

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS**  
**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL**  
**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2014**  
**CHAIRMAN MARVIN PERRILLOUX**  
**VICE CHAIR MICHAEL WRIGHT**

The Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session in the Joel McTopy Chambers, LaPlace, Louisiana on Tuesday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2014, at 6:30 PM.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

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

**ABSENT:** None

Councilman Wright led the Prayer. Councilwoman Millet led the Pledge.

Legal Counsel Jeff Perilloux, Billy O'Regan and Carl Butler were present.

**INTRODUCTION OF BUSINESSES**

**Yvonne's Boutique**

Mrs. Simone from Yvonne's Boutique was present and gave a brief explanation of her business which is a one stop woman's shop in LaPlace on new Hwy. 51. The council welcomed her to the parish.

**Avis's Kitchen**

Mrs. Avis was present and introduced herself and her restaurant to the parish. She is located on Airline Hwy. next to New Wine Ministries in LaPlace.

**Natalie Robottom - Appointment of Chief Administrative Assistant**

Natalie Robottom stated, "At this time I would like to appoint Mr. Mike Coburn at the Chief Administrative Assistant. He has been with our staff since July in a different capacity but at this point as of tonight I will be appointing him my Chief Administrative Assistant."

Mike Coburn stated, "Please allow me to give thanks to the almighty first and foremost, Mrs. Robottom I truly appreciate this opportunity and look forward to working with you and helping you move this parish forward. I truly look forward to working with this council as many of you know I think most of you know me and I love a challenge and hey we are going to get things done. I guarantee we are going to get things done. We are going to help move this parish forward and I know with your help and our help working together we can do that because we have the same vision. I have been here 30 years, you have been here a long

*time. My vision is to have the best for every citizen in St. John the Baptist Parish that is our goal and that is what we need to do and we need to concentrate on that vision each and every day and make ourselves accountable for what is happening in this parish each and every day and I know with your help and our help we can get these things accomplished. I want you to know that my door is always open to you if you have any questions or comments or issues that you need to discuss please feel free to call upon me. We have such a great administration and a great staff throughout and I truly look forward to working with them and to continue to try to work harder every day for the best of St. John the Baptist Parish. Thank you all and let's get to work."*

**Natalie Robottom - Proclamation - (Carry Over 10-13-14) October as National Fire Prevention Month**

Natalie Robottom read the Proclamation for October as National Fire Prevention Month.

**Natalie Robottom - Presentation - (Carry Over 10-13-14) 2013-2014 Teen/Miss Andouille Queens**

Natalie Robottom presented the past and present Andouille Queens to the parish. A key to the city was given to the past queens and the present queens were welcomed to their new reign.

**Natalie Robottom - Proclamation - October as Dwarfism Awareness Month**

Natalie Robottom read the proclamation for October as Dwarfism Awareness Month.

**Marvin Perrilloux - Gary Landrieu - 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District for Congress, US Representative**

The above item was removed from the agenda.

**Marvin Perrilloux - Garrett Grave - Candidate for Congress, 6<sup>th</sup> District**

The above item was removed from the agenda.

**Consent Agenda**

**Items:** Approval of Minutes - October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014, Regular Meeting; Permit Approval - Middendorf's Manchac Race/Annual Run - Saturday, 11-15-14.

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Gauff seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda consisting of Approval of Minutes - October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014, Regular Meeting; Permit Approval - Middendorf's Manchac Race/Annual Run - Saturday, 11-15-14. The motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:**

**14-41** (Public Hearing Held) (Tabled 9/9/14) An ordinance amending ordinance 13-48 relative to the annual Operating budgets for St. John the Baptist Parish General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, Enterprise Funds and Parishwide Sewerage Construction fund for the fiscal year

beginning January 1, 2014 and ending December 31, 2014. (N. Robottom)

**MOTION:** Councilman Snyder moved and Councilman Gauff seconded the motion to remove Ordinance 14-41 from the table. The motion passed unanimously.

Vince Lucia, CFO, stated, "The 2014 budgets were amended to reflect the 2013 audited fund balances and other amendments to date. The explanations for all amendments were forwarded to the council on 8/27/2014 and the format changes and mathematical revisions sent last week. Administration recommends approval of this ordinance to allow for continued operations of the Parish."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "Under executive administration line 73 it has an administrative assistant I understand that was the president's secretary is there any reason why that was changed and not left as the secretary? Since we are amending this I am asking why it is not listed as a secretary."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Actually we amended the job description and reduced the salary and as the parish president's appointment. It is a replacement of the previous executive secretary."

Councilman Snyder asked, "The audit that you refer to was that an internal audit or that was the audit that came from the auditors outside?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "The official audit by Carr and Riggs."

**MOTION:** Councilman Gauff moved and Councilman Snyder seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 14-41. The motion passed with 8 yeas and 1 abstaining (Hotard).

**14-47** (Public Hearing Held) (Tabled 10/13/14) An ordinance to amend Section 16:50 of the St. John the Baptist Parish Code of Ordinances as follows: By amending paragraph (2) to read as follows: (2) No permit shall be issued to construct a Bonfire any closer than 1,000 feet from any petro-chemical business operating within the boundaries of the parish. (R. Wilson)

The above item was left on the table.

**14-48** An ordinance to amend Section 109-75 of the St. John the Baptist Parish Code of Ordinances as follows: Parish Coastal Zone Management committee (N. Robottom)

Angelic S. Keller stated, "This ordinance changes the committee makeup from 15 members to 9 members and is based on similar committees in other parishes. A 9 member committee allows for better attendance and establishment of the required quorum. Administration requests appointment of the committee as soon as possible to assist the South Central Planning & Development Commission with completion of the Coastal Zone Management Plan."

Councilman Snyder asked, "The committee is going from 15 to 9 members and I am thinking that is why they had an appointment from the parish president for three members without any approval by the council. I

*think the council should have at least approval or ratification of those three members by the parish president if it is alright to do that here in this particular meeting with this at this time because to me this would give the parish president 1/3 of the committee there not that there is anything wrong with that but I think it shouldn't be 1/3 because 2/3 can override any veto but in this case 4 members can prevent the overriding of any veto. So I would like to at least discuss this in that this council should have the ratifying ability of any appointment to this board that affects our parish."*

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "I would suggest if you want to discuss it you can motion to table it and we can get some more information."

Angelic S. Keller stated, "Can I just say something, this is currently the way it is in the code and has been in existence right now we are reducing the number of members and I did research at least four or five other parishes and it is similar to the way theirs is set up but again we are just reducing the number of members because we do have other committees currently that I am over where we have issues with a quorum and 15 members is a lot of members on a committee in order to reach that quorum so that you can actually have meetings and have business. In addition previously years ago the plan had started to be drafted but at no point was the committee ever appointed or recommended and at some point it was stalled and that is why we are trying to get it back. We would like the committee to have input in the developing of the plans that South Central Planning was hired to do."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I don't have a problem with that at all. My problem is that it was originally a 15 member board and if they are going to get really active I can see at a 15 member board the parish president having the ability to appoint 3 people with no one having to approve that but with 9 there is a difference and that is what I have a little issue with I think it should come before any council in St. John Parish if we are going to make decisions on this parish. We as representatives of all of the people we only have 1 appointment to that board. We have 1 other than that we get names from other people and then we approve them or disapprove them."

Angelic S. Keller stated, "It does say in the other section you are right it says at least two nominations presented by a particular board and/or members of the parish council. So you don't have to get those nominations..."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I know I read the same thing you read and I don't need anyone to explain that to me. I understand that but I know that isn't going to happen."

**MOTION:** Councilman Snyder moved and Councilman Wilson seconded the motion to table Ordinance 14-48. The motion passed unanimously.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Councilwoman Millet stated, "I would like to make a motion to accept the recommendations of the finance committee."

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to accept the recommendations of the finance committee. The

motion passed unanimously.

**DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:**

**Baileigh Rebowe/Pastor Neil Bernard - Long Term Recovery Group update & closeout**

Baileigh Rebowe stated, "Good evening Council. As most of you are familiar, the St. John Long Term Recovery Group has been working diligently toward individual recovery here since Hurricane Isaac ravished the community two years ago. The goal - to provide spiritual, emotional, physical and financial resources to those affected by the disaster especially the elderly, uninsured and underinsured. The group is comprised of members from faith-based and non-profit agencies, St John government, businesses, and volunteers. Members have met monthly, sometimes twice a month for two years, operating under various subcommittees based on the type of skills or support each provided. The subcommittees are: allocations/funding, volunteer/donation coordination, emotional/spiritual care, construction/cleanup, unmet needs, case management and communications. In addition, members served in the Volunteer Reception Center which facilitated intakes from residents who needed assistance and allocated volunteers to repair homes. Three weeks ago we held our final LTRG meeting and closed out the chapter on Isaac. As the lead of the communications sub-committee, I'm proud of the impact the LTRG has made on our community - and most importantly on the lives of the people who live here- for some the LTRG was their only hope to rebuild and return home. The success of the LTRG is attributed to a team effort and the hard work of many who volunteered their time and energy to seeing our community restored. I'll let the chairman of the long term recovery group Pastor Neil Bernard expound on the extraordinary efforts made by the LTRG in just two short years. You should have the handouts."

**MOTION:** Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to go into executive session to discuss all St. John Water issues. The motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Snyder seconded the motion to go back into regular session. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Wright stated, "As a result of the executive session due to the serious issues with the Utilities Department that have come to light in recent past. I make a motion to request that President Robottom request the Utility Director to resign immediately or terminate the Utility Director in accordance with the provisions of the St. John the Baptist Parish Home Rule Charter."

**MOTION:** Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Snyder seconded the motion to request that President Robottom request the Utility Director to resign immediately or terminate the Utility Director in accordance with the provisions of the St. John the Baptist Parish Home Rule Charter. The motion passed unanimously.

**Ranney Wilson/Lennix Madere - (Carry Over 10-13-14) Water bill issues**

**Lennix Madere - (Carry Over 10-13-14) Railroad concerns canal ownership**

The above item will be carried over to the next meeting.

**Lennix Madere - (Carry Over 10-13-14) Recreation Director**

The above item will be carried over to the next meeting.

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

The above item will be carried over to the next meeting.

**Ranney Wilson - (Carry Over 10-13-14) Discussion Planning and Zoning Department**

The above item will be carried over to the next meeting.

**Jaclyn Hotard - (Carry Over 10-13-14) Park Maintenance**

Councilwoman Hotard stated, *"There was just one small issue. I did talk to Mrs. Poche about it and it was handled immediately so we can remove that item from the agenda. She answered me quickly and I was pleased."*

**Larry Snyder - Garbage can collection issues**

The above item will be carried over to the next meeting.

**Larry Snyder - Convenience store issues**

Councilman Snyder stated, *"These stores and there are many of them also in the Reserve and Garyville area that don't have restrooms and they are supposed to have restrooms. I went to the Board of Health and they are supposed to have at least one restroom in there for customers that they can keep locked and give you a key if you need to use it. If they sell food the law says that they should have two restrooms on site. I went and talked to one and I asked him there were four times that I went into this place and it was broken each time and I knew they were lying to me so I went to the board of health and talked to Jamie Bailey back there and he went to check on it and he told me that he told them that they need to have the restroom opened. I went back there two weeks later and it was still closed. Jamie went back and demanded that they open the restrooms up now since then they have closed them back again. They are breaking the law. Go to one especially in the Reserve area. You can go shopping at some of the car dealerships and they have restrooms for people but these places where they sell food in the Reserve area they don't want to open the restrooms. Now that is blatantly breaking the law and I just want to make it known."*

**Marvin Perrilloux - GPS on parish vehicles**

The above item will be carried over to the next meeting.

**Marvin Perrilloux/Nora Pierre/Eliza Eugene/Rev. Rodney Nicholas - EDC update on Farmer's Market and sign ordinance**

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "I am going to remove this item from the agenda."

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Ranney Wilson/Lennix Madere - Drainage and Drainage equipment**

The above item will be carried over to the next meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Marvin Perrilloux - Council Meeting Date change from 11/11/14 to Monday, 11/10/14 in honor of Veterans' Day**

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to change the council meeting date from 11/11/14 to Monday, 11/10/14 in honor of Veterans' Day. The motion passed unanimously.

**Natalie Robottom - Resolution - R14-22 - A Resolution naming the check signers for the Parish of St. John the Baptist**

**MOTION:** Councilman Wilson moved and Councilman Gauff seconded the motion to approve Resolution R14-22 - A Resolution naming the check signers for the Parish of St. John the Baptist. Parish President - Natalie Robottom, Chief Administrative Assistant - Michael Coburn, Chief Financial Officer - Vince Lucia. The motion passed unanimously.

**Natalie Robottom - Resolution - R14-23 - A Resolution by St. John the Baptist Parish Council expressing support of CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 3 (ACT 871 of the 2014 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature) and CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 10 (ACT 436 of the Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature), Constitutional Amendments to assist municipalities in the fight against blighted property.**

Natalie Robottom stated, "This resolution was recommended by the Police Jury Association and the Louisiana Municipal Association. It was also approved by the Sheriff. It provides an option for a third party consultant to assist with tax sales and blighted properties. Administration recommends approval."

**MOTION:** Councilman Wilson moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Resolution R14-23 - A Resolution by St. John the Baptist Parish Council expressing support of CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 3 (ACT 871 of the 2014 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature) and CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 10 (ACT 436 of the Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature), Constitutional Amendments to assist municipalities in the fight against blighted property. The motion passed unanimously.

**Marvin Perrilloux/Michael Wright - Resolution - R14-24 - A Resolution requesting certain actions regarding the Utility Department**

This item was handled earlier.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Property/Casualty Insurance Agent - 1) Claims, any/all property,

casualty, and Workman comp claims 2) Claims, procedures and disposition  
3) Coverage's, any/all material changes

Lennix Madere - 205 E. 30<sup>th</sup> Street

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

Parish Buildings - Security

Water bill issues

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

Lennix Madere - Code Enforcement

Any and all pending legal matters

#### **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES**

**14-50** An ordinance granting approval of a Re-subdivision of a portion of Lot 2 of Section 72 of Glencoe Plantation situated in Section 72, T-11-S, R-6-E, and a triangular portion of the Amman Estate situated in Section 73 & 24, T-11-S, R-6-E into three lots herein designated as Lots 1, 2 & 3 of Monicarolo Property, Garyville, St. John the Baptist Parish (N. Robottom)

**14-51** An ordinance granting approval of a Re-subdivision of Lots 4 & 5, Square 6 of Extension Number 2, to Melius Subdivision into one lot herein designated as Lot 4A, Square 6 of Extension Number 2, to Melius Subdivision, situated in Section 49, T-11-S, R-7-E, Reserve, St. John the Baptist Parish (N. Robottom)

**14-52** An ordinance granting approval of a Family Re-subdivision as per St. John the Baptist Ordinance dated February 8, 1982 of the St. Pierre Tract into lots herein designated as Lot 1-SP, Lot 2-SP & 3-SP of the St. Pierre Tract, situated in Sections 5, 42 & 46, T-12-S, R-19-E, Lucy, St. John the Baptist Parish (N. Robottom)

**14-53** An ordinance introducing the annual operating budgets for the St. John the Baptist Parish General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, Enterprise Funds and Parishwide Sewerage Construction Fund for the year beginning January 1, 2015 and ending December 31, 2015 (N. Robottom)

#### **PARISH PRESIDENT REMARKS**

Natalie Robottom stated, *"Good evening- Applications for CDBG Home Repair programs related to Hurricane Isaac are currently being accepted according to last names at the LaPlace Community Center Monday through Friday 8 am to 5 pm and at the Westbank Community Center Monday through Wednesday 8 am to 5 pm. Eastbank residents with last names beginning with A through G submitted their application on Monday and Tuesday of this week, O through U are scheduled to submit tomorrow and V through Z on Thursday. EB residents who were unable to attend their scheduled day this week can submit their application on Friday. Westbank residents*

who were unable to attend their scheduled day can submit tomorrow. Both intake centers will follow the same schedule next week. To date, 106 residents on the Eastbank and 40 residents on the Westbank have submitted an application. Residents interested in applying for one of the programs may pick up an application at each of the Intake Service Centers, the Percy Hebert Building and the West Bank Courthouse. Applications are also available online at [sjbparish.com](http://sjbparish.com). For more information and the intake schedule, please visit SJTV, the website at [sjbparish.com](http://sjbparish.com) or one of our Parish buildings. For questions please call 985-359-0555. I'd like to thank everyone who helped to make the 41st Annual Andouille Festival a huge success. By all accounts it was the best one yet with great weather and a great time for everyone. The \$1 night Friday, second line Parade, Dang Douille Eating Competition, Gospel Tent, and Andouille Run are just some of the events available at the festival. The attendance estimate of 18,000 is about 3,000 more than last year. Andouille prints can still be purchased at the Percy Herbert Building Parish President's Receptionist desk. Signed and numbered posters are on sale for \$75.00 and unsigned posters are \$25.00. A special combination price of \$40.00 is being offered for both the 2013 and 2014 unsigned posters. I want to thank everyone who played a role in its success including 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. Erin Duhe and Teen Queen Ms. Riley Edwards both assisted at the festival and appeared to genuinely enjoy their first official role as queens. We look forward to your reign. The committee held an after action meeting where ideas were shared on how to improve the festival even further. We are looking forward to implementing those ideas and making the festival bigger and better. Photos from the festival can be found on our website and Facebook page. Walgreens will be hosting a Halloween community event on Thursday, October 30 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Cambridge Park. The event will offer free food and drinks, candy bags for children, free flu shots, and visits from the Fire Department and Sheriff's Department. Official Trick-or-Treating hours are from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Friday, October 31. Motorists are urged to be mindful of pedestrians during these hours and drive with caution through residential neighborhoods. Parents and guardians should take safety measures to ensure an enjoyable Halloween including only visiting well lit homes and streets, checking candy before it is eaten and using flashlights while trick or treating. In honor of Veterans Day, the St. John Parish Young Marines directed by Lt. Brian Bertrand, St. John Parish, and the Southeast Louisiana War Veterans Home will host the 4th annual Veterans Parade and Celebration. The parade will begin at Home Depot in LaPlace around 10:00 a.m. and travel the SELA War Veterans Home for a ceremony, food, fun and music. It is a very touching tribute to those who have sacrificed so much for our freedom and I hope to see you there. Anyone interested in being a part of the Veterans parade is asked to contact Brian Bertrand at 504-628-0418. Registration for Boys and Girls Biddy Basketball ages 5-14 is currently taking place. Register at the Parks and Recreation Department at REGALA Gym from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Adults and children can also register now for a Tennis Clinic scheduled to take place on Saturdays from December 1 through January 30. To register, visit [sjbparish.com](http://sjbparish.com) or contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 985-652-9569. St. John the Baptist Parish is hosting the clinic in conjunction with Kidz Fitness Solutionz, Inc. The Parks and Recreation Department is co-sponsoring the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Rise Up/ Give event with Louisiana

Ambassadors, on Saturday, November 15 from 1-3 p.m. at REGALA Gym. Parish children and youth are invited to attend the free event for a fun-filled afternoon. The LA 637 Waterline Relocation Project began last week. The project consists of the relocation of various water lines along West 10th in Reserve. This project will accommodate roadway widening and drainage improvements. Residents and businesses in this area can expect heavy equipment along West 10<sup>th</sup>; however, road closures are not expected at this time. Motorists are asked to use caution in the area and be on the lookout for crews working along the roadway. Work is estimated to be complete by July 2015. This is a reminder to all businesses regarding temporary signs. Temporary signs including flags, streamers, banners, pennants, and portable signs may only be displayed for a period of 21 consecutive days and must have a temporary permit from Planning and Zoning. Flags, streamers, banners, and pennants may only be used in connection with grand openings or special events no more than once semi-annually. On Saturday December 6th, Tulane University will host River Parishes Day at the Tulane Football game. Participants will enjoy a "tailgate village" before the game and will access the field after the game. Tickets are at a discounted rate of \$20. To purchase, tickets, contact Debra Poche in the Parks & Recreation Department at 985-652-959. The Homer Joseph Center is open and hosting the following programs including: computer lab, homework assistance, PE/Healthy Nutrition, Financial Literacy, Employment Literacy and more. A schedule of activities can be obtained at the Percy Hebert Building Parish President's Receptionist Desk, Health and Human Service's Office and is available on the Government Access Channels and the Health and Human Service's website page. Reminder Time Change: Don't forget to set your clocks back an hour this Sunday, November 2nd at 2 a.m. to end daylight savings time. With this time change, you will be "gaining" the one hour of time you "lost" when you "sprang ahead" in March. Mark your calendar! Reminder: Parish Buildings will be closed on Monday, November 3 for All Saint's Day and on Tuesday, November 4 for Election Day. Please go vote if you have not done so already. The polls open at 6:00 a.m. and close at 8:00 p.m. on Election Day. Visit [sos.la.org](http://sos.la.org) for more information on what is on the ballot."

**ADJOURNMENT :**

At 9:29 PM, Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Snyder seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

/s/Marvin Perrilloux  
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche  
Council Secretary