groups do we have someone who can kind of lead us like Mr. Vincent?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes that is what we are offering. Our finance department and we will be happy to sit with you all. I know you talked about doing it after work and that works fine for us as well."

Councilman Smith asked, "Is there any way we can get this emailed electronically to me?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "We sent it that way today as it was introduced by ordinance. You are going to get it in binder form also."

Larry Snyder - Under budget funds

Councilman Snyder stated, "The funds that we do have money provided for to do things and we come under budget on it what do we do with the extra money and he had kind of explained to me exactly what happens with that and I was satisfied with his answer."

Natalie Robottom stated, "When we meet we will go over the capital funds budget as well so that we can see exactly what is left in each fund balance. You know sometimes we tend to go over budget rather than under but there are a few dollars left in some of them some are slated for other projects but I think when we sit down and have the meeting on the overall budget that it would be a good idea to look at the capital projects budget and bond funds as well so we can look at what has been expended on each project and how much funds might be remaining."

Art Smith - Equalization Chart

Councilman Smith stated, "I am reading the administrative report and I was told that there was one and they were supposed to supply it. Ms. Hotard didn't you say that the previous council had done one and was available?"

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "No I said there is an equalization chart. I mean we do have one."

Natalie Robottom asked, "And it was applied to the existing scale right? The existing scale was based on the equalization chart."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Correct the equalization chart that shows all the grades and all of the steps. I mean there is one."

Natalie Robottom stated, "But it was done before 2004?"

Councilman Smith stated, "So it is the same thing. I thought there was something different when they said equalization chart. All I was asking for at that time was just to be sure everybody was in the right grade with the right pay and that was supposed to have been done through the equalization chart."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I believe that is the pay scale. When we talked there is an equalization committee but it is just a committee of all of the members of the council so we don't meet separately if we have equalization issues we handle them at the council meeting."

Art Smith - Overtime pay rate under Declaration of Emergency

Stacey Cadon stated, "Employees who work during office closures as a result of a declared emergency are paid declared leave in addition to the hours worked. Similar to the policy of other parishes contacted, the pay policy provides that the employee receives his/her regular

hourly rate for hours worked up to 40 in a work week; hours over 40 in a work week are paid one and one-half times the regular hourly rate. According to FEMA Recovery Policy, "all costs, including premium pay, must be reasonable and equitable for the type of work being performed." FEMA guidelines also state that the policy must be deemed "reasonable" and normal procedures must not be altered because of the potential for reimbursement from Federal funds."

Councilman Smith stated, "There is one thing that sticks out to me and that is that all work must be reasonable and equitable for the type of work being performed. When you are asking an employee to go out in a storm and start a generator is that reasonable? That is my question is that reasonable? So I am asking that they be paid so that work is not reasonable, it is not a normal procedure. We are asking a guy to risk his life and we are asking him to do things that are not normal that is not a normal procedure for him to do, him or her whoever the employee is. So basically I guess I am challenging FEMA and saying this is not reasonable and we are asking them to do things that are not in their norm like going out there, the situation on Persimmon Street sticks out like a sore thumb, those houses got flooded because we could not get the generators in place and we had people going out in that storm. I think FEMA should be able to reimburse us to pay the employees because the future employees are not going to do this. If they didn't pay them this time they are not going to want to do it again because it is not part of their norm. We were asking them to go beyond that. So that is all I am asking is for what is reasonable."

Councilman Snyder asked, "When it comes down to Hurricanes like this do we have something we call maybe a Hurricane Squad whereas we have volunteers and then when the hurricane comes up those people are the ones that we actually activate and everyone else goes home?"

Stacey Cador stated, "The department heads deem who are essential or members of the ride out team and those individuals are designated to work during the disasters."

Councilman Snyder asked, "The director you mean?"

Stacey Cador stated, "The director along with the management team designate who is considered ride out personnel and those individuals are required to stay."

Councilman Snyder asked, "So we don't ask for volunteers we just direct them to do that?"

Stacey Cador stated, "Right now some people do volunteer to stay and help us answer phones or whatever we need. Some people will do volunteer and if we are lacking then we will accept those people to stay."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Don't you think it might be reasonable to ask for volunteers first and then if you can't fill the position you need then you would direct someone else to be there?"

Stacey Cador stated, "We can't plan on volunteers showing up. We have people who are designated as members of the ride out crew. Now some departments work it out among themselves you know if some people are

deathly afraid of storms obviously that won't be the field personnel but we do have some departments where people know that some people are just deathly afraid of storms so they have it worked out within the department these people will stay and these people will be allowed to leave but it is worked out within the departments."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well I think everybody is afraid of storms but I worked at a company for 30 years and we always had a volunteer emergency squad and if we didn't fill it like we were supposed to then we would direct someone to be on it."

Stacey Cador stated, "We didn't face a shortage of people wanting to work and I am sure I speak for everybody in the administration. We cannot say enough about the job that our employees did and I hope by me presenting our position on the policy doesn't in any way show that we are not appreciative of the job that they did. We didn't have people saying I don't want to stay because I am afraid. If people were asked to stay they stayed."

Councilman Snyder asked, "They were asked by their director to stay?"

Stacey Cador stated, "By the director and their managers."

Councilman Madere stated, "I understand what you are saying I know they have a team that should know what to do but during the storm I had several phone calls where the transition as to what the workers had to do wasn't very clear to some of them. Some who thought they were on the crisis team were sent home and those are some of the ones that called and complained because they wanted to stay. They felt as though they were overlooked and to me it looked as though there wasn't a clear understanding as to who would stay for emergencies and who would go and I think eventually it got worked out but initially I received some phone calls from some individuals who really wanted to stay and said they have worked storms in the past but all of a sudden this time they were not allowed to and sent home. So I think maybe we need to check to make sure that we understand who is doing what and who stays and who goes and who is on the second team if we need more people to call but initially the first person should know who is going to stay and that was some of the calls I received during the storm. I think I got maybe 3 or 4 calls and they wanted to stay and that is the issue that they were having."

Stacey Cador stated, "I understand and the manager or the department head is tasked with making those calls and adjusting personnel and staffing levels based on the needs. If there is no need for 10 people to stay initially you may have planned for 10 people to stay but after day four you find you can pull back some of your staffing."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay I think what they mostly concerned because this was day one, it wasn't something that happened after. They didn't have a clear understanding as to who as you say may have been in the first shift but then all of a sudden they were told to go home and that is what some of the problem was they wanted to know why they were removed and someone else took their place."

Stacey Cador asked, "Did they find out from the supervisor? I am puzzled as to why they would call you."

Councilman Madere stated, "Here is the reason why they would call me they would call any councilman if they think something is wrong. So I understand that is why they called me now if I can solve the problem may be a different story but I can look into anything that they call me about and what I am saying is that I didn't have time because there was so much going on I just told them I would look into it and now is the perfect opportunity to get this straight hopefully we don't have to have this situation again but if we do we need to have a clear understanding as to who stays and who goes and is it going to be by seniority or is it going to be by I like you and I want you to make extra money or what we just have to have a clear understanding of what it is going to be and I think that is what the concern was that they felt as though they were being sent home and not in the proper chain of command or they didn't have a clear understanding. I just need a clear understanding as to who is going to be there and I think that is what they are looking for or that is what the concern was."

Stacey Cadon stated, "I can attempt to find out if we can speak off line."

Art Smith - Eliza Eugene Enterprises - Disadvantage Business Services

Councilman Smith stated, "This is something I have been trying to get done for a while and the last time we had this on the agenda Ms. Eugene was supposed to set up a workshop for us and we haven't heard anything back from her so."

Eliza Eugene, Eliza Eugene Enterprises, stated, "Well actually as of tonight I have some available dates for next week so that we can sit down with the administration, the council and Mr. Davalier of the Davalier Law Group so that we can discuss this matter further. I can give you those dates now if you would like and whatever time permits on 10/30 he is available in the morning, on 11/1 he is available in the afternoon or on 11/2 morning or afternoon. Just for the record Mr. Smith I did speak with Council Chair Gauff so we have been communicating in regards to this matter, it has not been going unattended and I do have those dates available for you tonight."

Councilman Smith stated, "November 2nd is good for me."

Councilman Gauff stated, "Okay we will have to look at those dates and see what is best available for the council and we will get back with you if you don't mind."

Eliza Eugene asked, "If you all don't mind I will reach out to Ms. Jackie tomorrow so that we can begin to send out an email to confirm the dates."

Councilman Gauff stated, "Okay and I do confirm that we have been speaking on this issue for a couple of weeks now, almost every week and I met with both of them last week so that we can try to do just what we are talking about Mr. Smith. So she hasn't ignored it. She has been working on this."

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Theresa Rodgers - Resolution - R12-34 - A Resolution of the St. John the Baptist Council approving the application for grant funds from the Governor's Office of Community Development Local Government Assistance Program for Wastewater Lift Station improvements

Theresa Rodgers stated, "Administration requests authorization to submit an application for \$145,560.00 in grant funding from the Louisiana Government Assistance Program for removal of dry canned pumps and replacement with submersible canned pumps, if you are curious as to the amount that is the maximum amount allowed for parishes to apply for."

MOTION: Councilman Smith moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to approve Resolution R12-34. A Resolution of the St. John the Baptist Council approving the application for grant funds from the Governor's Office of Community Development Local Government Assistance Program for Wastewater Lift Station improvements. The motion passed with Councilman Wilson absent.

Hugh Martin - Resolution - R12-35 - A Resolution authorizing the execution by officials of St. John the Baptist Parish of documentation relating to the borrowing of funds by St. John the Baptist Parish Sales Tax District from the Louisiana Clean Water Revolving Loan Fund and providing for other matters in connection therewith

Hugh Martin, Bond Attorney, stated, "This resolution is sort of a house keeping resolution to clearly state matters as you know the parish has secured a DEQ loan, it is actually closed today subject to this resolution being adopted. The bonds are actually paid from the sales tax which have been voted and levied and issued by the sales tax district. The funds from the sales tax district are transferred to the parish and you all are the governing authority of both. This resolution authorizes the parish officials to execute documents on behalf of the parish recognizing that the funds do come from the sales tax district. It is purely a technical resolution. If you have any questions I would be happy to try to answer them."

MOTION: Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to approve Resolution R12-35. A Resolution authorizing the execution by officials of St. John the Baptist Parish of documentation relating to the borrowing of funds by St. John the Baptist Parish Sales Tax District from the Louisiana Clean Water Revolving Loan Fund and providing for other matters in connection therewith. The motion passed with Councilman Wilson absent.

PRESIDENT' S REMARKS

Natalie Robottom stated, "Good Evening, I would like to thank you iCAN Foundation powered by Pierre Thomas for visiting St. John the Baptist

Parish and sponsoring 16 students from LaPlace Elementary. Pierre Thomas, Thomas Morstead, Brian de la Puente, and Jed Collins all donated Wal-Mart gift cards to the students to purchase items that are geared towards fitness. Congratulations to 1st Heritage Credit for holding their grand opening today. 1st Heritage Credit makes personal loans for their customers through their network of branch offices. 1st Heritage Credit is located at 536 Belle Terre Blvd. in LaPlace.

In an effort to get local involvement in the St. John Parish Long Term Recovery Group, a meeting held with members from the Faith Based Organization and representatives from Home Owners Association in St. John Parish. Both meetings were well attended and we want to thank them for their continuous commitment to their communities. Currently we have a number of organizations who are in the area and part of the Long Term Recovery Group that can provide an abundance of resources; however, we need our residents included to let us know what is needed in the community. By having them a part of this group, it closes the loop helping St. John recover. NUCOR, located in St. James Parish, is currently looking for candidates who are willing to work day and/or night shifts for entry-level production positions. Individuals who are interested can register at www.nucor.com/opportunity and enter *ns1a2012* as the access code. The registration period is open through November 2, 2012. Only one submission is permitted. Early Voting began today and will be available through Tuesday, October 30. St. John residents can cast their vote at the Registrar of Voters Office located on the East Bank in the Percy Hebert Building at 1801 W. Airline Hwy or on the West Bank in the Edgard Courthouse at 2923 Hwy 18. The Registrar of Voters Office is open from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Election Day will be held on Tuesday, November 6. Residents who will not be available to vote on November 6, should early vote now! A sample ballot can be retrieved by visiting the Louisiana Secretary of State's website at sjbparish.com or www.sos.la.gov. The House and Senate Insurance Committee Hearing will be held on Wednesday, October 24 at the St. John Community Center, 2900 Hwy 51 in LaPlace for 6:00 p.m. to discuss the insurance problems that residents and businesses have been facing since Hurricane Isaac. Representatives from the National Flood Insurance Program will be in attendance as well as FEMA representatives, elected officials, and insurance companies to answer questions and provide clarity on issues at hand. For more information, please visit sjbparish.com South Central Louisiana Technical College, River Parish Campus will be holding a career fair on Thursday, October 25 from 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. to showcase business partners to students who may be interested in beginning their careers with organizations. Any company interested in participating in the career fair is asked to contact SCL Technical College Business Office Administration at 985-536-4418. Hike For KaTREEna has partnered with the New Orleans Super Bowl Committee to host a Super Tree Giveaway sponsored by Apache Foundation, Landcraft Homes, Bayou Tree Services, and St. John the Baptist Parish this Saturday, October 27 at the St. John Parish Civic Center from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. St. John Parish Residents are invited to pick up a

maximum of two trees at the civic center. Over 1000 trees including Crepe Myrtles, Live Oak, Japanese Magnolias, Green Ash, Red Maples, Cypress, Sweet Bay Magnolias, and sycamore will be available. Education on tree planting and maintenance will be provided. Trees will be distributed on a first come first serve basis. A Mold Seminar will be held on October 30th at 6:30 p.m. at New Wine Christian Center by Hands On New Orleans, an volunteer organization who assists in transforming communities through service and leadership development. Residents are invited to attend to receive information on how to properly remove mold in homes. As Mr. Snyder mentioned last meeting, Walgreens will be hosting a Halloween Community Event at Cambridge Park on Tuesday, October 30 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Residents are invited to bring children for candy, jambalaya, hot dogs, drinks, and flu shots. Activities including a spacewalk, a fire truck, finger printing by the Sheriff's Office, and face painting will be available for children. The New Orleans Hornets are hosting St. John Night at the Hive on Wednesday, November 7 as the Hornets take on the Philadelphia 76ers at the New Orleans Arena. Proceeds from the night will be allocated to the St. John School System to replace instructional materials and supplies lost at Lake Pontchartrain Elementary and East St. John High School due to Hurricane Isaac. Discounted tickets can be purchased online at ticketmaster.com or by calling 504-593-4748. As a reminder Bidy Basketball registration is currently open for boys and girls ages 5 to 14 years old. To register contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 985-652-9569 or visit their office at 200 REGALA Park Road. Participants can also complete the registration form online at sjbparish.com. The deadline to register is Wednesday, November 7, 2012. Coaches are also needed for Bidy Basketball. Any coach interested in volunteering to coach a team, please contact the Parks and Recreation Department. I would like to remind our residents to please sign up for FirstCall alerts and Entergy's power outage alerts to stay informed when they are not home. Both of these alerts are important year round and will provide information during an emergency. We wish all of our residents a safe and Halloween! Please use caution when trick or treating and only bring children to houses with their porch lights on as a safety precaution. Parish offices will be closed on Thursday, November 1 for All Saints Day."

COUNCIL BRIEFS

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I want to wish my daughter a Happy Birthday. She made 15 yesterday and I had to watch the debate on my telephone to take her out to eat so she knows I made a big concession for her. Also president Robottom did mention the event on October 30th at the Cambridge Park that Wal-Greens is hosting I would like to encourage people to attend that. Also she did mention early voting and there was a line, I know a lot of people came to vote today but if you can you never know what could be happening on Election Day it is very important not who you are voting for but that you are voting."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "I do want to wish everyone a Happy Halloween. Also Mrs. Robottom I just heard about that Ican Program at

LaPlace Elementary that was a great thing and since it was in my district I really wish I would have known about it, I would have liked to have known about something like that too but it happens. Also I would like for the administration to please work on this situation at Peavine Road for these fishermen to have to come and take up their time for us to take action I really think that we are remised for not taking care of this prior to this so I would really like to see this taken care of because of that okay."

Councilman Snyder stated, "My community in Cambridge was hit really hard with this flooding and the storm but there have been a lot of people that stepped up and kind of helped us in every way that they can and I was touched that my choir at our church came this past Saturday and they gave away lunches for anyone who wanted a lunch and they brought some in the community and gave to the people that were working in their houses they also did the same thing a few weeks ago in Indigo Estates and I want to thank them for doing what they did it was an all-day effort and all of those families that gave their time and homes to hose the night out against crime thank you and I am looking forward to next year. I visited a few of them and I had a good time and we got a lot of talking in and the kids really enjoyed the sheriff and the firemen being out there. Also like Mrs. Millet said I would like to thank the Ican foundation and the New Orleans Saints for what they did for our children at LaPlace Elementary School."

Councilman Wright stated, "I just want to echo what Mr. Snyder said despite the amount of events that we had canceled for night out against crime it was very well attended and I want to thank the residents that attended and the ones that hosted the event and I want to commend the sheriff's office, the fire department and the members of administration for working so hard."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "I would like to thank Mrs. Cindy Haydel of LaPlace Park and Mrs. Jackie Zeno of New Era who put on a fantastic event for the night out against crime despite all the problems we have had they brought the community together and the food was delicious. Also I would like to thank Mr. Pierre Thomas from the Saints organization, I wish I would have known earlier I would have joined Mrs. Cupid at LaPlace Elementary welcoming them to that event because I have a lot of history at that school. I would like to say if you know anyone that needs help with their houses please send their names in we still have volunteers at New Wine that are looking for work to do. So if you know any elderly or people in need please submit your name so they can help you with your home. Other than that Paige can you send me the Nucor email so that I can print some copies?"

Councilman Madere stated, "I would also like to thank all of the individuals who took part in the night out against crime in my district. I tried to make a stop by each of them, they were all well attended and well organized. Also to the people in my district anyone that has experienced anything related to the storm like debris that is still around in the area please let me know, I realize district III wasn't hit quite as hard as the other areas in LaPlace but still we have some pockets of debris still left behind so if you are having problems please contact me so I can help take care of this for you. Also any other problems that may be of concern don't hesitate to call me. I would like to thank everyone helping in the recovery and I would

like to thank my sister's grandson, Cameron Baudoin, who said he was going to watch Paran."

Councilman Smith stated, "I would also like to thank Pierre Thomas Foundation for his efforts for the kids in St. John Parish. Our kids have been through a lot lately and it is always great when someone steps up and shows that they care. I would also like to thank Congressman Richmond for giving us an update on what was going on and I look forward to working with him. I would like to extend my condolences to Mrs. Cadot for her families lost. I would also like to wish everyone a Happy Halloween and please get out and vote. It doesn't matter who you vote for just make your vote count. I also want to thank the administration and you Mrs. Rodgers for the 12 inch line that is going to increase the water pressure on the West Bank since January it didn't quite make a year but I see the progress that they are making over there and I just wanted to thank them."

Councilman Gauff stated, "First I would like to send condolences to all of the families of the parish that have been hit with death in the family so we send out our prayers there have been quite a few employees that have lost family members recently so we send our prayers. I want to thank the Saints and the Ican organization for coming to the parish. I would like to say we have to do a better job with communication on that as soon as you can let some of the council members know especially if it is affecting their area. So the administration needs to do a better job with that. It is something that would be nice for some of us to get to. I would like to say get out and vote. Early voting has started and be mindful there are some resolutions other than the presidential election. Also Happy Halloween and have a great night."

There was no executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Personnel Matters

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

Cable Franchise Agreement

Any and all pending legal matters

ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:26 PM, Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Snyder seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilman Wilson absent.

/s/Lucien Gauff, III
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
Council Secretary