

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24th, 2017
CHAIRMAN LARRY SNYDER
VICE-CHAIR JACLYN HOTARD

The Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist Parish, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session in the Joel McTopy Chambers, LaPlace, Louisiana on Tuesday, October 24th, 2017, at 6:00 PM.

CALL TO ORDER:

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

ABSENT: Jaclyn Hotard

Councilman Madere led the Prayer. Councilman Wright led the Pledge.

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

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

Rae McMurray stated, "We'd like to give something to Mr. Malik to hand out to you guys for later reading."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Which item on the agenda that you want to speak on?"

Rae McMurray stated, "We're Rae & Timothy McMurray, and we'd like to comment on the Utility Billing issues, since we've been unable to speak to Curtis Young please?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Go right ahead."

Rae McMurray stated, "We agree with Councilwoman Jaclyn Hotard's September 26th statement. If we are over charging one customer for something that they didn't get, that's stealing. Our water bill reflected 17 days of consumption, since when 17 days equal a month? There's a monthly based price for water and with what is essentially a bi-monthly bill the customer was not afforded an opportunity to use what is allowed in the based price, but is forced to pay for it anyway. That's stealing. Our account cannot be estimated or averaged, nor can other account which has had a register replacement or a problematic register. Unbelievably, there are residents who have received three (3) or four (4) estimated bills in a row, that's insane. If water bills continue to arrive two (2) per month there will be more than twelve (12) this year, which leads to overcharging and that to, will be stealing these billing issues are closer to two (2) years old. In February of 2016, there were already a little over two thousand (2,000) failures, and by November there were three thousand (3,000) problematic registers replaced. How do we know it? Administration told us. Almost one year later in September of this year, of the sixteen thousand one hundred (16,100) meters in this parish, three thousand (3,000) were problematic and replace. Nine thousand four hundred fifty-three (9,453) are unreadable and the remainder are failing at a rate of 3-

5% per month. How do we know? Administration told us. We know it's a little confusing, have six thousand (6,000) registers been replaced, and someone failed math? Or did the department stop replacing them in November 2016? The billing issues are really not due to equipment failures, buried meters or an old computer system. The Utility Department suffers from incompetence. Replace the problematic registers and clean house, or perhaps it's time to privatize the Utilities Department. Thank you."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Thank you ma'am appreciate that. What's your name again?"

Rae McMurray stated, "Rae McMurray, my husband Timothy."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Ok, thank you very much."

Rae McMurray stated, "Thank you."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Appreciate the input."

Joycelyn Howard stated, "I'm talking about the issue on update to Council and citizen on the latest changes to the CDBG/Hurricane Isaac Program for homes that was previously approved. I have been with the project from the beginning, I spoke with Ms. Myra July the 5th and she informed me that that we were one of the 55 that would be elevated and to be patient, because on May the 23rd it was on hold, it was put on hold. And I talked with her and I talked to Ms. Laverne Toombs the same day. And on July the 13th we had a meeting, and at the meeting we were promised that we will be elevated, the 55 of us within the six (6) months. We was told that the money will be release and they was even trying to start something else trying to get money from another program, source until it was. So, we waited patiently, she gave us her phone number, I did keep in touch with her I kept in touch with the contractor saw all of them. On September the 12th I called her and she informed me that the money for elevation was there and they would start contacting us very soon and that Royal Engineer our contractors will start calling us, we're going to proceed on just give it a few weeks. I called her back on October the 6th right before Nate, and she told me that the status of the elevation we were going to be contacted Monday, October the 9th about it and everything would be explained about the elevation then. And I was asking her were we going to get a date and she told me at the meeting, you're going to have a one on one meeting and from there they're going to tell you about the elevation and how they're going to proceed. And so, we have been waiting very patiently, October the 18th was my meeting and I was told there that I would not be elevated, but they would renovate my home but they would not elevate my home. And what I really needed was elevation, and I was told because my house didn't have repetitive flooding and I even questioned that. And when I questioned it the conversation kind of changed, it went from; what is the big deal it's just three feet. And I told her and I said, three feet is a lot when you've flooded, three feet is three feet less water, three water is when it rains hard, I don't have to put all of my furniture up, I can't go home sometime because of it, because I have a car and I can't get in and out of my driveway, so I have to go stay somewhere else. Three feet is a piece of mind waiting for 5 years for this program and was told you was going to be part of it."

Councilman Snyder stated, "We're going to have the discussion come up, a lot of this are going to come out with that discussion, just hold tight there. We appreciate your input though, thank you. Ok we had one other lady back there who had her hand up, yes ma'am you want to come forward? Try to keep it to two (2)

minutes if not, we may let you go over a little bit we might charge you for though, if that's alright."

Hi Good Evening, my name is Laura Jones, behalf of the Jones' household, Maria Jones and myself and my husband. Our issue is the water bill problem. Since last year there's been some issues with the bills, they're coming very late and charging late fees, they're some issues with the dates on which they're billing, I mean it could be a couple of days to two (2) weeks, but these are over charging. You know from what I'm looking at they owe us money, you see cause I mean the way the billing is and I'm a Certified Medical Biller and I know how billing works and this is not right. This is very bad. But what these people are doing, I don't know who's in charge of this but it needs to be fixed quickly. Okay, cause this is wrong, you know you're taking people's money and people who don't have a whole lot of money right now, you know people that are still trying to recover from the tornado, from Isaac, from Katrina still, people are still I mean I was affected by Katrina and Isaac you know it's tough, ok? And I really would appreciate it if someone would really look into this, maybe another company could take a look at how these people are billing us. You go to the water board and you ask them questions; they don't know anything. They roll their eyes and they get an attitude, and there's nothing we can do. You know there's nobody we can talk to, nobody we can call we try to ask for information on the billing company they can't give it to us because they don't know."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Appreciate that, thank you very much. Thank you for that input."

Laura Jones stated, "Yes sir thank you."

Good Afternoon everybody, my name is Kevin Williams. I live in District VI, Mr. Larry Snyder's district, and I'm coming on reference to the CDBG money. Money that was promised to the parish, the money that the federal government gave the parish for the flooding of our homes that were affected. Ok, and in July we had a meeting here in the council building, this young lady right here, she promised us what Royal Engineer that you'll had the money available to fix our homes. So we're looking for accountability from the Royal and the Council Members and Ms. Natalie Robottom because the government gave you'll this money we applied so we expected accountability from the people that we have in charge. So the money was available for us, we qualified for the money, we gave you'll the paperwork that you'll needed to get the money, so we expecting our houses to be elevated if you'll had the money. We don't expect you'll to delegate the money to something else that you'll had to elevate our homes. We see a lot of building going on in the parish, that's all fine and dandy but you'll have money to elevate our homes, we would like to have it."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Thank you. Appreciate you very much for that input. Yes ma'am, don't be afraid to just come up now. This is your meeting."

Hi, my name is Rosemary Jackson. I'm on the same situation with Ms. Howard, same situation but mine a little different. In 2005, I signed up to get my house elevated and the parish blocked me ok, that was from Road Home. Then I had to get back in touch with Road Home to let them know that they're blocking me. With Road Home gave me the thirty thousand dollar (\$30,000) grant money, I put that in the bank to 2008 cause I still was fighting with trying to get it lift. In 2008 that's when, she wasn't the Parish President it was Nickie Monica, he blocked it. So Road Home had to come back out to my house I had to do my house, you know repair my house and stuff, so when they came back and checked it out, they said

that's fine they blocking me. So in 2012 I went back in under water for Isaac, so I did all I went to all the crisis again with them trying to get it elevated, I came to the meeting last Wednesday he told me that they don't have any more money to elevate my house. I'm going through this situation for years and years cause you know how many times I done flooded, this is my fourth time. This FEMA got every document that I flood, and this my fourth time I done flood out. I just don't know what else to do because I don't think it's fair to me. I'm doing everything, I'm doing everything they told me to do it's not on my end. It's I think it's on the parish and they constantly giving me the run around the first time they told me that they blocked it. Now this time they're saying they don't have no money to do it, and I have a special need child to, that for Isaac they had to come get us out in a boat we didn't even know the water was coming. Thank you."

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

My name is Delores Thomas, I am here to for home elevation. We had the meeting on the 13th of October the 13th of July. We had our one on one October the 11th, but in between I have texted LaVerne. On October the 30th I text her August the 30th she said they were waiting for the funding from the state. I told her at that time I texted her back I was under the impression that the funding was there from the meeting of July 13th. I never got a response from her from that text. On September 21st I texted her again inquiring about the status of the elevation program, never got a response then. September 27th I told her I sent you a text on September 21st, and have not gotten a response, I would appreciate your acknowledgment of my text. Then she calls me and tell me she asked Ms. Valentine to call me and I tells her, Ms. Valentine or nobody else got in touch with me, ok? And she told me she totally understands my frustration and all of that, then I texted her again on October 11th after I had the one on one with her, I was very upset I was royally pissed off! Because we did everything right, I'm sorry, we did everything right we did everything we were supposed do. They told us they need to update our information, we did that. We did everything the way we was supposed to do it! And they come at me with no money. And, my contractor which was METRO, said I was 3rd on the list to be elevated. They got three people on their list to be elevated but guess what! Ms. Thomas is not one of them! So explain that to me."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Ms. Thomas thank you for that input it is informative. Thank you very much."

My name is Lenny Minol, I've been in Cambridge Subdivision for the last 25 years and I'm also talking about the elevation grant. We were told from the assumption of this program, I think in 2013 or 2014 that we were qualified, we had been approved and we were accepted to have our home elevated. I lost everything in 2012 as so many others you know, all of us did. And you know we waited patiently like Ms. Thomas said, you know we presented all of the evidence, our insurance, everything they asked us to do, we did it. Ok, on July 13th we had a meeting in this building and they said the 55 remaining homeowner's would definitely be elevated. Ok, we got another call from Royal Engineering, Ms. Misty to update your insurance, make sure you got flood insurance, homeowners insurance and all that we did that. Then we got another call from Royal to meet the parish over here for a one on one, then he tell us there's no more money. So my thing is, if you had \$32 Million, what happened to the money that was allocated to elevate the homes? I mean and another thing I want to know, what is the selection process because we got people that's homes are being elevated, good for them I'm not mad at them, good for them. But you got people like me been in the program from day

one, homes are being elevated like I mean, what's the selection process? Do you pick a name out the hat? Do you do a lottery or what? So, I'm just frustrated."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well I appreciate your input."

Lenny Minol stated, "And we need answers, I mean nobody giving us no answers. What happened, I mean what happened to the \$32 Million?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Thank you sir appreciate the input I really do, thank you. Will be some discussion later on about this."

Lenny Minol stated, "Yeah but still no answers."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I understand. There will be some discussion here tonight."

My name Henry Joseph. I'm from River Forest and my wife and I been going through this since the elevation program came in affect. I want to know where the money at, what we were to, the promises that were made to our residents. I have a neighbor two blocks down from me, I live the 300 block of River Forest she lives the 200 block, she's getting her house elevated. I got 3½ foot of water in my house, somebody explain to me what happened. But you found the money to another program, and supposed to have the money in our program? Somebody need to give me some answers."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Thank you Mr. Joseph appreciate that input, we do."

Yes sir, Good Evening Council. My name is Nathaniel Watkins, I'm also here to get the latest on CDBG/Hurricane Isaac. And I've been in it since day one and I also like the rest of them was told there's no more money. And I understand they got changes, so I'll just wait and see and listen to you guys what's on the agenda. Appreciate that, I just wanted to put my name on the record."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Thank you sir. Thank you Mr. Watkins appreciate it."

Hello Council, my name is Etrice Turnage and I'm here about the elevation also. I live in the back of Cambridge and as most of you know it flooded. Ok 4 feet of water is what I had, walking with this (Portable Oxygen), okay? I was approved to get my house elevated, probably a year ago. The contractors were over booked so I got situated with another contractor, that contractor had insurance issues. I was given to another contractor, this is all over a year to. I was allocated funds but I couldn't get my house elevated because contractor issues. Ok, then I get a call and I had a meeting last week and they tell me my money is gone. I need somebody to tell me where it went. It was there a year ago, now it's gone. No fault of mine, I can't you know answer for contracting issues and I just need someone to tell me what happened."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yes ma'am, thank you very much. Is that it? We thank everyone for the input because these Councilmen, they represent you and that's why we have this on the agenda. So someone can come speak and say what's on their mind pertaining to things on our agenda. And everybody around this table you see here, is ears wide open. That's one of the reason's we got it on the agenda, so we all can speak to it. I dragged some of you out of there, some of the other people did some dragging some people out of high water also, and I could understand what these kind of frustrations can lead to, what it can mean to people, but let's see where we go from here. Let's continue here."

INTRODUCTION OF BUSINESSES:

Natalie Robottom - Proclamation - October as Community Planning Month

Natalie Robottom read the proclamation for October as Community Planning Month.

CONSENT AGENDA:

MOTION: Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Sorapuru seconded the motion to suspend the rules to add Councilman Perrilloux's Re-appointment of Mr. Bernell Charles, Jr. to the Planning Commission. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

ITEMS: Councilman Perrilloux - Re-appointment of Mr. Bernell Charles, Jr. to the Planning Commission. Approval of Minutes - October 10th, 2017, Regular Meeting; Permit Approval - Block Party - Capt. G. Bourgeois - Saturday, November 4th, beginning at 2:00 PM and ending at 6:00 PM; Permit Approval - 9th Annual Middendorf's Manchac Run/Walk - Saturday, November 11th, beginning at 7:30 AM; Councilwoman Hotard - Re-appointment of Daryl Shloz to the Planning and Zoning Commission

Councilman Perrilloux stated, *"I have a comment. I just like to put on the record, it's Re-appointment of Bernell Charles for the record. It's Re-appointment."*

Councilman Snyder stated, *"Ok Re-appointment of Mr. Bernell Charles. That's the way it's written down here to."*

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Becnel seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda items consisting of Councilman Perrilloux - Re-appointment of Mr. Bernell Charles, Jr. to the Planning Commission; Approval of Minutes - October 10th, 2017, Regular Meeting; Permit Approval - Block Party - Capt. G. Bourgeois - Saturday, November 4th, beginning at 2:00 PM and ending at 6:00 PM; Permit Approval - 9th Annual Middendorf's Manchac Run/Walk - Saturday, November 11th, beginning at 7:30 AM; Councilwoman Hotard - Re-appointment of Daryl Shloz to the Planning and Zoning Commission;. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:

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

Natalie Robottom stated, *"Mr. Snyder."*

Councilman Snyder stated, *"Yes."*

Natalie Robottom stated, *"I think our recommendation, this a companion ordinance with the item that was tabled on the Finance agenda regarding the Delta Land*

property. So we're going to ask that you table this as well, until all the documents can be reviewed by Legal Counsel."

MOTION: Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilwoman Remonet seconded the motion to table Ordinance 17-45 until all the documents can be reviewed by Legal Counsel. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Madere stated, "I'd like to make a motion that the council accept the minutes from the finance committee meeting."

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

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Kerry Watkins - Approval of the amended by-laws for the Recreation Advisory Board

Kerry Watkins stated, "The by-laws were drafted to adhere to laws at the local and state level. They were approved by the Recreation Advisory Board and Administration recommends approval."

Councilman Madere asked, "Did administration get a chance to look at those documents, I mean the by-laws?"

Kerry Watkins stated, "Yes sir."

MOTION: Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilwoman Remonet seconded the motion to approve the amended by-laws for the Recreation Advisory Board. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

Jerry Jones - Approval of the amended by-laws for the Economic Development Advisory Committee

Natalie Robottom stated, "Administration recommends tabling this item to allow additional time to address suggested concerns. It has been reviewed and approved by the Economic Development Committee but after it made back to our office, we saw some things that weren't quite like we intended. Mr. Jones is not here, we also received comments or anticipating some comments from some of the other council members, so before I bring it before you, we'll have to go back to the Economic Advisory Board, there's a wait period, you introduce at one meeting, you vote at the next so it may be a couple of meetings before it comes back, but we do think it'll be a better document when everybody finishes reviewing it."

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to table the amended by-laws for the Economic Development Advisory Committee to allow additional time to address suggested changes. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

Natalie Robottom - Resolution - R17-42 - A Resolution allocating funds to the Louisiana State University Agriculture Center (LSU Ag Center) in furtherance of the development of an integrated management program for control of the Roseau Cane Scale

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes sir. Ms. Carter actually made a presentation at the last meeting explaining and providing some documents on where the Roseau Cane has been found. Approval of this resolution commits the Parish to participate with other Coastal parishes, CPRA, CWPRA and the LSU Ag Center to conduct surveys and research to address the Roseau Cane Scale and to find possible insecticides or other ways it can be eliminated. The contribution is in an amount not to exceed \$9,500 and will be funded by Economic Development. This continues to be ongoing, they're continuing to find it in other places. Obviously these amounts of money will not address the remedy, however they are seeking federal funding once they determine what the remedy is to deal with it, but this will help them in their surveys and research to determine a path for it, so we recommend approval."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "Did the County Agent get involved with this project?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "This is actually at the state level I'm sure they will be involved. The lead is LSU Ag Center. We haven't found it on the West Bank yet, but they're concerned that it is spreading, so at the state level LSU Ag will be pulling in the County Agents, because we need information out to our boaters, our fishermen, to know what to look for, what to identify, so it's going to be we're requesting as a group of coastal parishes, is more information about what's happening so we can distribute it to the folks throughout who are out there seeing it, to be cautious to report things that they see, cause they are trying to track the spread of it and what are the results. So more information will be coming and is likely to be put out through the County Agents."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Alright thank you."

Councilman Snyder stated, "We got another question but before we get that question, I just want to let the public know that this Roseau Cane scale, that's a bacteria that affecting some of the vegetation on our coast and it's killing it. And if it kills all the bacteria then it starts eating away at the land, and that's what cause the erosion. So the state is working on that and that's what we're talking about now."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Well actually that was my question, I was asking Ms. Carter just to come up for a minute and say what the Roseau Scale is and what is happening on our coast. Thank you Mr. Snyder."

Alex Carter stated, "Good Evening Council, sorry for my absence. But just briefly it is an insect that was received from China and India or Japan, I'm sorry, it does eat the cane it eats Roseau Cane which is both commercially available and also in the marshes. It's causing widespread in the marsh, what we're asking people to do right now, is if they see it to report to LSU Ag because they are out looking for it, but if our boaters know what to look for they can go on LSU Ag, there are images of the insect. We were at the festival passing out flyers, but the take-away is if you see it, report it, LSU Ag is tracking it, we can assist with that effort, but also if you see it, rinse your boats off. Right, make an extra effort to when you get out of the water make sure you're hosing your boat off because we don't want you, if you saw it in one place to bring it to another, so there is a containment concern associated with this. So the more we communicate that, the more we report it the more we can contain it."

Councilman Sorapururu asked, "Good, does it look like anybody I know?"

Alex Carter stated, "No I don't think so."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Thank you ma'am, I don't know what I'm looking for. Ok, thank you ma'am."

MOTION: Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilwoman Remondet seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R17-42. A resolution allocating funds to the Louisiana State University Agriculture Center (LSU Ag Center) in furtherance of the development of an integrated management program for control of the Roseau Cane Scale. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

Natalie Robottom - Resolution - R17-43 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish, through the Office of the Parish President, to execute a grant agreement with the Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Office of Cultural Development, Division of Historic Preservation for the National Park Service Historic Preservation Fund grant

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes sir. We came before the Council with a resolution in support of applying for this grant, we are moving forward with the four (4) Historical Districts. This agreement will facilitate completion of Historical Standing Structure Surveys of properties fifty (50) years and older within the Reserve, Garyville and LaPlace Historic Districts. It requires a local fifty percent (50%) match for a sum of \$20,000, which will be funded through the Economic Development Department. A separate historical survey has already been completed for the West Bank and once these other surveys are completed, they'll be combined into one document to be used for the parish. Administration recommends approval."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I have one question and just to mention to the public again, our Planning & Zoning Department, well the whole Administration is working very hard on this project and it's like a two full projects actually. We know of some that was historic sites and that we already had other historic sites in the parish, it kind of mention those together with all historic sites. Believe it or not St. John Parish got a lot of history to it. And with this what we're doing here, it would kind of focus on that a little better and I know this group here is charged with getting some people to put on that board that we're about to form and we got to get some good people that's going to look at where we come from and how we preserve that. And that's what all this historic stuff you here is all about. I know Ms. Alex can explain this to you much better than I can, she's much better, Alex would you please come forward to kind of explain to, we going to vote on this guys. What's going on here?"

Alex Carter stated, "Sure, sure. So we did talk about this in our community meetings when we were bringing the historic ordinance to the parish. This is one more step in the direction of setting up commission and having all the tools available to make good informed decisions about what residents can and can't do, but also what they should or maybe possible for them to do to really preserve what is there, and so these surveys will be used to identify contributing structures in the districts, so administration and residents can be better informed about what it is they have and those local gems as Councilman Snyder mentioned."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Good thank you thank you, Alex. Appreciate that input there."

Natalie Robottom stated, "In the importance of this as we know there's grant funding available to these homeowners to restore some of their properties, which is what we're attempting to do. Many of them do need additional work to them, so we can put them in a position to access funding to assist with restoring these properties, that's our goal."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Thank you very much."

MOTION: Councilwoman Remondet moved and Councilman Sorapuru seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R17-43. A resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish, through the Office of the Parish President, to execute a grant agreement with the Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Office of Cultural Development, Division of Historic Preservation for the National Park Service Historic Preservation Fund grant. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:

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

MOTION: Councilman Sorapuru moved and Councilman Becnel seconded the motion to remove Larry Sorapuru/Kurt Becnel - Request for a Water Bill Payment Center on the West Bank from the table. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

Natalie Robottom stated, "Actually this request was evaluated in the past and was determined not to be feasible at that time. Currently, utility payments can be made by auto-draft, cash, credit cards, online payments, or mail-in. Payments can also be made at Club Grocery located on the West Bank on Hwy. 18 in Edgard."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Yes the reason why this was placed on the agenda, had a number of phone calls about people having to you know, get their water bills straight, everybody know we're having problems with the water bills right now. Capitol One was taking the water bills at one time and I never could get a clear answer on why they're not taking the bills anymore. I spoke to the branch manager the other day and she couldn't give me an answer, I don't think Mr. Young and I had a conversation..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "Yeah he wasn't here, this has been some time that they discontinued. However, we are considering utilizing the staff person for the Council that works on the West Bank to be able to assist with residents on the West Bank who have utility billing issues, so we'll be working with training her to be able to respond to them so they don't have to come here for questions."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "That would be a great help thank you very much."

Larry Snyder - (Carry Over 10-10-17) Update on drinking water infrastructure for LaPlace and discussion regarding the drilling of a new well

Blake Fogleman stated, "For several years, the biggest concern with our LaPlace water system infrastructure is the location and access to the raw water source, which is the wells. Due to the remote location and regular tidal flooding, most recently past few weeks prior to and during Hurricane Nate, we had some accessibility issues to the well and it was dangerous. Construction of another well is inadvisable due to its location and operational concerns expressed by those responsible for that system. The long-term solution recommended for the

LaPlace Water System is the construction of a new plant along the river. However, in the interim, the department continues to upgrade distribution infrastructure and isolation valves through the yearly budget and grants."

Councilman Snyder asked, "When's the last time we had problems back there?"

Blake Fogleman asked, "What type of problem?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "During Nate."

Blake Fogleman stated, "During Nate."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Problems where we couldn't get to it."

Blake Fogleman stated, "During Nate DOTD shut down the roads, we were accessing it going up 55 and turn around coming back down toward the well system. There's a section of that area that always..."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Any reason why we had to go back there?"

Blake Fogleman stated, "To check on our system, yes sir. We spent all day Friday doing Hesco baskets out there burming it to try to do flood protection back there in case that surge came in. We went out there, we do visible checks on our well system to make sure there is no water coming into our property or you know into the..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting asked, "There are baskets back there now?"

Blake Fogleman stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Ok. I know they was kind of ratty at one time, I understand."

Blake Fogleman stated, "Yeah we filled in Friday, I think we took 8 hours Friday to seal up the Station Well 2, Station 1 and Station 3. Station 3 is actually the RO plant on Woodland."

Councilman Snyder asked, "If we lose that well back there, what will we do?"

Blake Fogleman stated, "Depending on the type of loss that you're speaking of, if it's a catastrophic failure then we're going to be in a state of emergency."

Councilman Snyder asked, "How many people would be without water?"

Blake Fogleman stated, "Thirty-five thousand (35,000). Currently we have a mechanical system that we've outages for 12 hours at a time and we've done repairs to that system without the parish ever losing water pressure."

Councilman Snyder stated, "You guys do a great job. It's no doubt, you do a good job back there. We have problems, you get back there and do the work and get it done you keep the place clean as far as I can see the last time I was back there. But, I'm just concerned about the fact that if we lose one of those wells, we haven't lost one in about 30 years?"

Blake Fogleman stated, "I don't think we've ever truly lost one."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Never truly lost one."

Blake Fogleman stated, "No sir, I think we came in and re-lined one just as a precaution but never lost one."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Exactly, and you know that's my point. Maybe we do need a new water system, I don't have a problem with that. But for a couple/three million dollars we can put a water system back there. At sixty million dollars for this other one we tried to get, we can get that in the future. You see what I'm saying, that's my thoughts on here in LaPlace. You know if you lose water, every store on this street got to close down."

Blake Fogleman stated, "And we've discussed this Councilman, \$3 Million dollars is only for the well, right! There's twelve (12) miles of pipe that runs in the marsh that comes down here that we've replaced as I understand it prior to me coming here, but we did have a leak on it since I've been here, we've replaced 9 joints on that pipe. That \$3 Million dollars does not cover that twelve (12) miles of pipe. Does not give us any security that that twelve (12) miles of pipe is not going to lose and in saying this..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting asked, "So you're telling me if we put another well we got to put another twelve (12) miles of pipe?"

Blake Fogleman stated, "I would advise is that what you do."

Councilman Snyder asked, "No, no I'm talking about that's what we got to do? We can't tie in to this other line?"

Blake Fogleman stated, "You would be spending \$3 Million dollars to protect you only for the well system, only for the well system itself not for the pipe getting to treatment system, it would just be for another well water source that is twelve (12) miles away from our treatment plant."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I don't have a problem with that I don't think anybody else who, one of those 35,000 people have a problem with that. All I'm saying is we can put another well back there where we got wells at for \$3 Million Dollars or \$2 Million Dollars, whatever it cost and tie it in to the existing pipeline. And that's no engineer..."

Blake Fogleman interrupting stated, "In my professional opinion, the pipeline is more of a liability to this parish and this water system than the well is mechanically. The location, the flooding, the dangerous situation we have out there is a whole other conversation, but as far as the infrastructure itself, working, taking away the flood waters, technically the location is that twelve (12) miles of pipe that's on the ground."

Councilman Snyder stated, "And I understand that, but we do not have to put another twelve (12) miles of pipe in there if we put another well."

Blake Fogleman stated "You're only upgrading one unit in a full system."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Exactly, exactly that's the system."

Blake Fogleman stated "And it only protects you against the catastrophic failure of a well, that's it! It doesn't protect you if a line breaks in between there, it doesn't protect you for the pumps at the next station up, because it does take

pumps to pump, it doesn't come all the way straight to LaPlace. It's actually Station 1, that's why they have the stations with the tanks, they have pumps at every one of those. So, I think there's just more to a holistic approach to the protection of this parish if that's what you want to go and I don't think it's a \$2 Million Dollar fix."

Councilman Snyder stated, "If we did everything you want to do, it might cost us \$30 Million Dollars! But if we do everything I want to do it's only going to cost us \$3 Million Dollars."

Blake Fogleman stated "Alright, alright."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Your advice would be to put another pipeline put more pumps. Hey, there is no reason why we can't tie into the existing line back there, nothing's wrong with those lines. There's a big plastic line that we got going under the river over there. And we can tie..."

Blake Fogleman interrupting stated "With them going to the river and it has joints at every..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "Exactly!"

Blake Fogleman stated "Everyone it gets gone over, my understanding from contractors I spoked to, there's nine (9) more joints that are going to fail at some point."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well let's fix them let's do some other work, you see what I'm saying here! If we know they going to break we know nine (9), let's fix them before they break. Let's reinforce them. Did we reinforce the one that broke with a different system?"

Blake Fogleman stated "I wasn't here when we did, but I'm assuming we would have. I would imagine we would have or it wouldn't be back underground."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Exactly, exactly! That's what I'm talking about see. We need that protection, we got thirty-five thousand (35,000) people going to be out of water, nah! A \$50 Million Dollars on this new system, when you find that from somewhere, let's do it I don't have a problem with that. I love well water I like the well water, we need that other well we need that other well! I want to make a motion that we instruct the administration to look into, get an engineer get our parish engineer to look into constructing another well back there. Okay, just a well that's the end of discussion on it. That's my motion to get the administration to get our parish Engineer along with our Utilities Director to look at another well at Ruddock back there, that's my motion."

Blake Fogleman stated "Yes sir."

Councilman Wright asked, "Ms. Landeche, do you have that on the record?"

Jackie Landeche stated, "I do sir."

Councilman Madere stated, "I think this shouldn't even have been a discussion. Okay because we done had presentations before about the water system in St. John the Baptist Parish from Reserve all the way to LaPlace. And it was my understanding 3 years ago, that those wells was 10 years past their life expectancy. So that means we're on 12 years right now anyone of those wells can

go out at any time, okay? That mean they're on their last leg already so you need another well back there, I don't care of it cost \$5 Million, you need another well back there because if those wells go out, this building and that building that you're building is not going to be big enough to have the people that's going to be in it. Ok, so you need that well, that's a no brainer that should have been done several years ago when we first started talking about this and we've been having delayed delay, question and question and we're not building, I'm not going to see I'm not building a water system in LaPlace. You have a water system that we've been discussing in Reserve to get some land, expand that plant down there, run a pipeline from Reserve to here, then if something was to go wrong with the well you can get water from over there making that plant over there bigger. And in the meantime, you need to well back here for the protection of the people in LaPlace, okay that's a no brainer. We're trying to protect the people okay, from no water. Okay, so that's no brainer, I think I agree with Mr. Snyder this is something that should have been done, there's no question about it."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Just quickly Blake because I've been asking for this for years about putting a well back there. And you talk about those joint spray because the last time I know when it broke was during Isaac, and I suggested then to change them. I said change them because brackish water came in with salt intrusion and all that, that was the opportune time to change them and some where we took the well out of service, we could have changed that at the time or change one or two not wait until they break. But another question is the ones existing was; have we ever elevated the electrical part? Did we get approved for that?"

Blake Fogleman stated, "We're still on funding for that."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "I thought we got approved with FEMA."

Blake Fogleman stated, "No sir. We're still waiting for it, so we've gotten through 100% submittal on design, we're waiting for Phase II approval which would put us into construction of those two facilities."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Okay well I'm look forward to you and Mr. Savoie get to together and bring the motion, bring a quote back to us and what it would cost to tie into the existing system with a new well because last time we talked about this it was \$1.5 Million, and I know prices has increased. So we need a new cost estimate on what that would that cost and bring it back to the council and per this motion, and well see where we go from there."

Thomas Malik stated, "Other than the joints, what kind of condition is the pipeline along that twelve (12) mile stretch?"

Blake Fogleman stated, "Well we don't go down there much, so we try not to. Because most of the contractors have to come in, it stays inundated with water, so it's there, they're working basically in chest deep water to get things done. As I understand it, there's some parts that weren't used properly back when they originally installed it. I know that they did some work and I think the parish engineer was involved with some of the work that they did to try and mitigate some of that, maybe take some of the pressure off the lines and some of that settlement is settling in the swamp, and I think with any joints regardless of how short up they are, that is a weak point. A lot of times now like we did under the Mississippi River we're going with one piece of pipe right, so we're going with a single joint that would not allow that type of issue. The most recent one

that we had I think that that we did have a water line break, it was actually a cypress stump had actually whether the pipe settled or the cypress stump moved, and put a split in the hole, you know twenty-four (24) inch pipe that is down there, some significant pressure on it to do that. We see that it's in decent shape, but again I'll stand behind that, I think my concern would be more of the connection between the location and the connection between point A and point B than it would be the source water itself and the amount of water we're getting. Because I will say that so we had contingents in place that allow us mechanically for those wells, either well going out, I have contingencies in place that we've already done that in this parish and this parish has not lost water and we provided proper water to the parish. So I know I can mechanically fix it, so we're talking about a protection for specifically for the casing of that pipe or the well. The casing of that well that's what the discussion is. Everything else is we can handle mechanical failures, we can handle the pump failures with contingencies as we stand today. But if we talk about truly protecting the parish until we get to something else, I think there's more of a holistic discussion than just putting one more well in the ground."

Natalie Robottom stated, "And I think probably we'll schedule a meeting to go over some of the contingencies. But we also have a meeting scheduled with one of the state agencies who is looking at everything we're doing in regard to water, and possibly some additional funding that may be available to us to assist with some of these projects so, soon as I get more information on that, we'll be happy to show you."

Thomas Malik stated, "Just to elaborate please you said, I think you were talking about the joints, but you said wasn't used right?"

Blake Fogleman stated, "I think what they realized and Mr. Perrilloux hit it, the nail on the head, I think they realized when they had gotten the brackish water, some of the bolts or the metal pieces that they had used were not the right pieces, so to say that we know the other nine are going to give it some time it may be fifty (50) it might just be like the well, you know it may be the same thing as the well. We may be on boil time we may not be, but at some point that whole system is going to be looked at, even that stuff we've gone in to fix in my opinion."

Councilman Malik stated, "Ok."

Blake Fogleman stated, "You know it's in a compromised location out in that swamp, it's not a great place to have a twelve (12) mile pipe that has that many joints. You know the pipelines don't run it that way, they don't run with that many joints they're putting in big pieces and welding them together, so."

Councilman Wright asked, "Blake, how often are we monitoring the condition of the existing wells?"

Blake Fogleman stated, "We do flow test once a year, and then every 3rd year we do a visual, we take the well down and actually go down and look at it. When they do the flow test they monitor how much flow they can get out, if that stays consistent that usually tells you that you have enough flow and you're not depleting the aquifer. The also count the sand that comes out of it, which is an indication that your screens or that your well casing might be compromised cause that casing is actually cased with sand on the outside of it. So they do a measurement they send in a report, actually I didn't bring it tonight but I do have something that has our history of how often we've looked at it, just kind of

a little spreadsheet and actually below it is what our emergency procedure in case the well does go down mechanically, who we contact, what we do, our emergency contractor and everything it's all on one sheet. I think I might of if I'm not mistaken might have sent it to everyone at some point in our discussion of the water system, that I certainly have that available."

Councilman Wright asked, "So from your professional opinion based on the data you guys get when you do a regular test on it, what is your opinion of the condition of the well?"

Blake Fogleman stated, "From everything we're being told by the well operators, they've seen wells go well into a hundred years of it, the casing not having an issue. The last I talked I think it was when we we're doing the water workshops, I went and spoked to him specifically about this case, he said in forty (40) years he's never seen a catastrophic failure, they've always know it was coming and had contingencies in place but they'll fix an issue before, so they may see a little more sand one year in a flow test and they'll prepare for that contingency knowing that that well might be and they may not, it may just be dropping liner like we did in the one we've already done. So in Well 1 there is a liner, you get a lot less flow out of it, but you shored up your casing and you didn't necessarily lose that well, you just, so you talk about a catastrophic area because in a year there shouldn't be any kind of you know that much degradation that you can't go in and fix or at least patch an issue."

Councilman Wright stated, "That was my next question, what type of time frame are we looking at if we notice that the flow isn't where it should be?"

Blake Fogleman stated, "Right now we actually have access flow, so to know that Well 2 is the one that we're trying to...I guess in discussion to backing up, can fully support LaPlace and its operations."

Councilman Wright stated, "So are we talking about least several years advance notice if you know..."

Blake Fogleman interrupting stated, "I'd have to verify with the experts as far as the well guys, but as I recall the conversations we had, he said very rarely if ever is there a catastrophic phase, typically you'll be able to see it, they'll have issues with flow or they'll come to do the test they'll see sand in it and they'll put a camera down there and see how bad it is and then go from there on the decision whether it's to put a liner in or if you'd rather than spending the money on a liner, if it is dropping a well if it's an emergency, then you do something like that. But in all my conversations the last 2 years of being here I haven't heard that that is something you got to do now to today, because of how it's sunken in."

Councilman Wright stated, "Well and only ask to just for proactive measures because you know 5 years ago we had this exact item on the agenda, and we were told that you know if the money were put in the bank today, we would still be looking at a couple of years out before we can even look at a second intake station and here we are 5 years later without the money in the bank, so I'm just trying to look forward to the next 5, 10, 15 years. I'm not saying we need a well absolutely right now but I want to say; you know moving forward we do need to look at those contingencies plans because if something were to happen and we're in the situation that we're in today, we can't just go put a second intake station and expect it to come in 6 months. So I just want to make sure you know that we're actively monitoring it, and I think we probably should look at it

maybe twice a year. You know and making sure also before we have these contingencies put in place, because you know in a perfect world, catastrophic events won't happen. But you know I think St. John is you know no example, but yeah, so I...

Blake Fogleman interrupting stated, "So just to add to that, I agree and I think it's been discussed. I will say back then when it was discussed, there was things not in place that we do have in place today. So I think back then you did not have the ability to do what we did 2 months ago and turn off a well for 12 hours and work on it. You didn't have that ability, we do today! So with our connections with St. Charles, with the Well 1, with our connection with the Reserve and what we can push toward it, we had the ability to sustain water for 12 hours where that connection wasn't, those connections were not in place. The proper connections from here to Reserve were not in place until 2014, I think 2013 is when we installed the St. Charles connection that can support that. So I think that though the conversation has been always centered around the same thing, I think there are things that the department has done prior to me, but in I think we've fine-tuned since I've been here that allow us to eliminate one more or mitigate one more potential emergency. You know again, the catastrophic conversation always lingers and that can happen..."

Councilman Wright interrupting stated, "I agree and you know..."

Blake Fogleman interrupting stated, "A barge can run into our intake structure on the river and it could happen the same way. You know there's always..."

Councilman Wright interrupting stated, "Well and I guess two different circumstances, you know right now we're talking a source of water for 35,000 people."

Blake Fogleman stated, "And I understand that."

Councilman Wright stated, "And you know the long term remedy is millions and millions of dollars that we don't have. So that's just again why I bring up you know contingencies and make sure those contingencies are good enough to be in place for several years."

Blake Fogleman stated, "I do, yes sir."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Yes Mr. Snyder, I just want to clarify something. You're talking about increasing the size of a well and not adding a third well, am I correct?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "No I'm talking about a whole new well."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Whole new well."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Whole new well."

Blake Fogleman stated, "You're not going to be able to increase, you would only be able to decrease the size of the well. You can't come back in the same spot and make something bigger."

Councilman Sorapuru asked "Ok, so we're going to have three wells we're looking at? Correct?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Probably two and a half or two and a quarter."

Councilman Sorapururu stated, "Ok and I'd definitely would support that idea. I think it's long overdue, I love well water and that's a no brainer, we don't have \$65 Million to put out on a new plant if you're going to spend \$2 Million on a well, and the amount of people this is affecting I think we need to move quick!"

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes, you know and when I be sitting here listening to these discussions, and like I said I've been listening to this discussion for 6 years since I've been on the council. Okay and all we do is discuss we don't do no action, okay and this is supposed to be an action meeting. I was reminded of that one time before, about an action meeting. Okay we seem to be talking action but we don't take any action. This discussion remind me and I hate to bring back Katrina, but I've been following before Katrina ever happened, I knew about the federal government and what they were supposed to do, and they kept doing like we're doing talking about it and didn't do nothing about it and then something happened that they knew was going to happened. And when it happened it was terrible. Okay a lot of people lost lives and everything, so we've been talking about this for 6 years, and just like the federal government we keep pushing it to the next year and the next year. And then one year, we knew a problem was going to happen, and then you're going to have a problem. So we have to be proactive and we need to put that well in, okay and everything else you said is good and dandy, fine, that just makes us stronger, that just makes it better that just makes us safer. Okay but I think \$3 Million dollars to take care of 35,000 people to ensure that they have water and never have to worry if something catastrophic something happen, okay I think it's worth the money. And for talking about it for 6 years, I'm just sick of talking about it. Okay we need to do something about it."

Jackie Landeche stated, "We need to vote on it."

Councilwoman Remondet asked, "Can you repeat the motion?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yes no problem."

Jackie Landeche stated, "To instruct the administration to have our Parish Engineer and the Utilities Director to construct another well, to get together to design, to construct another well at Ruddock."

Blake Fogleman stated, "It was asked for a cost estimate and..."

Councilwoman Remondet interrupting stated, "Working on an estimate to design it to see what it would cost."

Jackie Landeche stated, "Between the Parish Engineer and the Utilities Director."

Councilman Wright stated, "I have a question. Just for clarity, it's more of a feasibility, research and not to construct."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Not to construct right! The intent is not to necessarily construct it now, but to make sure we get the bird's eye view of what it's going to cost us to do that and bring that back to us."

Councilman Wright stated, "Ok, thank you."

Jackie Landeche asked, "When do you want them to bring that back to you?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "I'd like to get that information from either from our Engineer or how long that can take to get something like that together. It shouldn't be very long, it shouldn't be very long. You have any idea on what you think on how long it's going to take?"

Blake Fogleman stated, "As I understand it, I think the parish engineer has provided something similar to that already. And it may just need to be relooked at and that's what I'm saying, I don't think it should be that long."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Oh well great then. Let's look at it, if he's got something..."

Blake Fogleman interrupting stated, "I mean we got 3 weeks at least if anything else, we'll give you an update on what where we're standing next week."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Right exactly, we can look at it at the next meeting then."

Blake Fogleman stated, "That's fine."

Councilman Snyder stated, "For our next meeting we'll have something."

Blake Fogleman stated, "Just where we stand and what we...yeah."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yeah at least to look at it right! Yeah thank you sir."

MOTION: Councilman Snyder moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to direct the administration to have the Parish Engineer and the Director of Utilities perform a Feasibility study and cost estimate to construct another well at Ruddock and to present to the Council. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

Larry Snyder - (Carry Over 10-10-17) Discussion relative to ring levees, a protection levee for LaPlace and drainage pumps

Councilman Snyder stated, "I know we talked about this, I had it on the agenda last time and it got so late so I decided to just bring it over. And we also had a, the Sheriff had a meeting in my district last week, Saturday actually and I brought it up then, the anxiety levels in areas North of Airline Highway. When it rains plenty or during hurricane season it's very, very high. People are worried that they are going to flood again, half of these people in here now are worried about flooding. And they're here because they want to know what happened, my thoughts on this; the Federal Government has decided that they're not going to fund our levee, everything's been passed. Everything's been passed from the state level, all the way up to the federal level. It's been approved more or less, but they have to find money to do it! And that's what the President said, he doesn't have the money to do that project, so we don't get the project. So we don't get the project, but that does anything for us individually? I know that we can't build a levee, but I'm looking at communities. How can we help communities? We've helped 2 communities, we built pumps, we built levees and we gave them pumps. Ok, and we did in I think LaPlace Park and right over here, what's over here?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Foxwood."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Right, they got levees and they got pumps. Ok, they need it really they needed it. Now we need it! Now on this end, we need some

pumps over here, because I don't care what no one said, when they close those gates in New Orleans down there I get nervous. When they close those gates in New Orleans and where is that? The Industrial Canal somewhere out there they close these gates, and in St. Charles Parish got levees and Jefferson Parish close their gates. Where is the water going to come at? Right back there in our homes and houses, right! That's where it got to come. Now people saying that didn't cause us to flood last time, but who are they telling that to? They're telling that to people that flooded. You know and so, what I want to do is for community and I guess all you other guys look out for your community to. We need to look at ways to protect our community, each community, we can't do it all because we can't afford it. But we can do in small bunches, we need to figure out something and I don't know how we need to proceed from here, but I know we do need to proceed. Yes ma'am."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes sir. I think some of you been attending some of LA SAFE meetings which is the funding, I think it was \$40 Million allocated to the state following Hurricane Isaac. They do have a contract with the Consultant on Water Management that there is some discussion on ring levees in LaPlace. Again I think historically what we've done is protect individual neighborhoods and we haven't protected the whole parish, so they have some water management strategies that they'd like for us to look at, clearly we do have some projects that have been approved, the design phases approved, we're waiting on construction dollars, they budget that you received will have the parish's match for that, but keep in mind those grants you have to front the money and wait for the reimbursements, so we got to make sure we have a budget that can allow for that. So there are a number of projects per community that we have in place, but we may be eligible for some of these dollars and they did hire specialist on water management to look at St. John. So we're going to continue, I think some of you've been going to some of those LA SAFE meetings, there's some other projects that they're looking at, but a we're going to continue to speak with him and possibly get together with all of y'all so he can provide some guidance on if that's the direction we'd like to go on how to achieve that."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well you said there was projects going on right now. For coastal flooding?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "I'm sorry."

Councilman Snyder stated, "You said there was projects being looked at right now and plans being made for protection against coastal flooding?"

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "Yes sir. Like we submitted during this process some plans for some of the protections like especially out at Lake Pontchartrain, however, since then the organization has hired a Consultant that deals with the greater water management not just the project that we submitted, and so they want to take a look at all of what we have operating, again, what I think what we've done historically is we fix something here and put the water on somebody here. Ok so, that's not a good plan, and if we continue to do that we'll circle this but that water is going to go somewhere it'll go to the unprotected area. So rather than continuing to do small projects that might affect another neighborhood, we need to look at it comprehensively with people who that's what they do to better direct our water rather than to just fix one area at a time and then flood another area."

Councilman Snyder asked, "What caused us to flood last time? What actually happened to cause flooding in communities from River Forest all the way on?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Tidal surge during Hurricane Isaac..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting asked, "Was it just water that came over the Interstate?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "No it wasn't just that it came over everywhere. And you know Maurepas was connected to Lake Pontchartrain, water came across the Interstate across Airline Highway and every crevice it could find, coming into the parish and on its way out it filled the rest. So again, it's a whole process and we watched this again with our recent flood and with Nate, we can track the movement of the tide influence, it typically hits River Forest first, it starts moving to Main Street, we can see it get behind Cambridge we can see it move to Belle Terre and Foxwood. It moves systematically and again with no levee protection, it needs to equalize. So if the water is higher in the lake it's going to come into our parish. Now, once it equalizes it stays there and typically when the wind direction shifts it blows it right back out, but what we know is our neighbors are protected. There are some things and I think Mr. Wright is familiar with this, it's my understanding and I think you were in a meeting with Mr. Graves where he talked about there's an MOU that's being worked on to begin something to connect to St. Charles to get started. Where any investments we make will go toward our match on the project. He also suggested we can't just you know put our eggs in one basket, and just utilize our account on federal funds. Our residents committed to a millage and they passed it. CPRA has money they've committed to our project that's at the state level, and now we're working with the CORP to allow the folks who are going to utilize the existing plan to get started on something project wise. But I do think we have to consider a comprehensive approach, because we have been successful at some of those ring levees in certain areas, but I do think overall we've added pumps in areas that may not, may have saved one neighborhood but may have caused problems in another."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Yes Ms. Robottom, I didn't know LA SAFE was involved in our levees, but that something new to me. And yes..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "The ring levee portion. They are looking at...so it was discussed and so they are looking at that through their Consultant for water management."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Well I say again, we know it was approved under President Obama watch but wasn't funded by Congress, we know President Trump took everything out for Louisiana as far as drainage projects all across Louisiana. But as I said when Congressman Graves was here, we got to start doing stuff our self. Again I say, we can tie into St. Charles levee and the parish officials can get the landowners' servitude right on the Northside of I-10 and we do our own levee. We have the funding, the voters passed the millage which is going to generate about \$5 Million dollars a year, and if we do that we don't have to wait on this levee that's probably going to come 40 years from now, you know we need to do something now. I said with Congressman Graves and I say you know I'll go to Washington with you. Because we need to do something different and do it ourselves, we got residents here got dump trucks, we got a lot of people will you know will help out with that. They will volunteer to put a levee to protect their homes, because we don't want to lose our homes again. So I would the administration need to into getting a servitude rights along the I-10 from the landowner's and we'll start there and tying into St. Charles Parish and then we can start something and get it done."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I was just going to say that is something to consider, we'll definitely get in touch with the Levee Board who that it their business, they also represent us they represent St. Charles, they actually constructed the one in St. Charles, to provide us some guidance on moving forward with that. But the plan which was a concept that I was presented with, does just that. You know it starts connecting to St. Charles Parish without counting on federal funds, it's a combination of St. Charles, St. John and the state to get something moving on starting that levee. So we will as we get more information, possibly we'll schedule a meeting to have the engineers and the folks who are working on this make a presentation."

Councilman Malik asked, "The DOT is considering a fly over along I-10, do you know what the cost of that project is?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "It' significantly more than it would cost to do the levee, and you're right we've expressed concern about that, because a fly over may work to protect the Interstate system, it would not protect St. John the Baptist Parish. Because if they fly over us on an elevated portion, then the water will just come right under it into our Parish. So they will save the evacuation route and I-10, they will hurt us. And so that's not something that I will support, they are currently in the process of doing some elevations of the ramps, clearly what they elevated previously just equalized what was there it did not solve the issue of elevation, there's at least two to three feet of water over that section of the interstate and the elevated ramps won't deal with that either. But a fly over, I don't think is the answer for LaPlace, because all it does is clears the way for water to come under the elevated portion into our parish and into our homes."

Councilman Malik asked, "But that's a greater cost in the levees so diverting the funds to the levee which would save the I-10 corridor, as well as us makes more sense."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Yes, absolutely. Of course that's the bureaucracy of that money's in transportation, you need money in the CORP but we have suggested it and recommended, that wouldn't be the best use of their funds, to do a fly over that would just protect the interstate system but would put us in danger."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Thank you ma'am. My closing statement to this is my vision is this; I got two canals on the side of my community, two canals and we got a right-of-way on both. We got a right-of-way on both of those canals, and those right-of-ways will protect our community if we do something on the Northside, that's what I got to say. Now I just want you to vision that about our communities is no more about 300 yards wide, but it's deep and on all the way around we got right-of-ways that means we could do what we want on it more or less. Can you see a levee around there on Vicknair Canal and one on Lasseigne Canal over there? And then another levee over there by 51 to protect that other group over there all the way around? The only thing we might have to negotiate land, is on the Northside of Cambridge and it's on the Southside of the Interstate. The Federal Government know that Interstate is low, they told us NO for the money, that money for that levee would have protected the Interstate. Why should we look for protecting the Interstate? Let's protect our people, you know and put that levee around Cambridge and go over here because we got right-of-ways and really that's big in trying to get land to do a levee. And then you just got to protect yourself on that big ditch back there by the Interstate and that's not very hard, because you could put flap gates back there. It's not like we're inventing the wheel, but we got to want to do it we got the people that want to

do it, this Administration along with this Council got to want to do something because these same people you see here, these same people are going to get flooded again. I'm going to get flooded because everybody know this storm getting worse. And that little storm that flooded all of you before, wasn't very big. Small, very small."

Natalie Robottom stated, "And Mr. Snyder not to exacerbate the problem, but since 2012, we're seeing flooding where it never occurred before."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Exactly!"

Natalie Robottom stated, "So although some people historically flooded, we're having more areas within our parish closer to the Interstate system that are experiencing flooding on regular rain days not necessarily hurricanes, so we are again, are working with DOT on the thirty-three (33) culverts under the Interstate that allows water to come in to St. John Parish, and that's between Exits 206 & 209. There are thirty-six (36) or thirty-three (33), seventy-two (72) inch culverts that has water flowing and equalizing on both sides of the Interstate. So we have some work ahead of us, I do think there's some things we can do and we're going to continue to pursue it."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Ok, let's move on."

Councilwoman Remonet stated, "Just one phrase/comment. I was going to say you're talking about improvising and thinking out the box of ideas to protect the community. But like Ms. Robottom said, people are flooding where they never did, whoever heard of Reserve flooding, Reserve is flooding. Every time it's a hard rain and so is Garyville, that's areas that have never flooded before and it's coming from the lake, so these other parishes are causing us to flood because they took care of their jobs so, just a comment."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Yes, Mr. Snyder you're exactly right and why don't we do this. It's just a thought, we have to put money in the budget next year for a number of things, why don't we appoint a Liaison, some Engineering Firm to go and look and design the areas we can touch first, and come up with a plan come up with a plan, someone that's going to report to this Council on a regular basis on those areas you're talking about that we can put the ring levees. And go after the grants, let's keep that in mind to move forward in that manner."

Councilman Snyder stated, "That's a good observation, and we are getting ready to do our budget starting next month or the end of this month. This is the end of the month."

Councilman Madere stated, "Everyone is absolutely right, everything they said, like I said I've been following these levee situations for years, long before Katrina since the 90's, and like I said, what caused us to flood, that was the question one time. What caused us to flood, was the fact the storm sat out there and water just pushed up against everywhere you had levees, and the prime example of this counter we have right here, let's just make believe this is a levee system; you push water in here, it's going to find an opening and get out and we was that opening, that's why that water came to LaPlace and to St. John the Baptist Parish. Now what we have to do when we put our levee system, we going to push it to St. James, because the Federal Government knew from New Orleans to all the way passed St. James they knew they had to put that levee back in there back in the 70's and it was always about the word that a lot of people don't here from the Federal Government is COST ANALYSIS! It cost so much money back then to do

it, which would be a drop in the bucket right now, but they kept passing the buck like I said we're doing with the well with this water stuff, stop passing the buck and let's do something. And if they had done that in the 70's, not only Katrina would have happened but it wouldn't have caused all the problems we wouldn't have flooded but all of that is hind sight now, it's over with now. But they had the opportunity to do it since the 70's, the 80's, the 90's and they kept rolling the dice, okay we need to stop rolling the dice because it's going to come snake eyes up on us to. So that's why I agree with everything Mr. Snyder and everyone say we need to start taking action."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Ok, just a thought right now but probably next meeting, we might get something is going to be put in further motion is concerned pertaining to that for sure."

Marvin Perrilloux/Larry Sorapuru - Phil Graves - drainage concerns along River Road and Airline Hwy.

Natalie Robottom stated, "I'll just make a note, I know there's a meeting, Mr. Sorapuru met with Mr. Grave's. I know it's Mr. Perrilloux's area they did review the drainage along the River Road as well as over by Barton Granier and Airline Highway and they are looking at possible resolution to that."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Okay cause the email that Mr. Graves said, well he doesn't come to council meetings, but thank you for that information because we need to address the River Road area and the Airline because we got a lot of flooding there and I think it's the state have to step up their game. They have to go in there and start cleaning these drainage out and up under the River Road, I'd say from Central Avenue all the way to the River Road where it ties in again by Woodland Quarters, they got to start cleaning that out. Along Airline Highway, especially by Ochsner Hospital going toward Ochsner other hospital, it floods all the time and we can't seem to get the state involved to do that, they want the parish to do it but it's not our job, it's the state job and I understand Mr. Sorapuru and you could correct me, Mr. Graves said they don't they don't have equipment. I said then maybe that's why Louisiana got the worse highways in the nation. Because they don't have equipment, but it's time to do something in St. John Parish, and I know Snake got a minimal crew, maybe 4 or 5 people I don't know but they need to send him about 8 - 10 more people down here and let's get this drainage under control on the River Road, at least we have some route to get out, it would get the water off the River Road and Airline. So Mr. Sorapuru I'll let you finish and comment because you met with him. I was unavailable at the time."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Well we did, Mr. Perrilloux we drove on both sides of the river we made some stops on Airline, but Mr. Graves is very short handed with equipment, he told me it would take him one year to do all the necessary digging he needs to do with drainage on both sides the river if we had to work every day, it would take him one year. He has a shortage of equipment, I know it sounds like an excuse but that the information he gave me, he's been on his job for 10 year right now and we visited some laterals coming from the River Road going back which was not the state's property. So undoubtedly this Council hasn't done its job the past 20 years, there are areas that haven't been cleaned in 20 years that we visited some laterals. And I really you know and..."

Natalie Robottom interrupting stated, "Is that on the West Bank?"

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "On both sides of the river."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Ok. I'd just like to add, I spoke with one of the farmers primarily on the West Bank who again has offered to assist us, he and Brian are going to get together because you're right, a lot of the sand or soil from the cane farm are actually clogging some of the laterals. Now these farmers, they protect their property, you know they know exactly which way the water drains and where everything is and he is actually volunteered to help us with some of the historical information that he has and he's also offered to assist with the equipment on the West Bank to assist us in some of those areas. So we do work regularly with DOT and we hear that story to, which is why we cut grass, we dig ditches that are on state roads because we have to do what we have to do for our residents. But we're going to continue to work with them, there are some things they are doing for example: you know with the culverts under the interstate they did come out with all their Engineers, we met on River Road, got out checked out laterals, pointed out where there's flooding, there are some plans to fix some of those areas but we are going to have to have some of that ourselves, but we do have partners that want to help, and we need to pursue that."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "And you know I think we need to do our part also. And on those laterals Ms. Robottom, like I said; we've seen some laterals that hadn't been cleaned in 20 years."

Natalie Robottom asked, "That go under the River Road?"

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "Yeah that leaves River Road going back into the cane fields. And some of the farmers have blocked up some of the ditches, they put smaller culverts in the, on the headlands. But also I'd like for us to get with Mr. Graves's boss, I know he doesn't come to meetings but we need talk to his boss, make sure he gets the necessary equipment he needs in this community. If he don't have the equipment let him contract it out. I mean because he's been here for 10 years he told me, he said he's been saying the same thing over and over and nobody's been listening to him, so maybe we need to help him out on that end so he could help us out. And he was very candied in trying to give us some solutions even on the lateral ditches that we have and also while we're talking about lateral drainage, the Levee Board, Pontchartrain Levee Board have agreed to assist us with some drainage problems we have with the laterals. They're agreeing to even come and dig some of those laterals at a decent price if we can look at that. I know we're shorthanded with manpower, right now we're going through a lot of transitions with getting the necessary employees to operate heavy equipment, but we need to come up with a plan and work that plan. And I don't think that Mr. Graves is really getting the support from his upper management, that's my take on this Mr. Perrilloux."

Councilman Madere stated, "Concerning the drainage, Mr. Sorapuru is absolutely right because a couple of years ago I had the state to come and dig along the River Road. Remember 2 years ago they dug those ditches along the River Road? I think they went from Garyville almost to LaPlace. Okay and at that time the Levee Board the guy in charge of the Levee Board told me they found seven (7) laterals that goes across the River Road, he said but they don't go anywhere anymore."

Natalie Robottom asked, "They stopped. Yeah we saw some of those..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "Right, they don't go anywhere anymore, they used to have fields and that water used to drain into those fields but they're up to seven (7) only two (2) was still open, the rest of them are clogged"

up or condemned. So that keeps a lot of water on the River Road and also, people who live in Reserve area and Garyville, if they ride down the River Road they see some location where it looks like years ago people used to use that ramp to go up to bring their cattle on top the levee you notice they got one right by Central, where the funeral home used to be at where you can park on the opposite side. There's one by the local bar room in Reserve called the Bumble Bee, where people park on the other side, you have several of those locations and when they were digging those things out, there's actually a pipe that runs under those things, and they clogged up. And in fact they moved the River Road they made the River Road wider and they moved the ditch over but they never moved the pipes over, so they missed a line. And when I asked the state about it, they have no idea who put them there and they said they weren't touching them but they need to moved back in line with the ditch for the water can flow and need to be cleaned out. Okay so it is some problem like that."

Larry Snyder/Marvin Perrilloux - Update to council and citizens on the latest changes to the CDBG/Hurricane Isaac Program - (For homes previously approved)

LaVerne Toombs stated, "Within the CDBG program, 55 applicants with existing contracts were informed that their contracts were placed on hold until funds are received. Of the 55 applicants, 34 will receive interior and exterior repairs and elevation. Elevations for 21 of the 55 applications is no longer feasible due to limited funding. However, interior and exterior repairs associated with these applications remain within the budget and will be completed as part of the program. I just gave Councilman Malik a list of the 21 homes, basically breaks the cost of each one in reference to interior and exterior cost as well as the elevation cost. And I know that some of the homeowner's came up and wanted to know exactly where the monies went to and I'll be more than glad to share that, as you know the Parish was awarded \$32,674,000.00. And out of that \$32 Million, St. John the Baptist School Board received \$5 Million of funds, the Housing Authority received about \$5,565,000.00 which is allocated for the 23 units, which will be built in Garyville. The new development for the Homeowner Rehab Program was \$13,511,000.00 the Small Renter Rehab Program which was about \$2.5 Million, the Elevation Program was \$3 Million or \$3.5 Million, the Demolition and Clearance Program which was we mentioned earlier the eleven (11) homes that went to demolition and clearance would be \$350,000.00 and the Homebuyer's Assistance Program is \$579,352.00 and then also with our Small Business Grant and Loan Program which 18 businesses received a Grant Loan which was a little bit over \$1 Million. So we received close to 1400 applications, about 730 something of those applications were eligible and out of that we will be able to repair about 315 homes with the funding. So out of that just with the Home Rehabilitation Program will be a little bit over \$20 Million. So I know I have Mr. Scott Reddoch here who would be more than glad to answer any of your questions that you may have as our Consultant, regarding how he was able to determine the 34 that will be elevated and interior and exterior as well as the 21 who will not be elevated but will still have their home repairs regarding the interior and exterior. Mr. Reddoch."

Scott Reddoch, Royal Engineers stated, "Thank you Ms. Toombs, Good Evening Council. So Ms. Toombs mentioned that there's some questions as to how individuals were selected to be in the program or how did an application get picked or how did someone move to construction. So, at the exception of the program you know we had a specific rule book that we had to follow that was provided by OCD at the state, and part of that rule book was is that we needed to make certain that everybody it was a level plan code for everyone. Meaning that, individual neighborhoods, individuals from different you know low to moderate

income that everybody would be on a level plan field when we started to open up the application process. What we did was a first come first serve process, where people came in and they submitted their application in to Providence, who was the intake contractor at the time at that point and time. Once Providence processed their application, those applications was then surrendered over to me (Royal), which from that point we went through a second round of information that we needed to get from those applicants. Now, there's a lot of things that happened in between there, there were title and legal issues with some of these properties where we needed to have a Title Attorney do a search to make certain that you know they were the rightful owner of that property. So in instances where that happened that person would you know be in a holding pattern until they cleared that phase. Basically what it all comes down to is, once they cleared the application phase and they moved into the construction phase or the bidding phase, that date that they entered into that once they broke that gate, that hard stop, that date was the new date that they were assigned essentially, that's how they were prioritized. Now for the 55 applicants that were placed on hold, there's 315 total, so we had two hundred and whatever there would be ahead of them that had moved to that process. Out of the 55 that are on hold obviously there's 21 that had a required skilled production for the voluntary elevation portion of the project. Now, let me reiterate that all 315 properties in this program that we're talking about here are going to have 100% of the Hurricane Isaac identified damages repaired to the homes. So the only reduction scope was to the voluntary elevation to the bottom 21 applicants that came into the program. So even the 21 applicants and the individuals that came here tonight to speak, the Hurricane Isaac damages to their home's interior/exterior repairs, roofs, doors, windows, code compliance issues, those items are going to be repaired within this program."

LaVerne Toombs stated, "And also if I can also just chime in on an item. With those 21, the parish has recently applied for a FEMA funded home elevation grant, which will provide those 21 eligible applicants with an additional opportunity to elevate their homes. So of course more information about the program will be released as it becomes available. So what we hope of course with those 51 and again as Mr. Ruddoch stated, we'll be able to complete this program by March of 2018, so again we have made some attempts to look for other funding to assist those other 21 homeowners with their elevation."

Councilman Snyder stated, "First of all, what is volunteer elevation? What's that all about?"

Scott Reddoch stated, "The voluntary elevation, so St. John Parish participates in a National Flood Hazard Mitigation Program, flood insurance, alright! Any program, any house that we do if we do 51% or greater repair than the value of the structure would require an elevation. Now..."

Councilman Wright interrupting stated, "Hold it Mr. Reddoch. I would ask that the audience please refrain from making any comments."

Scott Reddoch stated, "So a voluntary elevation would be a property where your repairs are being done within this program did not exceed 51% of the value of your home, but you said you wanted to be elevated. Now, all the individuals that we're talking about here, the 21, all located in flood zones. And when they said that they were approved to be elevated, they met the criteria to be elevated within the program. However, the funding is not available to get those homes elevated at this point. So to get back to your I'm sorry..."

Councilman Snyder interrupting stated, "So the volunteer part of it is that, you volunteer to get your house raised but it may not get raised? Is that what you're saying here with the volunteer, I'm not quite, I don't quite understand I still don't quite understand."

Scott Reddoch stated, "So, yes sir. So the voluntary elevation means that they're not forced to be elevated. We're not telling them ok we're doing greater than 51% work on the home, so we have to elevate you according to the National Flood Policies."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Ok, so did they have 51% damage, those people that were volunteer?"

Scott Reddoch stated, "These properties did not have 51% or greater damage to be repaired within this program."

Councilman Snyder asked, "And damage was (Gavel used; we do can't do that we can't have that ladies and gentlemen). So the 51% damage to these homes, that was determined after the insurance paid off or before the insurance paid off or what?"

Councilman Perrilloux excused himself from the meeting at 8:40 PM.

Tom Malik/Lennix Madere - Update on Utilities billing issues

Curtis Young stated, "Substantial progress has been made with the estimation process, which brought billing cycles within a 28-32 day range. Also, manual readings are taking place, and a temporary employee is assisting with phone calls and customer service for billing questions. Interviews are being conducted for two (2) additional temps to conduct field work. With regard to the meter/register replacement program, the engineer will initiate design for the project in accordance with DEQ requirements."

Larry Sorapuru - Discussion on potential DBE (Disadvantaged Business Enterprise) policy and possible creation of DBE Board

MOTION: Councilman Sorapuru moved and Councilwoman Remondet seconded the motion to table Larry Sorapuru item - Discussion on potential DBE (Disadvantaged Business Enterprise) policy and possible creation of DBE Board. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Perrilloux absent.

Lennix Madere - Enforcement of Ordinance 17-13 - junked or derelict vehicles

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Remondet seconded the motion to table Lennix Madere item - Enforcement of Ordinance 17-13 - junked or derelict vehicles. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Perrilloux absent.

Lennix Madere - Cellphone/Smartphone training for Parish employees

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Remondet seconded the motion to table Lennix Madere item - Cellphone/Smartphone training for Parish employees. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Perrilloux absent.

Lennix Madere - Update on abandoned homes at E. 30th, E. 23rd and Homewood

Alex Carter stated, "As previously stated at the September 12th Council

Meeting, individual violations will not be addressed or discussed publicly; however, an update on the properties in question has been provided to Councilman Madere. Additionally, attached is a summary of progress to date."

Lennix Madere - Discussion regarding grass cutting issues parish wide

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Remondet seconded the motion to table Lennix Madere item - Discussion regarding grass cutting issues parish wide. The motion with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Perrilloux absent.

There was no executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Parish Buildings - Security

Any and all pending legal matters

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

17-46 An ordinance authorizing the issuance and sale of not exceeding One Billion Dollars (1,000,000,000) of Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana Revenue Refunding Bonds (Marathon Oil Corporation Project), in one or more series; approving the form and authorizing the execution and delivery of a Refunding Agreement or Agreements and a Trust Indenture or Indentures to secure one or more of said series of Bonds; authorizing the appropriate officers of said Parish to execute certain of the aforementioned instruments and all other documents and certificates deemed necessary in connection therewith, requesting and authorizing the authentication and directing the delivery and application of the proceeds of said Bonds; approving the form and directing the execution and delivery on behalf of said Parish of the Bond Purchase Agreement or Agreements and/or Term Sheet or Commitment Letters for one or more of said series of Bonds which will set forth the terms and conditions under which said series of Bonds are begin sold; authorizing and approving the preparation and distribution of one or more Preliminary Official Statements and one or more final Official Statements relating to one or more of said series of Bonds; approving various financing and other documents; and providing for other matters with respect to the foregoing (N. Robottom)

17-47 An ordinance approving the extension of the Conditional Subdivision Approval for an additional twelve (12) months for Coles Landing Subdivision, Phase IV, lots 148 through 208, and Parcels D, F, G & H, situated in Section 91, T-11-S, R-7-E, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana; which was originally approved on October 10, 2006, as part of preliminary/conditional approval for Phase III & IV, Lots 121 through 281 and Parcels A through I (N. Robottom)

17-48 An ordinance approving the extension of Conditional Subdivision Approval for an additional twelve (12) months for Praise Place Subdivision, Lots 27 through 83 and parcels V-1, V-2 and V-3, on East 22nd Street, situated in Section 46 and 47, T-11-S, R-7-E, Reserve, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana; which was Originally approved on November 8, 2005 (N. Robottom)

17-49 An ordinance approving the requested rezoning of Lots 9 and 10, Block M, Bootsie Subdivision, located in the area generally bounded by Northwest 2nd St., the Kansas City Southern Railroad, and Keating Dr., containing municipal addresses 627 and 631 Northwest 2nd St., Reserve, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana from the Industrial District One (I-1) to the Residential District One (R-1) zoning district, as shown in Exhibit 1 attached (PZR-17-1080) (N. Robottom)

17-50 An ordinance introducing the annual operating budgets for the St. John the Baptist Parish General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, Enterprise Funds and Capital Project Funds for the fiscal year Beginning January 1, 2018 and ending December 31, 2018 (N. Robottom)

17-51 An ordinance authorizing the acceptance of improvements in the Belle Terre Commercial Subdivision, Phase I and releasing Belle Terre Land, L.L.C. from a development agreement, in accordance with Ordinance No. 16-28 and recorded in COI 344059. (N. Robottom)

PRESIDENT REPORT:

Natalie Robottom stated, "Good evening. We are still recovering from the Andouille Festival and wish to again thank Marathon Petroleum, the presenting sponsor and all other sponsors and visitors for the success of the festival. More than 20,000 festival goers attended the festival and enjoyed great music, food and fun. We'd like to extend congratulations to Larry Zeno for winning the Andouille Gumbo Cook-Off again and to newly crowned winner Chad Duhé who unseated a three time champion to win the Dang Douille Andouille eating contest. Congratulations to all of the others who placed and participated. I want to thank everyone who played a role in the success of the Andouille Festival, specifically my staff, a host of volunteers, non-profits and businesses. To everyone who came out and supported the Festival and the vendors who participated, thank you! Our Andouille Queens, Ms. Laeh Alexander and Teen Queen Ms. Patience Pray both assisted greatly at the festival and seemed to genuinely enjoy their first official role as queens. We look forward to your reign! The fair committee held an after-action meeting this week to review festival operations for changes and improvements next year. If you have suggestions that have not been shared, please forward them to the Economic Development or Communications Department. Our goal is to make the festival bigger and better each year. Photos from the festival can be found on our website and Facebook page. Congratulations to Bec's at the Lake Restaurant and Catering on their recent grand opening last week. The new Steak, Burger and Seafood restaurant is also a live music venue. The owner's daughter, Faith, entertained festival goers last weekend and also performed Tuesday at the new place. It is located at 105 Peavine Road in LaPlace, former Crab Trap, if anyone would like to check it out. Registration for Bidy Basketball ages 5-14 is ongoing. We encourage all children involved in football and other sports to stay busy after the season by registering for the 2017 basketball season. Registration forms are online or can be picked up at REGALA Gym between 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM. The Sheriff's Office will be hosting a Blood Drive in the parking lot of the Sheriff's Office from 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM, Monday, November 6th to benefit Dominic Duronslet, the son of Deputy Michael Duronslet, who needs a blood transfusion. Please try to donate to this cause if possible. The next election is Saturday, November 18th for state treasurer run off. Early voting will run Friday, November 3rd to Saturday, November 11th from 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM. 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. Reminder, Halloween is Tuesday, October 31st - please be careful and lookout for trick or treaters. Motorists should drive slowly! Reminder: Parish Buildings will be closed on Wednesday, November 1st for All Saint's Day. Thank you.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 10:00 PM, Councilman Malik moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Perrilloux absent.

/s/Larry Snyder
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
Council Secretary