

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24TH, 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 Joel McTopy Chambers, LaPlace, Louisiana on Tuesday, November 24th, 2015, at 6:30 PM.

CALL TO ORDER:

PRESENT AT ROLL CALL: 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, Cheryl Millet, Councilman District VII, Larry Snyder, Councilman District VI

ABSENT: Art Smith & Jaclyn Hotard

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

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

Natalie Robottom - Proclamation - November 28th as Small Business Saturday

Natalie Robottom read the proclamation for November 28th as Small Business Saturday.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Councilman Wright stated, "*Notice is hereby given that at its meeting to be held on Monday, January 11th, 2016 at 12:00 PM at the Edgard Courthouse, 2393 La. Hwy. 18, Edgard, Louisiana, the Parish Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, plans to consider adopting a resolution ordering and calling an election to be held in the Parish of St. John the Baptist to authorize the renewal of ad valorem taxes.*"

CONSENT AGENDA:

MOTION: Councilman Wright motioned to suspend the rules to add Marvin Perrilloux - Appointment of Alvin Scioneaux to the Utility Board. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Snyder absent.

ITEMS: Approval of Minutes - November 10th, 2015, Regular Meeting; Councilman Perrilloux - Appointment of Alvin Scioneaux to the Utility Board

MOTION: Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Snyder seconded the motion to approve the amended agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes - November 10th, 2015, Regular Meeting; Councilman Perrilloux - Appointment of Alvin Scioneaux to the Utility Board. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Smith absent.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE:

15-57 (Carry Over 11-10-15) 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.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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

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

Councilwoman Hotard arrived to the Council Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Natalie Robottom - Recommendation for Parish health insurance

Natalie Robottom stated, *"I think Ms. Tatje is here as well. Based on our workshop with regards to insurance, we've discussed the increase in insurance and the amount of funds budgeted for that and discussed several options that we thought that would work for the Parish beginning probably in March and moving forward, we're recommending that we continue with our existing insurance plan, which is a Humana Plan but there are options for Ochsner only. With participation I think 15% participation by employees, I'm not sure if you guys are ready to take action but this was discussed, you did receive the plans, there were a couple of options discussed so we're open to discussing those tonight, but that's our recommendation. Just for clarification purposes, there is still going to be a shortfall that we will divide among the departments to cover this insurance and maintain the level of insurance that we currently have or that our employees currently have."*

Councilman Wright stated, *"Okay."*

Councilman Wilson stated, *"Before approving that recommendation, asking employees for their 15% to make maybe effective the 5% that's been given away every year, that shouldn't have been for as long as it did, but anyway, cut that out and also all the car allowances that shouldn't be there and use that money to help pay some of this off, it's just a thought of mine. Instead of asking 15% I mean, you know the people up here are making eighty, ninety, hundred, hundred thirty, forty, fifty thousand dollars and that doesn't mean much to them, but to the people down at the bottom it means a lot. Because they still got their copays and everything else besides that."*

Jeff Perilloux stated, *"I just wanted to say that you know you all can obviously discuss any kind of way you like here, however the, Mr. Wilson is talking about this directly to the budget which you all haven't necessarily, well you haven't approved obviously and you're still in discussions on the budget, but specifically some of those items that are being discussed right now regarding possibly tinkering with the budget a little bit can be*

discussed in addition to and after you approve whatever recommendation you have should you choose to do that, ok! That's all I wanted to make sure everybody was aware of that you're not necessarily in the position to, until you vote for a budget to either approve or not approve what he's necessarily talking about or suggesting."

Councilman Madere asked, "So in other words you are saying we can discuss it but we're not and no vote can be taken on that, is that what you're saying?"

Jeff Perilloux stated, "Well what I'm saying is, you have to approve the budget obviously through the budget ordinance that's been introduced and so some of the suggestions in terms of moving some money and saving some money to accommodate the employees in some fashion does not necessarily have to be, in my opinion you shouldn't vote on that tonight, because you haven't adopted a budget yet, that should be part of the budget process. However, you can still discuss the ideas going forward and when you approve the budget perhaps take into consideration some of the suggestions you're making tonight in your final approval of the budget."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "Back on this hospitalization that we're discussing, so the employees will have an option to select what plan they would prefer, being it Point of Service or the Ochsner Plan, which ever one is their preference, am I correct in that?"

Natalie Tatje stated, "Yes ma'am. We'll be able to offer 3 different plans, the current plan and then 2 other Ochsner only plans. Both of the Ochsner only plans have copays for surgeries, copays for the doctor's office and copays for your prescriptions and the \$100 deductible for the prescription drug card will be waived, they won't have to meet that."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "So other words you will go over this with the employees and let them know what their options are and they will decide which is best what they can afford to have?"

Natalie Tatje stated, "And which plans fits their budget the best. Yes ma'am."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "Thank you, thank you for giving them the options."

Natalie Tatje stated, "Ok."

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes and what Ms. Millet touched already was my concern to that they would be given, it being explained to the employees. Now back to what Mr. Wilson said about the 15% and taking the 5% but actually you'll be taking 20% from the employees. Basically because if you remove that 5% raise that they get, that's still money that they won't be get. Ok so that would add up to 15%..."

Councilman Wilson stated, "No that's not what I think."

Councilman Wright stated, "Mr. Madere we're going to talk about that during the budget process, right now we're strictly talking on recommendations for the..."

Councilman Madere interrupting stated, "He said we can talk about it, we not voting on it. I'm just pointing out the facts that if you put 15% and then try and remove the 5% and it total up to 20%, basically I think employees."

Councilman Wilson stated, "That's not what I meant if you took it that way. What I'm saying is, instead of charging them the 15% you don't do that, we can pass this tonight without the recommendation, taking this insurance policy and when budget time comes around, find out the best way to move the money to pay for it. I said when you're, there's a big difference when you take care allowance out and you take money from here and you take money from there, it'll help cover this cost increase, instead of having the employees down at the bottom and I'm not worried about the ones at the top, they can afford it, but the ones down at the bottom, if they got to take 15% out of their check and then come up with all the deductibles, well they got to come up with that anyway regardless but I'd just like to see it done another way. Right now we have to approve the insurance, but we don't have to approve it with the dollar amount other than what's in here and where it's going to come from. Is that correct Mr. Perilloux?"

Jeff Perilloux stated, "Mr. Wilson I'm sorry, I didn't hear your question."

Councilman Wright asked, "Can you repeat the question Mr. Wilson?"

Councilman Wilson asked, "Can we approve this insurance tonight without, with the dollar figure that's on here and not anything as far as budget where the money is to come from? To pay for it, I mean we have budget process that we can move money around next week, the recommendation is for the employees to pay 15%. What I'm asking is that this not be included in passing this right now, this can be done in the budget process?"

Jeff Perilloux stated, "Well actually I think that what you're attempting to do tonight is to vote on a plan that would be put in place that would include based on what I heard, a recommendation that the employee contribute 15% to the cost of the premiums."

Councilman Wilson stated, "No I don't want them to pay the 15% is what I'm saying this can be discussed during the budget process. What I'm saying is we have to improve the insurance tonight, the cost is not going to go down regardless of whether the money comes from so the price is what it is. I'm asking that we approve the insurance..."

Jeff Perilloux interrupting stated, "The renewal of the insurance..."

Councilman Wilson interrupting stated, "The renewal of the insurance only and we discuss the money part in the budget."

Jeff Perilloux stated, "You can do that. I'm not certain that I would recommend that but you certainly can approve the renewal proposal from Humana without the employees contributing 15% that is correct. You can approve that if the council chooses to. You will have to figure out where the money will come from to pay for it during the budget process."

Councilman Wilson stated, "Yeah well that's exactly what I'm saying that's"

why we have a budget process."

Jeff Perilloux stated, "Or as Mr. Coburn just stated to me, you can approve the recommendation that administration has made which is to include the 15%, now you can do that or you cannot do anything. I mean it's ultimately it's your decision."

Councilman Gauff stated, "Well I guess it depends on, was that a motion or was that not? And if it's not a motion..."

Councilman Wright interrupting stated, "No I think right now we have a motion and a second on the floor."

Councilman Gauff stated, "It was a second?"

Councilman Wright stated, "We did have a motion and a second for the current recommendation."

Councilman Gauff stated, "Ok. Well, I'll wait and see how that vote goes or I guess I'm, I don't remember Mr. Wilson being at the discussions that we had about this and, but I don't want to speak out of terms because I don't know if he had private meetings or not to understand where we are with the budget and why we're at this point in trying to get within the budget. To get a plan that works for not only for our employees but works for our parish and our budget. And I'm not sure if you're prevent to that information or if you've met or not so that's why I don't want to speak out of terms, but I know most of us have sat in on these meetings and know that we're at a point in the budget and in the Parish's future, there's got to be some sort of contribution from the employees and through the hard work of Ms. Tatje and the hours we've put in going over this, I know that it has to start somewhere and it, this year is or the plan for 2016 is to start with getting the best possible plan for our employees and for the parish so that this does fit within the budget.

So I'm against with cutting the 15% out of there, we have to start somewhere, this needs to be in there, so I have to make a subsequent motion to...

Councilman Wright interrupting stated, "We already have a motion and a second with the current recommendation."

Councilman Gauff stated, "And that's what I was asking, did he have a motion and that's what I wanted to make sure. He didn't and that we were voting on administration's motion. Ok that's good then."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Thanks I have a quick question and I wasn't able to attend the insurance committee meeting because Colbi had all of her wisdom teeth taken out. But the question that I have is and one thing that I would have liked to have considered is covering, still covering the employee and then getting the contribution from the, you know on the dependents and family, because it seems like some of what we're having, Natalie you can kind of chime in on it, is maybe some double coverage of some dependents and family, so if we still cover the employee and the full rate and get the contribution on the dependents, we'll probably even see some drop off because often times people will add you know spouses and kids on there that may be covered somewhere else because there's no premium payment involved in it, you know so it's free in a sense but it's not because it's costing on our plan.

Whereas if you have to contribute even a small amount of 15% to it, well ok already are on this plan over here I'm not going to put them on it. And so that was kind of what I would have liked to see, I had mentioned that to Councilman Wright in our discussion on the phone after the insurance meeting was over, so I didn't know if that was considered, if it was a possibility, you know it's a tough decision, one thing I do think about from an employee stand point, we do have employees who you know don't make a lot of money you know and I understand that at some point we have to get a contribution but to do it overnight and some people may have to pay several hundred dollars a month, that may be a hard pill to swallow. Whereas the biggest burden right now, not the biggest but part of the burden is some of this double coverage. So we can eliminate some of that and I don't know if done any research or fact finding to see how much of that we have there, dependents who may be eligible for Medicaid you know often times because you know it's free to put the dependents on there but you may qualify for another plan, you still put them on there when they could you know be taken off the plan, so just want to make sure that we're looking at this from a comprehensive approach before we put you know this type of burden on our employees. And so that's why I said I would have like to look at still covering the employee, getting a contribution for dependents, we know we have to do it, we know we have to make a change going forward, we understand that, just over the years we've seen that our policy get watered down you know because we're trying to still cover and still manage premiums and things like that, but right now I guess that's where the rubber is meeting the road but I definitely need to feel comfortable that we took a comprehensive approach you know and looked at everything that we could do before we just lay down 15% on everybody, that's my concern."

Natalie Tatje stated, "Ok I'm going to say yes to all of the above. I don't know if all of you all can hear me but yes to all of the above. Administration really crunched numbers, in the meeting last week Ms. Millet brought up, she called me ahead of time and asked me to put together a spreadsheet if the employees didn't pay anything and we had 15% out of pocket for dependents only, bottom line was, it was still out of budget okay, bottom line we just didn't have the money, so at the end of the day last week, it was we needed to charge everybody the 15% because we don't know how many people are truly double covered, we don't know how many of them have dependents that are on Medicare I mean Medicaid okay, we don't know that. So we couldn't adjust the budget to the unknown, I guess after the shake out to see who's going to stay with their dependents without their dependents, we address it but at this point Ms. Robottom said, let's put this in play with the 15% across the board and let everybody get prepared for it and then we're not going to start taking it out of their check until March okay. Well by January/February I hope that we know who's going to keep it and who's not. I mean we're planning on having open enrollment next week introducing all 3 plans to the employees and letting them choose which plan they like. One thing that I liked that we were going to offer these Ochsner Only Plans that no longer had a high deductible and high coinsurance out of pocket so the employees that couldn't afford to go have surgeries because they couldn't afford the \$3,750 out of pocket, then afford to pay \$250 for a surgery or \$500 for a surgery. So I know that it feels like we've taken a whole lot away but we are trying to offer something that everybody can look at the plans and pick something that they like. I hope that addresses all your questions and concerns."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "Ms. Tatje, I'm looking at these 2 spreadsheets right here and I understand the one the administration is recommending, but when I look at Page 2 where the employee does not contribute anything on the policy except, but they do on their dependents, the numbers are not the same for the dependents as they are on Page 1 even though it's the same policy. Is there a reason for those numbers being different, I'm just asking because it, I understand the policy amount should still be the same, it's just adjusting who's paying what?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "I think its 2 different insurance."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "No it's the same plan."

Councilman Snyder asked, "It's the Ochsner plan you mean?"

Councilwoman Millet stated, "No it's the same plan. The numbers should be the same, somebody's paying, same plan."

Natalie Tatje stated, "No because on Page 1 it's 15% across the board and so you didn't have to pay that 98 that 98.86..."

Councilwoman Millet interrupting stated, "No I understand it's going to be higher for the but the premium should still be the same regardless of who's paying it, the totals are the same."

Natalie Tatje stated, "No if you add the 108.90 plus the 98.86 you're going to come up with 207, so these are correct okay but..."

Councilwoman Millet interrupting stated, "But what I'm saying is, if the premium is \$4 Million and it's \$300, this is the Parish's share and this is the employees share is what you're saying. But when you look at the numbers how much the employees going to pay 15%, it's still 15%."

Natalie Tatje stated, "I know but they're not paying 15% of their premium any longer. So this is saying employee and child, employee and spouse, that's what they would pay."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "So this is just 15% on their dependents?"

Natalie Tatje stated, "Correct, correct, correct."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "Gotcha thank you. Thank you very much."

Natalie Tatje stated, "Good question."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "I'm sorry, could you repeat what the motion is again and can you repeat the recommendation?"

Councilman Wright stated, "The motion on the second was to accept administration's recommendation which was a 15% employee contribution across the board with the current policy."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "And that's it?"

Councilman Wright stated, "And the other 2 options."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "And so it doesn't include reevaluating this once we find out where we are as far as employees who may be double covered coming off the plan or anything like that, it's just 15% across the board?"

Councilman Wright stated, "Correct."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I don't know too much about budgets because I don't do the one at my house, but isn't this our budget and if this is our budget, why did we say it was the amount that the Parish pay for insurance is out of budget, we can put any amount we want there, we just have to find the money, am I right? So it's out of budget because somebody said this is what we want to pay, this is all we want to pay? That's why it's out of budget?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "No actually we've been increasing the amount we've been paying for insurance annually and this year we increased it to over \$4 Million on employee insurance and to continue doing that puts us out of budget. So we did budget for an increase but not a 23% increase in insurance cost and if we try to maintain that then we're out of budget. We understand that it is a budget and we can't find the money, except that we couldn't find the amount of money that we needed to be able to do this. Now we took the recommendations of the Council Members who were at the workshop and we went back and looked at what the Ordinances called for, what other options we could find to decrease or cut in to the shortfall and I think we've done that, there's still a shortfall, we also looked at not, although we have to start this insurance policy in December, we looked at not charging our employees until March to give them an opportunity to get prepared for this, I know you guys talked about it last year and I guess I thought it was in preparation for doing something this year, we have tried but the cost for insurance and insuring all of our employees, all of their dependents 100% out of our budget is exceeding the amount of funds we have available and we cannot continue to do that and stay solvent which is why the discussion was had to have some participation. Now we brought it down, you know originally there could be a plan that everybody has to go to Ochsner but what I understand is there are people in the Parish who have doctors that are not on the Ochsner Plan and so rather than save the money and force everybody to go to Ochsner, I recommended keep Humana have 2 Ochsner options and you know try to stay within the budget, we still going to have a shortfall that we're going to have to find the money for which will divide it across other budgets but there's a limit to how much we can find for insurance and still maintain all of the other services that are required within the parish."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I really do understand that but I like what Ms. Hotard was saying about and actually the spreadsheet that Ms. Tatje gave us last week did have that on that sheet about we paying the employees and the employees paying the 15% on their spouse and the children or the family. And I kind of liked that one but it didn't help us out much very much."

Natalie Robottom stated, "It didn't us, you're right. That was I think Ms. Millet's and of course you know that is a common practice that you know the employee is not a common practice for a parish or an employee to cover

somebody's entire family. So you know we tried to go that route but when they looked at comparing and I think it was Mr. Gauff that brought it up, if you went that way they'd end up paying more by trying to cover their family then they'd pay if they'd just did the 15%. So we did look at that, I think you were the one who brought that up, the numbers didn't work well for people who needed to cover their families and we thought that would not be within their budget, so this was the one that and I think Natalie will have more information on that, that when you divide it between 2 paychecks a month was more in line and more affordable than if we tried to have them more for their families."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Thank you let me ask this. Have we had any you know meetings or workshops or anything with employees right now to find out what their thoughts are, what plans they would prefer to go with or I mean it's something we have to make a decision here but are they aware of what's going on, has there been any feedback?"

Natalie Tatje stated, "There hasn't been any workshops but I have reached out to several employees and asked them what did they hear and basically my feedback that I got was, we have been waiting on it. And so really only by the people I've spoken with I really haven't heard any complaints personally, they've just been waiting on it, is what they told me."

Councilman Wilson stated, "That's employees in this building, I'm sure, not out there in the street."

Natalie Tatje stated, "No they weren't."

Michael Coburn stated, "And like we said, we do have the meeting scheduled for next week but I've spoken to about 10 which is a very few and was split right down the middle, employees do not want to pay for their insurance any, any percent but the other 5 are obviously saying you know we've got to do something, we're the only company that does this, just keep it as low as you possibly can to help us out and we understood that."

Councilman Madere stated, "You know this is a, I think I said it at the insurance meeting that I would like to see you know 10 employees, not 15 employees, I would like for this to be presented to all the employees and get that type of feedback from them because some of the employees that I've spoken to were against it. I haven't spoken to one that was in favor of it you know so I just would like to get more of a feedback from the vast majority of the employees, I mentioned that before and that's you know this was known not just a couple of weeks ago, this was known and it wasn't brought to the, at that time it wasn't brought up and I think we lost some valuable time when we could have had that type of workshop and explained everything to the employees you know because I'm just not comfortable without them fully understanding and knowing what's going on. That's just the way I feel about it you know, if we would have brought it up a month ago or 2 weeks ago you know I think we should try to make it available to have that kind of information brought to all the employees."

Councilman Gauff stated, "I know in our workshop or in our insurance meeting, we discussed the same thing, I think one of the questions or that I had asked was; employee reps being in our workshop and I don't think any of them were

there. The only thing I would say is that, if I were an employee, naturally I would say; I don't want an increase but once again it's inevitable that something has to be done. Whether it's I think and I think and I don't want to misquote but I think Ms. Hotard saying, at least we'd have a better understanding is if they want to pay zero and then you know have us pay for their spouse, I mean the zero and then the other insurance or the 15% and at least that would give them option, instead of us making the decision but I think ultimately it is our decision but we're trying to represent the people that have put us here and it puts us in a very difficult situation to make a decision for them when we haven't heard from enough of them, so upon them sharing more information it maybe something we do need to get more information on without us making a decision."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "Let me ask you something. If we go ahead and approve this 15% today, can we come back and revisit this at another time once we see what the actual participation is, is that an option? I'm asking."

Natalie Tatje stated, "You'll can yes. I mean..."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "So I mean other words once we go ahead and put this 15% in place if we so desire to do so at another time once the plan is actually in to affect and find out how many employees you're putting on, howmany employees are coming off, blah blah blah, we can come back and visit the percentages at that time, that would not be something. Mr. Perilloux is that something we can do?"

Jeff Perilloux stated, "Yes."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "Ok then I think that's something that maybe we might want to add to the motion to revisit this after the plan is in affect and if we can save the employees or reduce their contribution, that may be something we might want to consider doing."

Natalie Tatje stated, "Right because we just don't know the true numbers right now."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Once you're presented with, ok this is what it's going to cost here you might say; Oh well you know my kid or my husband or my wife is covered somewhere else and then we may be able to address or adjust what we get from the employee themselves versus the you know the dependents, I mean we all know we got to do something, you know causing the least amount of harm you know is obviously the road that I think we all would like to take, still knowing that we definitely have to do something because at some point like we said, the plan gets so watered down where it's just catastrophic care. You know it's not you know if you have to have a small procedure it's not affordable, it's basically if you just have a catastrophe and you need a heart replacement okay, then it's insurance. So I think that's a good suggestion you know I'd be willing to definitely support it that way, put the 15% in there, see what happens, we know we have until March to address it and see administration nodding their heads that that's acceptable, right."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "We can make a motion to include that in it."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Yeah that we can revisit accepting administration's recommendation and also the option to revisit at a later date."

Councilman Wright stated, "Ok so it's a substitute motion by Ms. Hotard."

MOTION: Councilman Gauff moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to approve the administrations recommendation for Parish Health Insurance.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Gauff seconded the motion to approve the administrations recommendation and also have the option to revisit at a later date for Parish Health Insurance. The motion passed with 6 yeas, 1 against (Wilson), 1 abstaining (Millet) and 1 absent (Smith).

DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:

Torri Buckles - Economic Development Department to St. John Parish Shop Local Campaign for the 2015 Holiday Season

Torri Buckles introduced the 2015 Shop Local Shop St. John Campaign for the 2015 Holiday Season. Businesses must register at www.sjbparish.com/shoplocal to be part of the campaign, there is no cost for membership. The annual shop local Trivia Game will soon arrive in your mailboxes and if the correct answers are selected and returned, contestants will be entered in a drawing to win gift card, prizes through local retailers. The Trivia Game runs through December 1st - December 28th and winners will be announced on December 30th. Small business Saturday is being held on November 28th and community members are encouraged to make their holiday purchases in St. John. Small business Saturday signage will be displayed throughout the parish. For more information you may visit our website at www.sjbparish.com/shoplocal. Thank you.

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

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

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.

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

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

Larry Snyder - (Carry Over 11-10-15) Update on the CDBG Funding - Hurricane Isaac Projects

Councilman Snyder stated, *I'd like to have just something so people who are listening in can understand where we are."*

Michael Coburn stated, *"Yes sir, we still have those same numbers out there. One positive thing just taken place last week, we had a meeting with all contractors for our Homeowner Rehab Project, we had about 45 contractors some locals some outside the parish. We met at Regala we went over all the bid processing, answered any questions that they had regarding the money, when the money is going to come in, how they're going to get paid and so forth. That meeting was very very successful, all branches were there, procurement was there, economic development was there, permitting was there, so everybody was there and you had a great discussion there, so that's one positive. And then we explained to all the contractors we're still waiting on that \$7 Million, once that hits the bank here, we'll be able to start the process. It's kind of giving them some information on what to do and how to begin their bidding process to bid on these homes when it comes available."*

Councilman Snyder stated, *"Back to that \$7 Million why haven't that gotten here yet?"*

Michael Coburn stated, *"I really can't answer that other than to say that the environmental reviews are taking some times, those I guess putting the plans together has changed at the State Department level, Cory Martinez who does that for us, is on the phone daily meeting with state personnel discussing ways to get these environmental reviews redone as quickly as possible. At the present time all of our homeowner rehab and small rental have been preliminary approved, all of our environmental reviews. We're still waiting on a couple of elevation and small rental rehab, we still have some environmental rehabs we're doing with them. But they tell us it's right around the corner and they've agreed to our process, we've changed focus a little bit to try to accommodate everything they're asking us on those environmental reviews and once basically we get those submitted and in to the state, they will approve them. We're very very close on that and once that is done, then money will be allocated to us."*

Councilman Snyder asked, *"What's the purpose of the Environmental Reviews?"*

Michael Coburn stated, *"Just making sure we're following all the rules and regulations of the federal, the state guidelines and also our guidelines as far as all this grant money is concerned."*

Councilman Snyder asked, *"Anything else we can, anything else?"*

Michael Coburn stated, *"I can give you some numbers at the present time, Providence is basically they're out now at the present time, we have 762 completed applications and files that have been going through the process being in one of those 4 categories. But still at the present time where 407 Homeowner Rehab applications have gone through, 139 Homebuyer Assistance, 54 Elevation and 50 Small Rentals. So all those have gone through the process through the title and legal purposes and on to inspection. Not all those have been inspected yet but those are the number of applications that have come through."*

Councilman Snyder asked, "You don't know about how many we do a week are inspections or not?"

Michael Coburn stated, "I think the last time they told us, they do about four inspections a week."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Four?"

Michael Coburn stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Snyder asked, "That's kind of slow is it? They have more than one inspector I mean Jesus Christ."

Michael Coburn stated, "That's what they're telling me they're right on key with it."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Wow."

Michael Coburn stated, "Well I mean you got to get in touch with the homeowner, the homeowner has to be there, they can't do it by themselves, you know you got to coordinate all those activities getting everybody there at the same time."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Right I understand, I'm glad it turned out to be that way, that's the best thing to do to make sure somebody's home. Thank you I'm okay with that."

Councilman Gauff asked, "What was the numbers on the Homebuyer's Assistance?"

Michael Coburn stated, "The completed applications okay, these are completed applications that were turned in. 407 for Homeowner Rehab, 139 for Homebuyer's Assistance, 54 for Elevation and 20 for Small Rental. At the present time, ready for construction purposes we got 216 homeowners ready for construction and homeowner rehab, we got 32 elevations ready for construction we also have 11 small rental rehabs ready for construction once the money hits the bank."

Councilman Gauff asked, "Okay, the environmental reviews, the delays are actually on us, it's not on them, the state is actually waiting for us to get these completed reviews to them?"

Michael Coburn stated, "To get those completed. When we completed the first set, they changed policies specifically. She wanted it a specifically way, so we had to go back, readdress her concerns and make sure we're following everything she wants us to follow."

Councilman Gauff stated, "Okay."

Michael Coburn stated, "Basically it was a 2 or 3 step process and now turned into an 8 step process that she wants it designed."

Councilman Gauff stated, "Alright."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay I understand that because it was mentioned at

the previous meeting about the process and this lady, I hope that she's understanding that this is the final one. Because we had completed the first process and they came back and changed it."

Michael Coburn stated, "Right they've all agreed now. Everybody is on the same page and once we get them done they'll be sent and once they're sent they'll be approved."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay, so we're very close to meeting that requirement?"

Michael Coburn stated, "Yes sir."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay thank you."

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

There was no executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

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:

15-61 An ordinance approving the re-subdivision of Tracts BZ-1-A2 and BZ-1-A3 of Whitney Plantation into Tracts BZ-1-A2A & BZ-1-A3A located in Section 17, T-12-S, R-18-E, St. John the Baptist Parish, Edgard, LA (PZS-15-1128)

15-62 An ordinance granting Preliminary Planned Unit Development (PUD)

approval as per SJB Code Sec. 113-289, including amending the zoning map from the Residential One (R-1) to the Planned Unit Development (PUD) zoning district and re-subdividing four undesignated lots of record into lots A and B, Square 11, Lot C, Square 20, and Lot D, of the Glencoe Plantation, commonly referred to as the Garyville Parish Housing Authority (PHA) site, which is bounded by South Fig Street, Museum Street, Historic Main Street, and Blue Bell Street in Garyville, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (PZR-15-1041)

PRESIDENT REPORT:

Natalie Robottom stated, "Good Evening - First, I'd like to thank the voters of St. John Parish for their record-setting participation in the recent election. The process worked as it was intended, with the vote of the people deciding the leadership of our parish. I'd like to thank my family, friends and supporters from near and far for their belief in me and their relentless efforts during the campaign. I'd like to thank the pastors and other elected officials for their vote of confidence and their unwavering support. But most of all, I'd to thank the voters for making their voices heard. I would also like to thank my staff for their dedication and commitment to our Parish. We have one of the greatest and most progressive parishes in the state and working together it can be even better. I remain committed to working with the council and everyone else to improve the lives, the quality of life and the economic opportunity for all of our residents. I continue to encourage input from the community on major investments and on the direction of our parish and will work hard over the next 4 years to bring our community together while moving it forward. I ask that everyone take time to recover and reconcile their feelings following the election and make the best interest of the parish the priority. I ask that you reject every effort to tear us apart, rather than to bring us together. We are better together and we will prove this over the next 4 years. Thanks again for your support. My staff and I recently delivered over 880 lbs. of canned goods to the St. John Ministry of Care to assist those in need this Thanksgiving. Due to the generosity of festival goers and residents during \$1 night at the annual Andouille Festival we are able to help more than 100 families this Thanksgiving. Thanks all who donated for your generosity and rest assured your contribution made the holidays brighter for some of our residents. The Economic Development Department in partnership with the River Region Tourist Commission and RTC hosted a successful screening and community event for the premier of AMC'S television series Into the Badlands, which was shot at the Community Center and in Edgard. The night included food and drink, a Working in Film workshop, photo opportunity and red carpet entrance. Thank you to the panelist and all who attended. Economic Development in partnership with Louisiana Economic Development recently held their Fall FastTrac graduations with a large graduating class of 18 small business owners. Participants completed 10 training sessions and received 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. Congratulations to Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church and Reverend Forell Bering Sr. on celebrating 150 years of worship. This past Sunday they celebrated their anniversary with a march, a special service and anniversary program that depicted the church's rich history through a reenactment. We wish you many more years here in St. John and thank you for all that you do in the community. 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 4th. The toys will be distributed through a special evening event on December 16th at the Community Center in LaPlace from 6pm-8pm. 2015 Bonfire permits are being issued in the Emergency Operations Center Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. through December 10th. Bonfire permits are \$50.00. Congratulations to all of our high school football teams for winning seasons and best of Luck to St. Charles Catholic, Riverside and WSJH as they compete in the last round of playoffs Friday. Riverside and SCC are slated to face off in a heated battle at the Mickey Roussel Field in Reserve Friday night which is sure to bring a crowd. Best of luck to all. Reminder: all government offices will be closed this Thursday, November 26th and Friday, November 27th for the Thanksgiving Holidays. Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday, there will be no garbage collection on Thursday, November 26th. Collection will resume on Friday, November 27th for Thursday and Friday routes. I want to wish everyone a very safe and happy Thanksgiving and hope you enjoy the time off with family and friends.

ADJOURNMENT :

At 7:47 PM, Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilman Wilson and Councilman Smith absent.

/s/Michael Wright
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
Council Secretary