

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH, 2015
CHAIRMAN MICHAEL WRIGHT
VICE CHAIR MARVIN PERRILLOUX

The Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session in the Rudolph Soraparau Chambers, Edgard, Louisiana on Tuesday, November 10th, 2015, at 6:30 PM.

CALL TO ORDER:

PRESENT AT ROLL CALL: Art Smith, Councilman District I, Ranney Wilson, Councilman District II, Lennix Madere, Councilman District III, Michael Wright, Councilman District V, Marvin Perrilloux, Councilman District IV, Lucien Gauff, Council-at-Large, Div. A

ABSENT: Jaclyn Hotard, Cheryl Millet, Larry Snyder

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

Legal Counsel Jeff Perilloux and Keith Green, Jr. were present.

CONSENT AGENDA:

ITEMS: Approval of Minutes - October 27th, 2015, Regular Meeting; Councilman Perrilloux - Appointment of Akeem Burl to the Recreation Advisory Board

MOTION: Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve the amended agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes - October 27th, 2015, Regular Meeting; Councilman Perrilloux - Appointment of Akeem Burl to the Recreation Advisory Board. The motion passed with Councilwomen Hotard, Millet and Councilman Snyder absent.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE:

15-57 An ordinance introducing the Annual Operating Budgets for the St. John Parish General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, Enterprise Funds and Parishwide Sewerage Construction Fund for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2016 and ending December 31, 2016(N. Robottom)

The administration requested that this item be carried over.

15-58 An ordinance exempting detached residential accessory structures Less than 200 square feet in area from building code permit fees, by amending Chapter 14, Section 14-105(3)(b), to read as follows: Building code permit fees (N. Robottom)

Alexandra Carter, Planning and Zoning, stated, "*Adoption of the proposed ordinance will reduce permit fees when review for building code compliance is not required. Administration recommends approval.*"

Councilman Wilson stated, "*I would like to see that you'll reimburse those*

for the last at least 90 days. We have been fined with whatever roads that are still in process."

Alexandra Carter stated, "Ultimately that Ordinance doesn't go in to effect until it's adopted, until it's intended for after it's adopted. So when we issue permits that were in the last 90 days, those permit fees, the code as its written now would apply before the adoption. So I don't think it would be and I would defer to Legal to confirm, but I don't imagine that we could reimburse those fees, because the code, we applied the code as it was written at the time that permit was issued."

Councilman Wilson asked, "We don't have any Legal Counsel?"

Keith Green, Jr., District Attorney's Office stated, "If the Ordinance is going to change, then any changes made to the Ordinance should reflect any reimbursements or refunds that the Council would deem appropriate to be provided to any of the citizens that were charged fees under the old Ordinance."

Councilman Wilson stated, "For instance the handicap ramp that was put up at a gentleman who had cancer and was passing away, got a fine and the cost of a permit. You have others that added a little lead to on their garage, shouldn't have one to start off with but a, see that, I'd like to see these people from that point on get, you'll know who I'm talking about..."

Keith Green, Jr. interrupting stated, "Well to be honest with you Councilman, the Council, you guys are definitely, you guys have the authority to enact that in an Ordinance, however if you're looking for some, if you're looking for some sort of an automatic reimbursement or automatic refund, it won't work in that manner. That would be something..."

Councilman Wilson interrupting stated, "We'll come back with an Ordinance."

Councilman Madere stated, "We need to put that in there."

Keith Green, Jr. stated, "Yes you guys can actually include that in your Ordinance. I would caution you though to make it as specifically as possible, you don't want to run the risk of people who, I guess you could say, would not be entitled to, the refund or a return of those fees, but other than that, yes you all have the authority to do that, you would just have to enact it in your Ordinance."

Councilman Wilson stated, "You know what I'm talking about. Those that were under 200 square feet."

Alexandra Carter stated, "I just advise this Ordinance is very specific about what fees that are being waived. In the past South Central requires plan review for structures that are over 200 feet and detached that are residential, so we're talking about small sheds here. In the past our febee structure didn't reflect that those sheds did not require plan review. So having work with the code, I realized this, so basically it's very limited, it's for structures that are less than 200 square feet, that's residential and detached from the house. Those are the only times right now where we can

waive this fee because South Central review is not required and not mandated. Does that make sense?"

Councilman Madere stated, *"Yes I understand."*

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Smith seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 15-58. The motion passed with Councilwomen Hotard, Millet and Councilman Snyder absent.

Councilwoman Hotard arrived at 6:37 PM

15-59 An ordinance establishing fees for documents reproduced in response to Public Records requests by amending Chapter 2, Article VI, Section 2-193 and Chapter 14, Section 14-2(4), to add the following: Fees for Public Records Requests

Laverne Saulny stated, *"These fees are being established for the reproduction of documents relative to Public Records Requests. Administration recommends approval."*

MOTION: Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Gauff seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 15-59. The motion passed with Councilwoman Millet and Councilman Snyder absent.

15-60 An ordinance granting approval of the Re-subdivision of Parcels 1 and 2 of the New Era Subdivision into Parcels 1-A-2, 2- A-3, and 3-A-4, situated in Section 19, T-11-S, R-7-E, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (PXS-15-1126) (N. Robottom)

Alexandra Carter stated, *"The proposal is consistent with the surrounding land uses, intended character of the area, and the Land Development Code. Administration recommends approval of the proposed re-subdivision."*

Councilman Perrilloux stated, *"Yes Ms. Alex, do we have a picture in our book of what they want to do?"*

Alexandra Carter stated, *"Um basically there is no proposed development at the time. What they're trying to do is inherit their portion of the property and it's between 3 different people and so they're proposing to re-subdivide 2 sort of awkward lots, into 3 lots in front, off of Airline Highway per the succession."*

Councilman Perrilloux stated, *"The lots from between by FUJI'S and Winn-Dixie, that area there?"*

Alexandra Carter stated, *"Yes."*

Councilman Perrilloux stated, *"Okay, okay, that's my area, that's why I'm concerned. I wanted to know and I didn't see a picture with it."*

Alexandra Carter stated, *"There should have been a map, I put it with the briefing. I have an extra one if you'd like to see it, I can walk it up to you."*

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "I'll get it from you after the meeting. I just wanted to know what we were doing there. Ok thank you."

Alexandra Carter stated, "Ok absolutely."

MOTION: Councilman Gauff moved and Councilwoman Hotard seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 15-60. The motion passed with Councilwoman Millet and Councilman Snyder absent.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I'll ask that the council accept the recommendation of the finance committee at this time."

MOTION: Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to accept the recommendation of the finance committee. The motion passed with Councilwoman Millet and Councilman Snyder absent.

NEW BUSINESS:

Natalie Robottom - Resolution - R15-37 - A Resolution for the Louisiana Community Development Block Grant Program FY 2016 Grant Application

Natalie Robottom stated, "This resolution authorizes execution of the appropriate contract with CH2M Hill for performance of engineering service and to serve as project engineer in the event funding is awarded. The parish applied for a FY 2016-2017 LCDBG Grant in the amount of \$526,426.00 to address low to moderate income needs in Census Tract 711 located on the West Bank. The Grant funds, if awarded, will rehabilitate the 0.8 MGD Water Treatment Clarifier at the Edgard Water Treatment Plant to extend its useful life an additional 20 years. Construction cost of the project is estimated at \$459,686.00 and \$66,740.00 (to be funded from the 2009 Bond Issue) for professional services contingent upon receiving the Grant Award. Administration recommends approval."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Didn't we and Chuck may know, Mr. Savoie may know. Didn't we allocated something before for the clarifier for the Edgard Plant?"

Michael Coburn stated, "I have Mr. DeLaune here to answer some specific questions."

Rob Delaune, Digital Engineering stated, "Originally there was money that was allocated to the Edgard clarifier but the water line under the Mississippi River was the ultimate project to that clarifier. So we funded a water line under the Mississippi River with the funds that were available for the Edgard clarifier plus additional funds from the DHH Loan. So that project is now almost substantially complete, so now with the water line underneath the Mississippi River, it's going to be in service, we can take down the clarifier at the Edgard Plant, do the necessary repairs, so that's a back-up that's needed and currently the parish doesn't have funds to do that project, that's why they're applying for this LCDBG Grant and the Grant you know is approximately \$526,000, that includes the engineering and the construction."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Okay, I was just kind of confused on that issue because I know we had some, I thought we had funding for that before to work on that project but you explained it."

Rob Delaune stated, "Ok."

MOTION: Councilman Gauff moved and Councilman Smith seconded the motion to approve Resolution R-15-37. A Resolution for the Louisiana Community Development Block Grant Program FY 2016 Grant Application. The motion passed with Councilwoman Millet and Councilman Snyder absent.

Michael Wright - Employee Holiday's for Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "At this time I would like to make a motion to grant the employees a half of a day off on the day before Thanksgiving (11-25-15), Christmas Eve (12-24-15) and New Year's Eve (12-31-15) in the event that the Governor doesn't declare these days as holidays."

MOTION: Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to grant the employees a half of a day off on the day before Thanksgiving (11-25-15), Christmas Eve (12-24-15) and New Year's Eve (12-31-15). The motion passed with Councilwoman Millet and Councilman Snyder absent.

DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:

Torri Buckles stated, "Good evening Council. St. John the Baptist Parish Economic Development and conjunction with the River Parish Tourist Commission and RTC will be hosting a premier event on Sunday, November 15, 2015 at the St. John Community Center for the premier AMC's The Walking Dead and Into the Badlands, which was filmed in our Community Center for the past year. The show will begin at 7:00 PM with a workshop featuring industry experts, discussing how to become a crew member, how to connect your business and how to connect your location. The Walking Dead premier will begin at 8:00 PM and followed by Into the Badlands at 9:00 PM. Economic Development Department will feature a taste of St. John, it's a version of dinner and a movie with a local restaurant providing local special dishes and to include movie concession such as popcorn and hot dogs. The show is an MA rating and is requesting all those that are in attendance are at least 18 years old, seating is limited to 200 guests and registration for this event can be found online at www.sjbparish.com. We're hoping to see everybody there."

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

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

Lennix Madere - (Carry Over 7-14-15) Update on drainage issues Hickory Street

Councilman Madere stated, "I can give you an update on the paper you sent over to our secretary. Mr. Coburn has volunteered to take care of that for us and mail it out and get it all back. There was a little confusion as to how we were going to do that. Just one question concerning that. Once we get those, the paper back from them, do you have a timeline as to when we'll

start that project?"

Brian Nunes stated, "I don't have a timeline because it's tough to give out with a bunch of projects going on and the weather the way it is, but I could probably get a quote on getting rid of those trees first so we can get a machine in there. I can get that quote probably later in the week and then once we figure out that, maybe by the next meeting I'll have a good date for you or I can just call you with the date."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay thank you, because I know those individuals been waiting a pretty long time, you know so they'd be glad to see this moving forward. Alright thank you."

Brian Nunes stated, "Sure, you're welcome."

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

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

Ranney Wilson - (Carry Over 10-12-15) Railroad Issues

Councilman Wilson stated, "Yes, when you and I spoke earlier. The meeting that several people attended with the railroad and I wasn't invited to, said they were going to start, of what year they're going to start, they haven't done anything yet. I'd appreciate it if you'll met with them or get back with them to find out when things are going to start happening."

Lennix Madere - (Carry Over 10-12-15) Parish Servitude - whose responsibility is it in the District

Councilman Madere asked that we remove this item from the agenda.

Lennix Madere - (Carry Over 10-27-15) Road concerns in District III

Councilman Madere stated, "I think Mr. Savoie and I have worked out enough what we're going to do with that. We are going to take a ride and look at some roads, so we'll get back to it."

Larry Snyder - Update on the CDBG Funding - Hurricane Isaac Projects

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

Ranney Wilson - Drainage

Councilman Wilson stated, "The water situation right now as it is, it's pointless."

Councilman Gauff stated, "What I wanted to report on is the committee reports. Mr. Nunes or Mr. Savoie, I just want to know, what's the timeline for Apricot? We discussed the plan, I know Chuck drew up something, so I'm just trying to see when or how soon that will be done."

Brian Nunes stated, "Mr. Savoie gave me the schedule and what there is to do and I think it's going to work. My concrete crews are kind of tied up for the

next week or so, we have a project on West 3rd Street right now, once we finish that I don't see why we can't do it, so probably the week after Thanksgiving."

Councilman Gauff stated, "Ok like I said, just looking for a timeline and trying to get something scheduled because I know we've sketched it out. Also, the drain along the railroad, the one that we walked out with the railroad on West, where it goes over by Noah, just wanting to know some timeline on that."

Brian Nunes stated, "Let me contact the railroad to make sure they can have a flagman out there before we get out there."

Councilman Gauff stated, "Yes they said they would help us as far as flagging, we can get along there and clean that out. That would really help."

Brian Nunes stated, "I agree."

Councilman Madere asked, "Where is that location at?"

Councilman Gauff stated, "Right at Noah, the crossing, the railroad crossing coming down where Highway 44 ties in to West 5th, that railroad track. We were under the impression and we had gotten that from some of the other railroad guys that was a culvert there and it must be collapsed, that's why it wasn't draining, but actually that doesn't drain there, there isn't a culvert. It runs towards DuPont property, the culverts further down but we need to clean that are because everything just piles up right there so there is no drainage. It sits there, the water sits there until it evaporates, so we need to, with the help of Mr. Nunes and Public Works and help us open so that it does get to the culvert, it can drain on."

Councilman Madere asked, "Mr. Nunes I have a question. The work that they were doing on the River Road towards Mr. Gauff house, where those pipes were going across, okay that's to relieve water out the ditch on the levee side and going into our system?"

Brian Nunes stated, "Everything drains away from the levee."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right so they put that to help drain along the river road?"

Councilman Gauff stated, "I can answer that. Actually that was the state, replacing the culverts, they were just replacing culverts that had been there for years, upgrade with an upgrade, yes..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "But they had been covered up."

Councilman Gauff stated, "That's what it's for, to drain from the river to..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "Right so they went back and opened those back up."

Councilman Gauff stated, "Yes well they replaced them. They put new culverts."

Councilman Madere stated, "Right, so they were probably damaged or collapsed or something."

Councilman Gauff stated, "Or just old. I think it's an upgrade, so all of them were being replaced."

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

There was no executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

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

St. John the Baptist Parish vs. R Bend Estates II, L.L.C. Pierre F. Gaudin, John Treme - Civil Action No. 15-4951 E (1)

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

Larry Snyder - Hurricane Preparation plans

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

Parish Buildings - Security

Water bill issues - 133 Beechgrove, Reserve, LA

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

Lennix Madere - Water bills - amoeba update

Water District #1 System issues/State DHH order

Any and all pending legal matters

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

There were no ordinances to introduce at this time.

PRESIDENT REPORT:

Good evening, I am extremely pleased with the recent announcement regarding the creation of a new corporate headquarters for Denka Performance Elastomer LLC in LaPlace, where Denka has acquired the Neoprene synthetic rubber business of DuPont Performance Polymers. The project will create 16 new corporate jobs and another 81 new indirect jobs while retaining the 235 existing manufacturing jobs. I want to congratulate Denka, DuPont, Louisiana Economic Development and our Economic Development Department on another win for St. John as well as another

opportunity for our residents to work in the community in which they live. We will post employment information when received to allow our residents to apply for upcoming jobs. Veterans Day is tomorrow and a time to honor all those who have served our great country. Again this year, the St. John Parish Young Marines directed by Lt. Brian Bertrand, St. John Parish, and the Southeast Louisiana War Veterans Home will host the annual Veterans Parade and Celebration this Wednesday, November 11. The parade will begin at Home Depot in LaPlace around 10:00 a.m. and travel to the SELA War Veterans Home for a ceremony, food, fun and music. The ceremony is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. on the grounds of the War Veterans Home. Walk the red carpet as we celebrate the debut of the new AMC television series, Into the Badlands - filmed at the St. John Soundstage. Economic Development in partnership with the River Parishes Tourist Commission and RTC is hosting a special Walking Dead and Into the Badlands screening in the St. John Community Center for the premiere on Sunday, November 15 from 7 pm - 10 pm. The event is free and will feature food and drinks and a film workshop led by top industry professionals. Seating is limited and you must register to attend. The event is open to attendees 18 and older due to the show's mature rating. Visit sjbparish.com to register. The Economic Development Department is asking residents and visitors of the Andouille Festival to give us your feedback on this year's Festival by participating in a survey on our website at sjbparish.com. Click the link on the homepage of the website and submit your responses so that we can continue making the Andouille Festival bigger and better each year. Congratulations to the 18 small business owners graduating from the FastTrac Entrepreneurial Program on November 19. Participants are completing 10 training sessions and receiving the tools needed to build an actionable business plan. We look forward to a continued partnership with the Louisiana Small Business Development Center, Louisiana Economic Development, and South Central Louisiana Technical College to offer this program to all local business owners. Registration for Boys and Girls Biddy Basketball ages 5-14 is open until November 13. We encourage all children involved in football and other sports to stay busy after the season by registering for the 2015 basketball season. Registration forms are online or can be picked up at REGALA Gym between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Senior Citizens are invited to a Thanksgiving Luncheon sponsored by the Sheriff's Office filled with food, fun, music and prizes, at REGALA Gym on Friday, November 20. Bingo will start at 10:00 a.m. with a meal following bingo at 11:30 a.m. For more information, contact Sgt. Carmouche at 985-359-8754. To help spread holiday cheer, St. John Government, St. John Schools, Marathon and Blessed to be a Blessing are sponsoring a Toy Drive. Residents can donate a new, unwrapped toy at all St. John Parish schools and libraries now through December 4. The toys will be distributed through a special evening event on December 16th the main Library in LaPlace from 6pm-8pm. Due to the recent heavy rainfall and unseasonably warm temperatures, areas of St John and the River Parishes are experiencing increased levels of adult pest mosquitoes. Although the bulk of these mosquitoes are not the ones that carry West Nile, they are pests. Mosquito Control Services has dispatched additional trucks, increased sprays and is currently also treating the parish by aircraft. Crews are providing daily treatments over as opposed to the usual two to three times a week treatment and recently mosquito assistance was provided to both the east and west banks by aircraft. They will continue the enhanced control efforts until populations return to more acceptable levels, most likely when extensive rain ceases and cooler temperatures arrive. Residents can assist by draining, flushing and discarding anything that might collect water - this breeds mosquitoes at rapid rates. More information and tips can be found on our website and government access channel. Residents can request additional spraying for an event by calling

the Mosquito Control Office at St. 985-536-6530. Greenwood Park is currently under construction for the Park Improvements Project. Due to heavy equipment and construction materials around the area, the park is closed until the improvements are complete. We apologize for the inconvenience and expect the park to re-open by mid-December, weather permitting. Reminder - Early voting for the November 22 general election is taking place through Saturday, November 14, 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Registrar of Voter's Office located in the Percy Hebert Building in LaPlace and the West Bank Courthouse in Edgard. Thank you.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:02 PM, Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilwoman Millet and Councilman Snyder absent.

/s/Michael Wright
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
Council Secretary