

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS**  
**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL**  
**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012**  
**CHAIR LUCIEN GAUFF**  
**VICE CHAIR JACLYN HOTARD**

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 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012, at 6:30 PM.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

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

**ABSENT:** None

Councilman Gauff led the Prayer. Councilman Madere led the Pledge.

Legal Counsel Jeff Perilloux, Billy O'Regan and Vercell Fiffie were present.

**Natalie Robottom - Presentation - St. Charles Catholic High School swim team**

Natalie Robottom presented the St. Charles Catholic High School girls and boys swim teams with a plaque for their recent accomplishments in swimming.

**Consent Agenda**

**Items:** Approval of Minutes November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012, Regular Meeting; Councilman Perrilloux - Appointment of Rhonda Baptist Clark to the ZBA; Councilman Smith - Appointment of Lloyd Taylor to the ZBA

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Snyder seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012, Regular Meeting; Councilman Perrilloux - Appointment of Rhonda Baptist Clark to the ZBA; Councilman Smith - Appointment of Lloyd Taylor to the ZBA. The motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:**

**12-51** (Tabled 11-13-12) 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, 2013 and ending December 31, 2013 (N. Robottom)

The administration request that this item remain tabled.

**12-52** (Public Hearing Held) An Ordinance granting approval to further extend the valid period of time of Conditional Subdivision Approval for an additional twelve (12) months for Praise Place Subdivision, lots 27 through 83 and parcels V-1, V-2 and V-3, on East 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, situated in Section 46 and 47, T-11-S, R-7-E, Reserve, St. John the Baptist Parish (N. Robottom)

**MOTION:** Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Smith seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 12-52. The motion passed unanimously.

**12-53** (Public Hearing Held) An Ordinance granting approval to further extend the valid period of time of Conditional Subdivision Approval for an additional twelve (12) months for Coles Landing Subdivision, Phase IV, lots 148 through 208, and Parcels D, F, G & H, situated in Section 91, T-11-S, R-7-E, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish for 12 months (N. Robottom)

**MOTION:** Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Snyder seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 12-53. The motion passed unanimously.

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:**

**12-54** An ordinance to re-subdivide a portion of Block 2 of Mathieu Heights Subdivision and property of D & O, LLC into Tract "A" located in Edgard, Section 2, T-12-S, R-19-E, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (N. Robottom)

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Councilwoman Hotard stated, *"At this time I would like to ask that the council accept the recommendation of the finance committee."*

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

**DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:**

**Ranney Wilson - (Carry Over 9-11-12) Fire Department issues and concerns - allowing the Volunteer Fire Chiefs to maintain and take care of their department along with Mr. Boucvalt**

Councilman Wilson asked that we carry this item over to the next meeting.

**Jaclyn Hotard - (Carry Over 11-13-12) Abandoned Properties**

Councilwoman Hotard stated, *"I would just like to get an update from Planning and Zoning if you can on the status of the abandoned properties more particularly the homes that were abandoned and nothing was done to the homes that we know were abandoned prior to the storm not a home that we know is occupied but the owner hasn't been able to do any work to the home yet."*

Angelic Sutherland, Director of Planning & Zoning, stated, *"The Code Enforcement Office is compiling a list of properties that possibly sustained flooding during Hurricane Isaac and that appear vacant."*

*Mortgage companies and/or banks from the list submitted by the Assessor's office are being notified and the Clerk of Court's records researched for mortgage information on other properties. The District Attorney's office is also researching policies and procedures used to address these types of properties in other jurisdictions for development of a parish policy."*

*Councilwoman Hotard asked, "Can you tell me how many homes so far have been identified as vacant and has sustained flood damage?"*

*Angelic Sutherland stated, "I do not have that information with me."*

*Councilwoman Hotard asked, "Does your office have that and can you get it to me?"*

*Angelic Sutherland stated, "Yes. I will have them email the list to you."*

*Councilwoman Millet asked, "Can I get a copy also?"*

*Councilman Gauff stated, "If you could forward a copy to the entire council that would be great."*

#### **Jaclyn Hotard - (Carry Over 11-13-12) Carrollwood Drive Road Repairs**

*Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I have sent a couple of emails to administration. I would just like to get something from them as far as the short term plans for Carrollwood Drive and the long term plan for Carrollwood Drive as far as repairs go."*

*Brian Nunes, Director of Roads and Bridges stated, "Right now we know of some damaged areas on Carrollwood Drive. We have been replacing them with full concrete panel replacements and that was at the intersection of Afton Court and..."*

*Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I'm sorry Mr. Nunes I was just talking more specifically in between Dominican and Greenwood Drive."*

*Brian Nunes stated, "As far as the short term to finish those individual damaged areas we have contacted our asphalt contractor and we are waiting on a response from them as far as when they can come out to do individual patching professionally but our concrete contractor is also on site. We have the option of using him to do a full panel replacement of the damaged areas for the short term to just get all the serious hazards taken care of because that road is a concrete road with just an asphalt overlay on top of it so we have those two options. As far as long term our parish engineer has provided cost estimates to repair the entire road both with the full asphalt and a full concrete replacement either one or the other we just need to see how those would fit into the budget."*

*Councilwoman Hotard asked, "How long ago were the estimates that you are referring to prepared?"*

*Brian Nunes stated, "July of 2012."*

*Councilwoman Hotard asked, "What are the estimates?"*

Brian Nunes stated, "The asphalt estimate is approximately \$318,000.00 and the concrete estimate is \$786,000.00."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "How much did it cost to repair Greenwood Drive in front of LaPlace Elementary?"

Brian Nunes stated, "It was under \$300,000.00, approximately \$270,000.00."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "How long is Greenwood Drive, the amount of surface area that we repaired? What I am asking is if the estimate for concrete on Carrollwood Drive is \$780,000.00 and you compare that to Greenwood Drive I just would like to hear from whoever prepared the estimate?"

Brian Nunes stated, "The concrete estimate was based off of our unit prices for our annual concrete contract. The Greenwood Drive was competitively bid separate under the public bid law."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "So do you think that is a fair comparison to use the contract that we have in place for concrete repairs versus a competitive bid are we really comparing apples with apples? The answer is no."

Brian Nunes stated, "Well it is similar because the annual concrete contract is also competitively bid."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "But it is a per unit price for a small one concrete panel it isn't for one road at a time."

Brian Nunes stated, "That is correct because that is the way it is bid."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "So that is why I am saying that these estimates are probably not accurate because when we competitively bid a road out, just like we did with Greenwood, we were able to do that road for \$200 or so thousand and we actually gave the contractor back money so did you prepare the estimate?"

C.J. Savoie, Parish Engineer, stated, "I agree with what you said as far as if you use the concrete bid price and so forth that you do for repairs as compared to doing a blanketed construction job it would probably cost you a lot more money. The concrete price that we had on Greenwood was a lot less in length of footage compared to what I am proposing to do on Carrollwood. So I think it is more in-line with what I am proposing to do on Carrollwood in reference to what we did on Greenwood."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "And your estimate for Carrollwood was from Dominican to Greenwood the \$786,000.00?"

C.J. Savoie stated, "Now I did this back in July and I was trying to remember but no this is from Madewood to Fairway."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "No the area that I've been in discussion with the administration about is from Dominican to Greenwood that is

*the area that was concreted before."*

*C.J. Savoie stated, "You might have been in discussion with them but what I am telling you is I have from Madewood to Fairway that is what I have."*

*Councilwoman Hotard asked, "Who asked you to prepare an estimate from Madewood to Fairway?"*

*C.J. Savoie stated, "Administration had asked me to go ahead and prepare that estimate back in the summer."*

*Councilwoman Hotard asked, "Okay can you prepare an estimate for Dominican to Greenwood Drive because the area from Greenwood to Fairway is already concrete so it doesn't need to be totally done over again. The panels that they replaced are sufficient. The area from Dominican to Greenwood Drive is the area that was originally concrete and then for whatever reason it has been overlaid with asphalt over the years so that is the area that I've been checking on."*

*C.J. Savoie stated, "This is 4,090 feet so that is a lot of street."*

*Councilwoman Hotard stated, "So from Dominican to Greenwood Drive and I have sent those emails for a very long time to administration. I apologize that is not what you did but from Dominican to Greenwood Drive..."*

*C.J. Savoie stated, "That wouldn't be difficult to do..."*

*Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Not based on the maintenance contract."*

*C.J. Savoie stated, "I'm telling you right now this is not based on concrete prices of the concrete repair work this is what it would cost to do construction work on both cases."*

*Councilwoman Hotard asked, "Let me ask you this, so your asphalt estimate you did an estimate from Dominican to Fairway as well?"*

*C.J. Savoie stated, "No I did the same thing they are the same distance and I'm looking at it right now and this asphalt was based on this year's pricing."*

*Councilwoman Hotard asked, "So you did the same two areas for asphalt because from Greenwood to Fairway it is concrete."*

*C.J. Savoie stated, "Yes I did both of them."*

*Councilwoman Hotard asked, "So you are going to put asphalt on top of the concrete?"*

*C.J. Savoie stated, "Yes I was."*

*Councilwoman Hotard asked, "From Greenwood to Fairway is that what the administration is recommending that we put asphalt on top of a concrete road?"*

*C.J. Savoie stated, "It is not necessarily what the recommendation is"*

*it was more to get a comparable price."*

*Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Okay so if we can get an estimate from Dominican to Greenwood the concrete and the asphalt give us an estimate both ways based on what's happening in the market place right now that would be great. Brian let me ask you this question you said you contacted an asphalt contractor to do some patching when did you contact them?"*

*Brian Nunes stated, "It would have been about a month ago I don't have the exact date but I could pull up the e-mail."*

*Councilwoman Hotard asked, "So have they started doing any patching?"*

*Brain Nunes stated, "No we are trying to get enough work with the asphalt to justify them mobilizing their entire crew out here and they don't want to mobilize everything for just a few patches it is a lot easier to mobilize the patch and do some overlay work so we are putting together a package with what is remaining in our 2012 budget."*

*Councilwoman Hotard asked, "Is it the recommendation of administration that we patch the road or that we repair it long term?"*

*Brian Nunes stated, "They would prefer to repair long term."*

*Councilwoman Hotard asked, "So do you think that we would be throwing good money after bad if we just patched it and then came back and redo it six months later?"*

*Natalie Robottom stated, "There are a couple of items the existing surface is asphalt and there are a couple of places on there that need repairing so in the short term we had recommended doing some patching those areas with asphalt. As Mr. Nunes had said the contractor is getting ready to come back out to do a second round of asphalt streets as well as the patching but we haven't got a price on that. We also provided a second option which would be based on the asphalt pricing and I think that is what Mr. Savoie provided the cost to overlay with asphalt then also to do concrete. So we provided options understanding that the entire budget for roadwork was about \$800,000.00 to spend \$783,000.00 on one road wasn't in this year's budget so what we said was we could at least patch the two areas that are problematic and then prepare for a long term repair but we provided you with options what it would cost to asphalt versus what it would cost to concrete and also Mr. Nunes recommended possibly as they are doing panel replacements now on Carrollwood that we could do concrete panel replacement rather than an asphalt patch so that is what you have been provided options on that depending on the cost and whether or not they can mobilize will determine when they do the short term work but we think we can do something in the short term and plan for a full repair at a later date."*

*Councilwoman Hotard asked, "Did you provide that information to us at some point because this is the first time I have heard this?"*

*Natalie Robottom stated, "I think it is in the administrative report."*

*Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Which you provided today right?"*

Natalie Robottom stated, "I think it is the same thing we provided at the last meeting. The only other thing and I thought Mr. Nunes had submitted to you all the list of concrete and asphalt streets previously if not the prices that Mr. Savoie is referencing is included in that list and there were four additional streets I think the council had requested Mr. Savoie to get estimates on those as well however we have indicated that quite a few of our roads were under water and we are looking at FEMA for consideration in replacing some of those so rather than moving very quickly on those there was over 2 million dollars' worth of road work and a million total for this year so we weren't going to actually get a chance to do everything we are preparing for 2013 but some of the roads that were submerged we are looking at FEMA and we have added them to a road list to look at the base for some of those because we have started to see some problems."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "What I would like to do is the \$786,000.00 we have identified tonight that that isn't really an accurate number so we can't make a good decision unless we know exactly how much it is going to cost for us to repair the road concrete or asphalt. So I would like to be included on some of these requests that are being made of the parish engineer and the public works director when it involves a road that it is my division. I know I have sent numerous emails for the last month or two that have not been responded to and I think some of this could have been avoided by not having all of the right information. So if we could get the new estimates and just keep myself in the loop and whatever councilman that this road is in their area keep them in the loop as to what is going on."

Natalie Robottom stated, "We will be forwarding the entire list. I think Mr. Savoie has the additional four streets that were added. We will add all to the list that at this point will probably total right at about 3 million dollars."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "Also Chuck if you could get me a copy of the last time we overlaid the road in asphalt the estimate that you prepared for that and the cost from Dominican to Greenwood Drive?"

Councilman Wilson stated, "You know with money being as tight as it is already I hate to do patch work and then come back especially in the 2-3 hundred thousand dollar range tear it up and redo it. I would rather have it done right the first time and that money could be used in other areas that need help sooner than later. District II is plagued with problems I just hate doing the same thing twice it just doesn't make any sense to me to put it down tear it up and then come back and put it down again let's just put it down right the first time and I don't think asphalt should be put on a concrete surface at all."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "Carrollwood is a really super busy street we have school buses and 18-wheeler's going down it. It is a really busy area and the asphalt or even what Mr. Nunes suggested putting cement panels on top of the asphalt that would have to be torn up if the street had to be redone down to the base because the base is the bad part of it right now with all the asphalt that has been put over it for years and years and putting any panels on it to me would be like throwing money in the wind and would solve a problem right now for the residents because it is a problem street but I think the asphalt might

be the lesser of the two evils to try to patch up than putting panels in it but I am not an engineer I just have a little common sense sometimes."

Councilman Wilson stated, "The area that Mrs. Millet is referencing it seems like that is a heavy district of 18 wheelers going into Wal-Mart, etc. what is the thickness of the concrete in those particular areas?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Carrollwood is a long road the part where the 18 wheelers go was recently completed and that is already concrete. They are looking at a mid-section between Madewood and Greenwood that is asphalted. The entire road isn't bad but there are some bad sections there were some concerns initially when LaPlace Elementary was under construction and there was heavy traffic but on a regular basis that isn't the part that goes to Wal-Mart but there are some bad sections on the road and what we were proposing was not to spend \$300,000.00 but the section that if we did those with our current asphalt contract it would be significantly less until we are able to do the entire road however Mr. Savoie provided two options of asphaltting the whole thing rather than patching a couple of the sections that are bad and doing a longer length of concrete so we are going to get estimates for both of those projects so that you will have that."

Councilman Wilson stated, "I just don't want to throw away good money. The areas that you have the heavy traffic it would make sense that the area needs to be thicker in high tonnage. If it is possible I would like to get any information pertaining to District II as far as street repairs, what dollars are there and what is on the list to be done."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "You keep referencing a list of streets. I have never received a list of streets at all. Is this something that you gave recently? I don't have the four new streets or the other streets. So if you could give me that list I don't know how the other council members feel but I don't have one."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I think it was sent out in April and it was a compilation of the streets that we found administratively and then we requested from the council streets in their districts and added those and then Chuck did an estimate. We will be happy to send it again based on those estimates and the roads that were on there was how Mr. Wright and Mr. Gauff came up with a couple more that were added but we will get that list to you with the estimates."

Councilman Wilson stated, "I have one other request. I can't read the messages on the phone without a magnifying glass. I have sent out my email address to my laptop numerous times and I am asking that the council and the administration send to that email address I don't want people to think I am not getting back to them."

#### **Art Smith - (Carry Over 11-13-12) Update on the West Bank Airnasium**

Councilman Smith asked if our attorneys could look into this contract and see what we can do because the airnasium has pooling water spots and we really didn't get what we paid for we have a park that cannot be used at night or in the rain. I would like them to check that out and give us an update at the next council meeting.

**Cheryl Millet - Code Enforcement Officer Contracts**

Councilwoman Millet stated, "I had this on the agenda because I had asked for this back in August and hadn't received it yet so I spoke with Ms. Sutherland today and I am just going to keep it on the agenda until it is completely done but we don't have to discuss it today."

**Marvin Perrilloux - DRC - storm debris/trash pick-up - Additional trucks needed**

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "I put this on the agenda because the parish is starting to look in the flood areas just like it looked 2-3 weeks after the storm. It is just piling up in front of people's houses and nothing is getting picked up. I think I saw one DRC truck in the last two weeks. I want to know what is going on."

Mark Stafford, DRC, stated, "Mr. Perrilloux we recognized that there would be a gap we estimated that there would be a gap after we got the majority of the debris picked up and then residents came back home and insurance claims were solved and I agree with you 100% it has reappeared on the streets we collected over 2,000,000 yards and SAIC estimates that there is between 15 and 20,000 yards that has reappeared. We have taken steps. We met with the administration yesterday and discussed a plan for getting this rectified quickly. I have brought in additional trucks as of today. I made a commitment to the administration that I would have adequate trucks and equipment to respond to the increase in volume that has recently come out and we could have this handled before Christmas and have it all off of the streets and that is my commitment. I have been up in the Northeast and have returned. I will personally see that this happens and that we adjust the equipment to the volume on the street and that is where we are as of today."

Councilman Perrilloux asked, "How many trucks are you talking about Mr. Stafford?"

Mark Stafford stated, "We added five trucks, two double boxed trucks and Mr. Perrilloux was right we only had one truck so the volume has significantly increased."

Councilman Perrilloux asked, "So we should see some action by the end of this week?"

Mark Stafford stated, "You should see a difference immediately and hopefully within the next couple of days and like I said and I want to make myself clear. I stood before you in September and told you that the volume was going to disappear off of the streets rapidly and I brought in enough trucks to get that done and it was done rapidly and so I am back here to tell you that we are going to handle the volume as it reappears and we are going to handle it rapidly and I will monitor it personally."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "Thank you I will follow up on this."

Councilman Gauff stated, "I will say I have been in contact with Mr. Stafford and last week he told me he would call me on Sunday night and he would take control of the situation on Sunday night in the middle of

the game there was a call saying I am here, I am bringing in more trucks, we are going to meter them in and on Monday morning I came by and met with Mr. Stafford while they were having a meeting and just as he said he is committed to get these trucks back on our streets. Administration and Mr. Nunes stressed to him the importance of this being picked up. You say you are here, we see you here we need to make sure that our debris gets off of the street and that we don't look like we did right after the storm. So we do appreciate you being here."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "We have had one truck for the last three weeks are you bringing in enough trucks to pick up the build-up that has occurred over the last three weeks. I am sorry but one truck is just not efficient for the area that was damaged in the storm and the fact that people are now just receiving their checks. I am seeing new gut outs every day and at the same time the residents don't understand who is picking up what. I have a lady calling me right now she has fence boards and no one will pick them up. Someone has to let people know who picks up what and that is a major problem or they call a number and they only answers until 2:00 PM then they just get a message so if you could please explain to the residents who does what."

Mark Stafford stated, "Yes and I sense your frustration. You hit on a lot of topics. First of all I believe the parish is going to handle through PSA's and so forth. We discussed that yesterday that we need to get this to the residents but please understand that new construction materials are not covered by FEMA for reimbursement and that is something that is going to be put out on a PSA so that contractors know that they can't get away with putting construction debris on the right of way and expect it to get picked up so that will be made clear. We have had one truck trying to keep up but this really came out quickly so once again my commitment is that we added a number of trucks today and if I need to add more trucks I will add more trucks and that is my commitment to you. You also asked about the fence boards that will fall under us DRC is responsible for picking that up. You also indicated that the phone line wasn't being answered we are aware of that and we are taking that over in our New Orleans office and it will be manned 12 hours a day and we will be responsive to those calls."

Councilman Madere asked, "In knowing how storms are shouldn't you have been prepared for this happening after the initial debris pick-up?"

Mark Stafford stated, "I am not going to make any excuses. Every storm is different and every event is different. Katrina probably resembles what happened here the closest there was no way to anticipate exactly how much or how fast people would get their debris out. We could've done a better job of anticipating that but that is water under the bridge. I am standing her before you to tell you what I am going to do moving forward and you have my word that is going to happen and I will leave it at that."

#### **Lennix Madere - Roussel's Welding**

Councilman Madere stated, "We are going to move this to executive session and take it up at the next council meeting because I am not very happy with this."

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Theresa Rodgers - (Carry Over 11-13-12) Authorization to sign an Intergovernmental Agreement with St. John the Baptist Parish School Board for use of the REGALA gymnasium**

Theresa Rodgers stated, "Administration recommends approval of the Intergovernmental Agreement to allow the ESJH basketball team to practice in REGALA Gym until repairs are made to their gym. There is no conflict with recreational use in the REGALA gym."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "I just think that this is a great idea because for years the schools have let us use their gyms and I think it is only fair to allow them the use of our when they cannot use theirs."

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to grant administration authorization to sign an Intergovernmental Agreement with St. John the Baptist Parish School Board for use of the REGALA gymnasium. The motion passed unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Lucien Gauff - Changing of the December 25<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting date**

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to change the date of the December 25<sup>th</sup> Council meeting to Thursday, December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012. The motion passed unanimously.

**Larry Snyder/Marvin Perrilloux - Resolution - R12-36 - A resolution requesting the LA DOTD to install a traffic signal at the intersection of US 61 and Tiffany Drive (New Era Subdivision entrance)**

Councilman Snyder stated, "One of my constituents who isn't in his home in Cambridge and he is living in New Era and he called me frustrated because he couldn't get on Airline Hwy just to get to Winn Dixie. If you are going South on Airline you are going to have problems. I think Mr. Perrilloux had a meeting with some of his constituents and he might want to tell you about that."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "I did meet with The Grove and their residents and they had concerns about a red-light there and I told them I would see what I could do and in the meantime Mr. Larry had called and we were discussing the same thing at any time of day it is hard to get on Airline Hwy from Tiffany Drive and Tiffany Drive sits so low on the Airline you can't see from there and it is a safety issue and hopefully the state will act on this pretty quickly."

**MOTION:** Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Snyder seconded the motion to approve Resolution R12-36 - A resolution requesting the LA DOTD to install a traffic signal at the intersection of US 61 and Tiffany Drive (New Era Subdivision entrance). The motion passed unanimously.

**PRESIDENT'S REMARKS**

Natalie Robottom stated, "Good Evening - I hope everyone enjoyed their Thanksgiving holiday with family and friends and hopefully didn't eat

too much - despite Hurricane Isaac, St. John Parish has a lot to be thankful for - mainly no loss of life during the storm and all of the support we've received locally and from around the country. I would like to thank all the volunteers, St. John Parish staff, St. John parish Sheriff's Office, our Faith-based Community, New Wine Christian Fellowship, and Mercy Chefs for hosting the Thanksgiving meals for seniors and Hurricane Isaac survivors last Wednesday. We had an abundance of food as the sheriff's office and fire departments distributed over 1100 meals throughout the community Wednesday night. Congratulations to the West St. John Rams for beating one of my home town teams for the second year in a row and moving on in the playoffs. And of course ESJH, SCC and Riverside for good seasons and making it to the playoffs. Congratulations to both Grambling and Southern for an event filled Bayou Classic - of course the Jaguars won the game with our local player Dra Joseph, a former WSJH Ram and recreation participant as the MVP. Serving as Miss Southern was Miss Dominique Erin Rogers of LaPlace. I would like to welcome home Mr. Jason Triche, one of the St. John Parish officers injured in the shooting in August. He returned home from Our Lady of the Lake Hospital yesterday and we wish him a speedy and full recovery. I'm sure being home makes a huge difference. A Community Health and Wellness Fair will be held on Saturday, December 1 at the Volunteer Fire Department in Edgard. Registration will begin at 10:00 a.m. and the fair will begin at 11:00. Free Health Screenings, Healthy Living Information, flu shots, diabetic shoes and fittings, and fun for kids will be available at the community fair. Admission is free for everyone. Anyone interested in participating as a vendor or volunteering is asked to call 225-316-0200 or email [rmvolter@gmail.com](mailto:rmvolter@gmail.com) Registration for the Andouille Pageant has been extended to Monday, December 3. To enter, please download an application at [www.andouillefestival.com](http://www.andouillefestival.com) or visit the St. John the Baptist Parish Office at 1801 W. Airline Hwy in LaPlace. Applications can be mailed or delivered to Dana Milioto at 1801 W. Airline Hwy., LaPlace, LA 70068. St. John Theatre presents the Living Christmas Tree on December 7 & 8 at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, December 9 at 2:00 p.m. at the St. John Theatre. General admission is \$10 and admission for children 10 and under is \$6. It's a great production, please plan to attend. The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development is offering \$1,000 scholarships for civil engineering students with an interest in transportation. Junior and senior undergraduate students attending Louisiana universities with a declared major in civil engineering are eligible to apply. The deadline for receipt of applications is December 7, 2012. For more information, please visit [www.dotd.la.gov](http://www.dotd.la.gov), email [dotdcs@la.gov](mailto:dotdcs@la.gov), or call DOTD's Customer Service Center at (225) 379-1232 or 1-877-4LADOTD (1-877-452-3683). Business hours are 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Bonfire Permits are currently available through Thursday, December 13 in the Emergency Operations Center located in the Percy Hebert Building from 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM. Permit fees are \$50. TOYS FOR TOTS: The St. John Sheriff's Office, the Sheriff's Office Young Marines and the St. John Fire

Department are teaming up to collect toys for less fortunate children in our area. Toys for Tots drop boxes are located at Gold Eagle Security (1956 Carrollwood Dr. LaPlace) The Percy Hebert Building (1801 W. Airline Hwy, LaPlace); and at all Fire Stations throughout the parish. Donate a toy and help spread the Christmas Cheer! December 17 is the last day to donate. The USMC Toys for Tots will be distributing toys to St. John Parish residents on December 22 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Riverlands Christian Center located at 480 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Street in Reserve. For questions or concerns please contact Travis Kelly or Tracey Powell at 504-858-6808 or 504-292-9089. The final day for collection of storm-related debris in St. John Parish will be Friday, December 21, 2012. Residents are encouraged to place debris out for collection before this date. Residents can call the DRC hotline at 504-256-1067, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. to request the service. Any debris located on a state highway must be picked up by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD). To report debris on state highways, please call DOTD at (985) 375-0100. Debris related to new construction is not eligible for collection by DRC. Contractors are responsible for the removal of new construction debris. Any debris disposed along roadways, vacant lots, parks, construction sites and other unauthorized locations is considered illegal dumping and the violator can be fined. I would like to remind our residents to please sign up for FirstCall alerts and Entergy's power outage alerts to stay informed when they are not home. Both of these alerts are important year round and will provide information during an emergency."

#### **COUNCIL BRIEFS**

Councilman Smith stated, "I would like to echo what Mrs. Robottom stated and encourage all the residents to come out for the free screening. I hope everyone had a wonderful thanksgiving. My granddaughter has a birthday Wednesday and I will not be allowed in the house if I forget to tell her Happy Birthday."

Councilman Wilson stated, "God bless everyone and I want to thank the Lord for all of the prayers given for the fallen officers. Thank you."

Councilman Madere stated, "I want to send my sympathy to some friends of mine that lost some loved ones over the holidays Marion Perrilloux and Frederick Anderson and that family has been hit pretty hard in the last few months so please keep them in your prayers. I would also like to echo the fact that Mr. Triche made it home it was wonderful to see the turn out and it is good to know that he will be with his family for the Christmas holidays. I would like to congratulate WSJ for their continued success in football I know it is a long trip I have been there and done that it is hard but I know they can pull it through and give it the true Ram spirit."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "I would like to echo the same as Councilman Madere my condolences go to the Perrilloux and Anderson families on the loss of their loved ones. I would like to wish a speedy recovery to Officer Triche I know he can't wait to get back to duty."

The Toys for Tots give away will be Saturday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> from 1-4 at Riverlands Christian Center."

Councilman Wright stated, "I want to congratulate our WSJ and SCC teams for their accomplishments and to welcome home Deputy Triche I know it has been a long time coming and to echo what Mrs. Robottom said we have a lot to be thankful for this Thanksgiving more than we realized given the circumstances."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I would like to give my condolences to both of the families and send my prayers to them. Mr. Triche coming home is a wonderful present for the parish and of course I have to congratulate the Jaguars in their victory at the Bayou Classic. Thank you to the chef's for the Thanksgiving dinner there was a lot of food and it was very nice. Also the Cambridge Colony association will be holding a hot dog in the park on 12/8/12 from 11-1; Santa Claus will be there so the kids can take pictures with Santa for a fee please come out."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "I'm so thrilled and excited that Deputy Triche is back home. I know his family has been through a lot since this started and I want to thank Sheriff Tregre for his support of the family and all the other deputies sometimes we forget that he has been through as much as everyone else has. Also I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving I know I did being with family. Also I want to let everyone know that the Rotary Club is doing a fund raiser with pictures with Santa on December 8<sup>th</sup> from 9-11 at LaPlace Elementary because it is hard to get pictures with Santa in St. John Parish so we decided to do it as a fundraiser this year."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I would like to also welcome home Deputy Triche and continue to pray for him and his recovery and I also hope everyone had a very good Thanksgiving we do have a lot to be thankful for."

Councilman Gauff stated, "I would like to say it is difficult to follow hot dog in the park. We do want to welcome home Deputy Triche and thank him for his service. I want to say congratulations to all the high school teams that made the playoffs and hopefully WSJ can make it to the dome. Please don't forget about our health fair on the West Bank on December 1<sup>st</sup>. Also I would like to say Happy Birthday to Ms. Hotard and my prayers go out to the Perrilloux and Anderson families we send our prayers out to you. The parish has a lot to be thankful for and we support each other really well. I also want to say call Comcast for your rebate call 985-652-6951 they will give you a rebate for Hurricane Isaac. They aren't just giving them out but they will if you call them."

**MOTION:** Councilman Smith moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to go into executive session. The motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Councilman Smith moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to go back into regular session. The motion passed unanimously.

There was no action taken as a result of the executive session.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Personnel Matters

In 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

LaPlace Industrial Properties, LLC versus The Parish of St. John the Baptist - 40<sup>th</sup> JDC, Docket No. 61301

Any and all pending legal matters

**ADJOURNMENT:**

At 8:45 PM, Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

/s/Lucien Gauff, III  
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche  
Council Secretary