

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH, 2011
CHAIR RONNIE SMITH
VICE CHAIR CHERYL MILLET

The Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session in the Rudolph Soraparu Chambers, Edgard, Louisiana on Tuesday, November 8th, 2011, at 6:30 PM.

CALL TO ORDER:

PRESENT AT ROLL CALL: Lucien Gauff, III, Councilman-at-Large, Div. A, Cheryl Millet, Councilwoman District VII, Jaclyn Hotard, Councilwoman District IV, Haston Lewis, Councilman District I, Charles Julien, Councilman, District III, Steve Lee, Councilman-at-Large, Div. B, Ronnie Smith, Councilman District VI

ABSENT: Darnel C. Usry & Danny Millet

Councilman Gauff led the Prayer. Councilman Julien led the Pledge.

Legal Counsels Tom Daley & Billy O'Regan were present.

Charles Julien - Proclamation - Jamaan Kenner and Bryce Robertson for excelling academically and athletically

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

Natalie Robottom - Proclamation - Declaring November "National Adoption Awareness Month"

Jaclyn Hotard/Eliza Eugene - Presentation - Saint's Board of Realtor's - Amendment #1

Eliza Eugene, President of the Saint's Board of Realtor's, was present and gave a brief presentation on amendment #1 that the voters will be voting on November 19th. She explained that a no vote means you do wish to be taxed and how it was rather misleading in its presentation. If you vote yes you are saying no to new taxes if you vote no you are saying yes to new taxes. This was just to make the public aware of the amendment and its meaning to the tax payer's future.

Jaclyn Hotard/Kira Orange Jones - Candidate for Bese Board District 2

Mrs. Jones wasn't present at the meeting.

Consent Agenda

Items: Approval of Minutes October 25th, 2011, Regular Meeting; Permit Approval - Parade Permit - Veteran's Day - 11/11/11 - 10:00 AM until Noon; Civil Service Board Appointment - Employee representative - Joyce Williams

MOTION: Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Julien seconded the

motion to approve the consent agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes October 25th, 2011, Regular Meeting; Permit Approval - Parade Permit - Veteran's Day - 11/11/11 - 10:00 AM until Noon; Civil Service Board Appointment - Employee representative - Joyce Williams. The motion passed with 5 yeas, 2 abstaining (Lee & Hotard) and 2 absent (Usry & Danny Millet).

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:

11-45 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance to re-zone Lot D of Emilie Plantation changing the current zoning from an R-1 zoning district to C-1 situated in sections 19 & 20, T-11-S, R-6-E, Reserve, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (N. Robottom)

Theresa Rodgers stated, *"This item was approved by the Planning & Zoning Commission at the October 17th meeting and administration recommends approval."*

Councilman Gauff asked, *"Can I get clarification on what can happen in a C1 or what the plans are to be used for the C1?"*

Mike Henderson stated, *"The applicant, Marathon Petroleum, is requesting this to be re-zoned to a C1 use. There is an existing residential home and they want to turn it into office space. Commercial 1 district's include toy stores, retail stores, garden supply houses, small restaurants, candy stores, office and personal service establishments. They are all included in Commercial 1."*

Councilman Gauff stated, *"I just wanted to know what they were going to use it for."*

Mike Henderson stated, *"They basically want to turn the home into small offices."*

MOTION: Councilman Julien moved and Councilman Gauff seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 11-45. The motion passed with Councilwoman Usry and Councilman Danny Millet absent.

11-46 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance amending Sections 14-42(8) of St. John the Baptist Parish Code of Ordinances, as follows: Non-domestic discharge Permit; user fees (N. Robottom)

Theresa Rodgers stated, *"This amendment reflects a clarification of the involvement of the environmental committee in this is a non-appointed group which makes recommendations. They do not make final decisions."*

Councilman Lee stated, *"Mrs. Rodgers I am confused. I am not familiar with the environmental committee and I notice that is the only change that was struck through. So give me a little better explanation of what I am doing here because I am changing an ordinance that was in place all ready and I am lost. I have been around a long time and don't know what the environmental committee is."*

Theresa Rodgers stated, *"The environmental committee looks at new businesses and determining non-domestic, back-flow issues, what the rates should be for billing domestic, non-domestic and all of that. The way the ordinance is written and we had taken a look at the policies of*

the committee and the way that the ordinance is written we feel is problematic in that it looks like this committee has some governing authority. This is not an appointed group. So this is a committee that exists to make recommendations. They discuss and determine if a company is either a major or a minor however the final decision, as per your ordinance is directed to the Utility director. So we wanted to make sure this committee didn't appear to have the ability to make those decisions for administration."

Councilman Lee stated, "Now I understand. It is a good house cleaning item that obviously you all picked up in going through the ordinance. Okay thank you."

MOTION: Councilman Lee moved and Councilwoman Hotard seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 11-46. The motion passed with Councilwoman Usry and Councilman Danny Millet absent.

11-47 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance granting approval of the revocation of that portion of the right-of-way of Indigo Parkway between Bamboo Road and the rear lines of Lots 23 and 24, Palmetto Lakes, Phase 2 situated in Section 64, T-11-S, R-7-E, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (N. Robottom)

Theresa Rodgers stated, "Administration requests approval of this ordinance as the above stated property is being donated to the ARC by the current landowner."

MOTION: Councilman Lee moved and Councilman Gauff seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 11-47. The motion passed with Councilwoman Usry and Councilman Danny Millet absent.

11-48 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance amending St. John the Baptist Parish Code of Ordinances, Section 14-105(3), permit as follows:
Building Code Permit fees (N. Robottom)

Theresa Rodgers stated, "Administration requests approval of this ordinance as it will reduce the fees for residential permits to a flat rate of \$500.00 and commercial permits to a flat rate of \$750 regardless of square footage of the structure."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "Why are we doing this?"

Theresa Rodgers stated, "It is a cost savings and it is also an administration efficiency issue."

Mike Henderson stated, "Currently in the application process for leveling and shoring homes requires a multitude of permitting. The cost of those various permits can exceed \$1,700.00. So we worked with South Central Planning to take away the multiple fee process and come up with one single fee for this type of a project and basically save people some time and money."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "Is this dollar amount the amount South Central Planning is going to charge us for the inspections?"

Mike Henderson stated, "That is correct."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "So all the paperwork that we do in-house, we just take this money, collect it and give it to them?"

Mike Henderson stated, "Basically yes."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "Shouldn't we have enough to at least take care of our paperwork too?"

Mike Henderson stated, "Well we have a technology fee and an administrative fee."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "You just told me that their 500.00 and their 750.00 is what they are charging us."

Mike Henderson stated, "No, excuse me that is the cost to the consumer. When we basically break it back down and we pay them the amount, we charge the consumers in addition to the charges."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "So then it isn't a flat fee anymore? It is a flat rate for the permit but you have additional cost involved?"

Mike Henderson stated, "We have those cost anyways. Every time we do a trade permit for 135.00 we charge a 10.00 technology fee."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "So this will alleviate the individual 10's and just charge them that?"

Councilman Lee stated, "Just a comment because again this is just a house cleaning item I can tell. Mr. Henderson did mention it but for the general public this is only for item M which involves elevating, leveling and shoring which we probably have very few of those. It is more of a house cleaning item than anything else. That is the only place that this is going to apply to. We don't want this to get to the media and them report that we changed the fees."

Mike Henderson stated, "This is only for this ordinance and only related to elevation, leveling and shoring."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "Also in residential house relocation as well?"

Mike Henderson stated, "That is part of the leveling section yes."

Councilman Smith asked, "I have one question. I am a little confused. Mike you mentioned earlier that this basically alleviates us charging a fee for this and a fee for that. Under any circumstances would a consumer come in and only have one of those fees instead of all four or five of those fees?"

Mike Henderson stated, "Not for this particular kind of work."

Councilman Smith stated, "That is why I was confused. I knew you would get it straight Mike."

MOTION: Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Lee seconded the motion to approved Ordinance 11-48. The motion passed with Councilwoman Usry and Councilman Danny Millet absent.

11-49 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 Funds for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2012 and ending December 31, 2012 (N. Robottom)

The administration requested that Ordinance 11-49 be carried over to the next agenda.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

There were no ordinances to be introduced at this time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Lee stated, "During the finance committee meeting that we had this evening at 6:00 PM, we had approximately ten items to take care of and I am going to ask for a motion from one of my council members to approve the actions taken by that committee but prior to that for clarification of the minutes I had asked administration a question and it was just a question for my own personal knowledge and that was when the Iberia/Omni contract would end as our fiscal agent and Mrs. Rodgers inadvertently said this month. She said that in error. So in the minutes I want that clarified that it is 2013 which is when that actually ends. Now I will ask for a motion with the amendment I just made."

MOTION: Councilman Gauff moved and Councilman Julien seconded the motion to accept the recommendation of the finance committee. The motion passed with 5 yeas, 2 abstaining (Lee & Hotard) and 2 absent (Usry & Danny Millet).

DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:

Charles Julien - Culvert placement and covering of canal along Perrilloux Drive

Councilman Julien stated, "The culvert in that area on Perrilloux Drive is a hazard. We have had people killed there. So I was just hoping that administration would see if we could find the monies to cover that."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Actually the Public Works Department did go out and visit and we reviewed what was there and there is a gap or space between where the culverts are and I think that has pretty much been the danger. They are planning to install a catch basin between to level out the void that is there and they should be doing that in the next two weeks."

Councilman Julien stated, "I want to thank Mr. Bailey and administration for acting on this as fast as you have."

Haston Lewis - Update Edgard Courthouse

Councilman Lewis stated, "The first thing I have to say and I want to let everybody know that this is my last meeting in Edgard. I appreciate

the time that I served but there are some things here that I have to get done because I don't think I am going to make the time on the council to finish these projects and I need to get them on hand for the next person that is going to replace me to make sure they don't stop working on them. The courthouse let me tell you the problems I have with the courthouse. We are running a study on it. We have been doing that for about 2-3 years. It isn't more than a million dollars. We aren't going to ever get that straight. You know why? We don't have the money to do the work. That is why we aren't going to get it straight. The first price quote on the courthouse was 3 million dollars. How are you going to take 2/3 of the money and do the same work? Like that saying you're going to do more for less, that isn't going to happen. You can walk through this courthouse and see what needs to be done on it. If you look at the first set of plans that we got we have to do a lot of things. Now all of that has been taken away. I heard that the tax was 6 million for the other side and 1 million for this. The proposition said 7 million and if anybody can show me different I will just stop talking about it but you are going to find out I am right."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Mr. Lewis actually there is some fact in what you just said in that when we came in there was a proposed plan for a 3 million dollar renovation project when the budget was 1 million. Since then we have had about four stake holder meetings with everyone who is housed in the courthouse or who does business here with the plans and actually Chenevert has gone back to the drawing board and designed a plan that does fit within the budget. We were able to identify some other sources of funding to assist it but obviously not to the 3 million dollar tune. They are in the process of preparing the final documents and we will be submitting that to Planning and Zoning for permitting once received by Planning and Zoning they are anticipating about a 30 to 45 day time frame before the permits to begin the construction would be available. Again we had meetings with the stake holders, it was my understanding when they originally met they were asked to supply their wish list of whatever they wanted however when we met we discussed what the budget was and we had the architect's go and meet with everyone who had an office in this building and look at their space and what was available. We actually had some parts of the courthouse that had been recently renovated and they really didn't want a lot extra. We met with all the judges what they needed in the courthouse and will be completing a project to upgrade all the A/C and electrical and make some changes to the building that will ultimately be a renovation as well as an addition to the front of the building to allow for separation of juveniles. So this project is moving forward. They are in the process of completing the full design and although it isn't a totally new building, it is a renovation and all of the stake holders were pleased with the result of the redesign that was completed."

Councilman Lewis stated, "I would like to see a copy of the plans that you have for the East Bank when you get through with those plans. I want to see if those plans are going to match some of the plans and offices that we have on that side compared to this side since over there is supposed to have sub offices. We need to try to branch out."

Natalie Robottom stated, "We haven't finalized that one. Again same concern when we entered. There is a 10 million dollar plan with a 6 million dollar budget. We have been meeting with stake holders. We are

in the process of finalizing that design and utilizing the funds we have the space we have and create office space that is available. Same stake holders who are housed here attended the meetings on the East Bank and we are going through the same process of looking at what is available, what the funding is, what they need, what the location of the offices should be and basically that project is moving forward as well."

Councilman Lewis stated, "I would like to put that back on the agenda. We need to discuss that more."

Natalie Robottom asked, "So you want copies of both?"

Councilman Lewis stated, "Whatever you have done."

Haston Lewis - Update Lucy Recreation

Councilman Lewis stated, "Somebody told me that we don't have a playground in Lucy at all. The closest playground is about 15 miles away. We have a playground in every little town except Lucy. Looking at what you had on the paper here, there was some money in 2002, close to \$100,000.00 and they used it for something else. I think that was unfair to the people in Lucy. I think that was nine years ago. Those people need some type of playground over there and I think we need to look at that. Those kids need somewhere to play. Everywhere else in the parish has somewhere to play including over here in the Wallace and Edgard area, the Tigerville area but they don't even have a basketball goal or grounds that they can play on at all."

Natalie Robottom stated, "We agree with you Mr. Lewis and we have discussed this with Mr. Soraparu on a number of occasions. For clarification purposes, we received a letter from an attorney asking for how that money was spent from the 2002 bond issue. For those of you who recall, the money was for recreation and parks. The council at that time elected to put certain amount of money in each park. The Lucy Park had \$100,000.00 in 2006 at a meeting the council elected to transfer that money to Harold "Scott" Roussel Park for some upgrades there. So the funding that was designated for Lucy is not there. We have committed and we are going to continue to. We have looked at a couple of options with regard to property in that area. We have had concerns from some of the residents that don't necessarily want a park behind their house. So we are looking for property. We agree 100%. If we can put neighborhood parks in all the areas we want to do that so that will require some land acquisition and the completion of a park and we are going to pursue that."

Councilman Lewis stated, "I tell you what. You find me some money in the next 2-3 weeks, I'll find you a spot."

Natalie Robottom stated, "We are going to continue and of course I think there was some misunderstanding about the value or how much the parish would be willing to pay for that property. As with all public purchases, it will be at the appraised value."

Haston Lewis - Update Red Bud & Persimmon - drainage

Councilman Lewis stated, "I think we discussed Persimmon tonight. I am

trying to make sure that the drainage gets through there. We have brought the water to that area. We need to make sure it gets over the levee and drains that particular area. We have been having the pump there for 20 years but for some reason it doesn't seem like the pump could get the water off of Persimmon Street. I talked to a lady that said that they have to turn the pump on to clean the ditch. We need to make sure that those people have some relief in that area. The problem I have with Red Bud is I don't know if we got the permit yet for the pump or not."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Actually I think if you look through the engineers were asked to go back after Tropical Storm Lee. We had an opportunity to access the water flow and the funding available for that project and what is happening on Persimmon Street. The engineers have been directed to present a design to make sure that the whole area was drained."

Councilman Lewis stated, "I remember about two weeks to a month ago we had someone up here who told us in about two weeks time he was going to have something ready for us to go out for bids."

Haston Lewis - Update Castle Estates

Natalie Robottom stated, "Culverts are being installed this week to re-direct flow to the Ben Canal, which is being permitted for dredging. The drainage improvements will subsequently be monitored to evaluate whether a pump is needed."

Jaclyn Hotard - Update on sidewalk repairs in Miesville

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "On the administrative report they have some information on here. Mrs. Robottom would you like me to just read that for the public?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "You can and you can discuss what your original concern was."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "My original concern was in the Miesville area and it is a safety issue. There are a lot of elderly residents in the area. There is the LaPlace Medical Center and they do travel and use the sidewalks. We have some broken sidewalks, some are collapsed, some are existing but they had grass growing over them but the parish did start actually cutting the grass and seeing what was there so that we could expose the sidewalks that weren't previously exposed and then find the sidewalks that just needed some repair. So I put this item on the agenda just to get an update of where we were with that and it says that prior to the spring and summer grass cutting schedule, Public Works staff, with assistance from the Sheriff's Office, began sidewalk restoration along W. 5th Street as well as on the East and West Banks of the Parish. As winter is approaching and grass cutting needs begin to decrease, this project will resume. Sidewalks throughout the parish, including Miesville, are being inspected and a priority list for sidewalk maintenance is being developed. I just wanted to keep the residents abreast as to what was going on and that we do understand that there is a safety issue there and we want to make it as safe as possible for residents that travel that area. I appreciate the administration working on this."

Natalie Robottom stated, "That is a lengthy process. We did uncover some sidewalks that were there, they weren't all in bad shape but there are quite a few that could be hazardous. So our Public Works department is going through and identifying those and we will start with the high priority ones but we also want to get back to what was started. We had to pull both crews off of the sidewalk task because they needed to start cutting the grass but during the winter when it isn't needed as much we think we can continue with those efforts and again continue to identify the ones that need repair."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Once we get them repaired and cleaned it will be a lot easier for the crews to actually go out there and maintain them."

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Kathy Gilmore - Authorization to enter into an agreement with the Pontchartrain Levee Board for the 2011 Festival of the Bonfires

Kathy Gilmore, Civil Defense, stated, "Administration requests authorization to enter into this annual agreement for the 2011 Festival of the Bonfires. This agreement allows St. John Parish residents to participate in the St. James Parish Festival by constructing bonfires along the levees of St. John Parish up to the St. James Parish line."

MOTION: Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Gauff seconded the motion to grant administration authorization to enter into an agreement with the Pontchartrain Levee Board for the 2011 Festival of the Bonfires. The motion passed with Councilwoman Usry and Councilman Danny Millet absent.

Hugh Martin - Resolution - R11-50 - A resolution providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the result of the Special Election held in the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, on Saturday, October 22, 2011, to authorize an additional homestead exemption for certain disabled Veterans and surviving spouses

Hugh Martin, Bond Attorney, stated, "As you know the election was conducted. There were votes cast in favor of the proposition in the amount of 9,188 votes for and 3,287 votes against and the majority in favor of the proposition was 5,901 votes. A very fine vote in support of the veterans, this resolution would put that into affect."

MOTION: Councilman Julien moved and Councilman Lee seconded the motion to approve Resolution R11-50. A resolution providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the result of the Special Election held in the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, on Saturday, October 22, 2011, to authorize an additional homestead exemption for certain disabled Veterans and surviving spouses. The motion passed with Councilwoman Usry and Councilman Danny Millet absent.

Theresa Rodgers - Resolution - R11-51 - A resolution authorizing the

St. John the Baptist Parish Council to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) for the Safe Routes to School Program (SRTS)

Theresa Rodgers stated, "Administration requests authorization to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with DOTD for the Safe Routes to School Program specific to the areas around LaPlace Elementary School. The improvements include marked crosswalks, school warning lights, speed limit signs, construction of a 5' sidewalk, ADA compliance, and striping."

Councilman Julien asked, "With what you all are doing with the schools, is there any permitting that has to be done and what can we do in District III because I have been trying to get some speed limit signs and I haven't been having any luck. So I am trying to find out now what can we do to have that done around Chad B. Baker Street?"

Theresa Rodgers stated, "This is a grant through DOTD. It is a comprehensive plan for a safe route specific to LaPlace Elementary School. So you can see it is fairly comprehensive in terms of several elements being in the grant and there is a follow piece which the school has agreed to do in terms of some programming and some education with the students at the school. If you are talking signage around Chad B. Baker, we can look at doing that in house. We would have to follow up on the requirements for those specific signs but we would be happy to look at that."

Councilman Julien stated, "The signs as well as slowing/caution child zone. We need it on River Road and Chad B. Baker. Can you get me an update at the next meeting?"

Councilman Smith asked, "Why don't we look into just getting a grant like that for every area that is around the schools in the parish?"

Theresa Rodgers stated, "That is an excellent question. I suspect that the reason this one is specific because of the area or layout around the school."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "This is for marking of the sidewalks, the streets, the cross works. We are going to hold off doing this until the construction is completed correct?"

Theresa Rodgers stated, "Correct, it will all be done when the construction has been completed."

MOTION: Councilman Gauff moved and Councilman Lee seconded the motion to accept Resolution R11-51 - A resolution authorizing the St. John the Baptist Parish Council to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) for the Safe Routes to School Program (SRTS). **WHEREAS**, St. John the Baptist Parish was awarded a grant in the sum of \$283,790 by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development for the improvement of walking and bicycling conditions around LaPlace Elementary School and to increase the number of students walking and biking to school. Infrastructure improvements include marked crosswalks, school warning lights and speed limit signs on Greenwood

Drive and Ridgefield Drive, construction of 5' sidewalks, ADA accessibility requirements, striping, and speed limit signs along Greenwood Drive, Evergreen Drive, Ridgefield Drive and Carrollwood Drive, and; **WHEREAS**, Non-infrastructure activities include education, encouragement programs and purchases of supplies and incentives for SRTS promotions as outlined in the attachment, and; **WHEREAS**, DOTD requires a resolution by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, as governing authority, authorizing the Parish President to execute a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between the Council and DOTD, and; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council that the Parish President is hereby authorized and empowered to execute the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between the Parish and DOTD pertaining to the Safe Routes to School Program. The motion passed with Councilwoman Usry and Councilman Danny Millet absent.

Theresa Rodgers - Resolution - R11-52 - Authorization to execute the agreement with LA DOTD for Phase III of the Transportation Enhancement Program (TEP) - Mississippi Multi-Use Path

Theresa Rodgers stated, "Administration requests authorization to execute an agreement with LA DOTD for Phase III of the Mississippi Multi-Use Path. DOTD has agreed to fund up to \$812,700 for the continuation of the Mississippi River East Bank Multi Use Trail - Phase III. This will extend construction of the trail from East 29th Street to West 10th Street."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "I know we are getting \$812,700 from the state. What is our share?"

Theresa Rodgers stated, "Our share is \$42,773.68, for construction."

Natalie Robottom stated, "While I was on the West Bank I was questioned as to if these trails applied to the West Bank and they do. I did get confirmation from Mr. David Dupuy. We do intend to continue to pursue it on both sides of the river."

MOTION: Councilman Gauff moved and Councilman Lee seconded the motion to accept Resolution R11-52 - A resolution for inclusion of the St. John East Bank Mississippi River Multi-Use Trail - Phase III in the DOTD Transportation Enhancement Program (TEP). **WHEREAS**, DOTD through the Transportation Enhancement Program, has agreed to fund up to \$812,700 for the construction of the St. John East Bank Mississippi River Multi-Use Trail - Phase III. **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council of St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana, acting as governing authority of said Parish: **SECTION 1.** That St. John the Baptist Parish assumes full responsibility for the required local match. **SECTION 2.** That St. John the Baptist Parish assumes full responsibility for design engineering, construction administration, inspection and testing. **SECTION 3.** That St. John the Baptist Parish assumes full responsibility for managing and maintaining the project. **SECTION 4.** That St. John the Baptist Parish assumes full responsibility for any legal liability incurred as a result of the project. **SECTION 5.** That Natalie Robottom, Parish President, be named Signatory Party. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Transportation Enhancement Program Manager, Road Design, Attn: Ms. Valerie Horton, P.O. Box 94245, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245. The motion passed with Councilwoman Usry and

Councilman Danny Millet absent.

Theresa Rodgers - Resolution - R11-53 - A resolution supporting employment of returning military service members in St. John the Baptist Parish

Theresa Rodgers stated, "This resolution was proposed at the request of Councilwoman Millet and approval is recommended. Administration supports the public and private industry employment of returning military service personnel in St. John the Baptist Parish."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "I appreciate your efforts in working to put this together. I think it is very important that we treat our returning military with the respect that they deserve. It is because of them that we have the freedom that we have but to see them come home and not have a job is very disheartening. I hope this parish understands that it is very important that we thank them for the sacrifices they have made on our part."

MOTION: Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Lee seconded the motion to approve Resolution R11-53. A Resolution supporting employment of returning military service members in St. John the Baptist Parish. **WHEREAS**, St. John Parish is proud of and recognizes the contributions of military personnel; and, **WHEREAS**, service members selflessly sacrifice career advancement and development opportunities because of extended military training and deployment obligations; we, therefore, owe them our gratitude and commitment to assist them in reestablishing their careers upon return; and, **WHEREAS**, these servicemen and women receive extensive skills training in a broad range of technical areas that correlate directly to civilian occupations, and as a result of their military experience have gained leadership and management perspectives that are invaluable to employers in both the public and private sector; and, **WHEREAS**, service members exhibit qualities and characteristics such as loyalty, work ethic and integrity, which distinguish them in the civilian workplace; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the St. John the Baptist Council does hereby support employment of returning military service members in St. John the Baptist Parish. The motion passed with Councilwoman Usry and Councilman Danny Millet absent.

CORRESPONDANCE/COUNCIL BRIEFS

Councilman Gauff stated, "I would like to congratulate all of our high schools in the River Parish area for making the playoffs. Let's get out and support these teams. Good luck to all of them. Also don't forget to vote. There is early voting right now and we need you to get out and vote the 5th through the 12th of November and the election is November 19th. So please get out and vote."

Councilman Julien stated, "I too would like to congratulate everyone that made the playoffs. I want to make sure my boys wrap up and tackle. I want to thank everyone who went out to vote. This week is early voting. The election is November 19th, we want to remind everyone and I would also ask administration, I received some complaints from some of the residents in Reserve about a bad odor coming from DuPont. So maybe we can contact the plant manager. It was around 29th Street and Chad B. Baker."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I just want to remind everyone to vote and also to remember about the special amendment on the ballot. Also to remind the residents that we have the vendor supplier meeting this Thursday the 10th at 5:30 at the Civic Center being hosted by our EDC Department and Eliza Eugene Enterprises. So if you are interested please attend that meeting."

Councilman Lee stated, "I received a telephone call this afternoon from a very dear friend and an old neighbor. It was he that asked me to make a couple of comments of thanks for he and his family. With that in mind, on behalf of Mr. & Mrs. E.J. Ory, the parents of Mrs. Marie Ory DuPont and Mr. Mickey DuPont, the husband of Marie Ory DuPont. They have asked me to personally thank the residents, friends and as they say many people that they didn't even know personally that knew Marie to thank them for the unbelievable out pouring of support that they received on the tragic death of Marie Ory DuPont. The family is deeply touched and emotionally gratified by the masses that expressed their condolences. Also one last personal note as a person that grew up watching Marie as a neighbor, playing with my children, I would just like to say that St. John Parish lost a jewel here. She was an unbelievable treasure for St. John Parish and was in the very beginning of being one of those leaders and citizens that just has so much to offer and wanted to do it here in this parish. She will surely be missed."

Councilman Smith stated, "I would like to not only congratulate all the football teams for getting into the state playoffs but I would like to congratulate St. Charles on a perfect 10-0 season and winning district. I would like to congratulate East St. John for winning their district, West St. John for winning their district, that was three out of four it doesn't get much better than that and I understand that the district that Riverside is in they did a great job also. So a lot of people forget that these guys are actually still kids. They go out there and sweat and slave starting in the summer all the way through Christmas trying to get to the Superdome to play the state championship. Congratulations on a job well done. Congratulations to all the girls out there that participated in volley ball also because a lot of times you are over looked. Mrs. Robottom to you I would like to say congratulations on being re-elected as our Parish President. I did run against you but for the next years that you are here if there is anything that I can do to help you or support you I will be there to do that so do not hesitate to call on me at any time I can help you. I wish everyone in the public would back Mrs. Robottom in the same way so that our parish can continue to move forward and become the parish that I know we will be. Thank you."

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Natalie Robottom stated, "Thank you Mr. Smith obviously we spoke a little bit earlier but I appreciate you taking the time to do that and looking forward to working with everybody and appreciate you reaching out. It was a good election. We talked about it going in. I just appreciate your support. I just want to echo from Mr. Lee. I actually met the Ory's this morning. They were coming from early voting. I don't think they realized how many lives their young daughter touched until

the services. She will definitely be missed. As I explained to them there is faith, family and friends and that is who you rely on for your strength and hopefully that will ease their pain. Just a couple of reminders, there is early voting going on from 8:30 AM until 6:00 PM. It will go until Saturday however Friday is a holiday and early voting will not take place this Friday due to the holiday. We do want to acknowledge the West Lake/Des Allmands shoreline protection project. The grant will help extend and prevent additional erosion by adding a 11,000 foot improvement from Pleasure Bend. I would also like to congratulate St. John Firefighters who defeated the Sheriff's office in our second annual guns and hoses flag football game. It was a very competitive game this year and the firefighter's accepted the challenge and are housing the trophy at our office. In addition to having a lot of fun they raised about \$100.00 and obtained a variety of toys for toys for tots and box of non-perishable food items that will go to the St. John Ministry of Care for the food bank. There will be a nation wide test of the emergency broadcast system. It will take place tomorrow, November 9th at 1:00 PM. The purpose of the test is to assess the reliability and effectiveness of all the emergency alert systems as a public alert mechanism and the federal communications commission and FEMA will work together with all the stake holders and we have been involved in that as well to make improvements to the system based on those results but that alert will take place. As I mentioned earlier it is national adoption awareness month and the Thibodaux region department of child and family services, which includes St. John will host the celebration on Wednesday at 5:00 at the court square on Main Street in Houma. We are asking anybody available to attend and represent St. John Parish. Basketball registration is ongoing for this year, it will end November 10th for ages 5-12. We are asking that you contact the recreation department at 985-652-9569 between 8:00 and 4:30 or you can visit the website sjbparish.com to register. We are having the first Veteran's Day Parade and celebration this Friday. As we said the offices are closed. Mr. Brian Bertrand with the Young Marines has been working with our office for the parade. It will begin at Home Depot at 10:00 and travel to the Veteran's Home. We are asking that everyone come out and support them."

There was no executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

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

Cable Franchise Agreement

Any and all pending legal matters

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:38 PM, Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Lee seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilwoman Usry and Councilman Danny Millet absent.

COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

Council Secretary