

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11th, 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, December 11th, 2012, at 6:30 PM.

CALL TO ORDER:

PRESENT AT ROLL CALL: Lucien Gauff, III, Councilman-at-Large, Div. A, 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: Jaclyn Hotard

Councilman Gauff led the Prayer. Councilman Wright led the Pledge.

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

Natalie Robottom - Presentation - Karla Mongan - Long-Term Recovery Group

Karla Mongan with the Long-Term Recovery Group was present at the meeting to give a brief synopsis of the work that has been done in St. John Parish since Hurricane Isaac, she encouraged people to continue to take advantage of the program which is still available at New Wine Christian and is helping displaced people get back into their homes.

Consent Agenda

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to table the following items from the consent agenda: Councilman Wright - Appointment of Greg Loisel to the ZBA; Councilman Madere - Re-appointment of Branetta James to the ZBA; Councilman Wilson - Re-appointment of Jacqueline Forest to the ZBA; Permit. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

Items: Approval of Minutes November 27th, 2012, Regular Meeting; Approval - 5K Run - Fallen 4 - Sunday, 1/13/13; Permit Approval - MLK March & Rally - Victory Beyond the Wall Ministry - Monday, 1/21/13.

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Smith seconded the motion to approve the amended consent agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes November 27th, 2012, Regular Meeting; Permit Approval - 5K Run - Fallen 4 - Sunday, 1/13/13; Permit Approval - MLK March & Rally - Victory Beyond the Wall Ministry - Monday, 1/21/13. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilman Snyder absent.

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)

12-54 (Public Hearing Held) 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)

MOTION: Councilman Smith moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 12-54. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

There were no ordinances introduced at tonight's meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Smith 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 Wilson seconded the motion to accept the recommendations of the finance committee. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard absent.

DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:

Torri Buckles, EDC Director, stated, *"The taste of St. John Program is actually in four separate components. The first is the media component we are going for local and national commercials spotlighting our various seafood and Andouille products that we have here. The second are cooking shows we actually completed one in October and that was with Frenier's landing they did a cooking segment on Fox News. The third component is what we are calling a taste of St. John vendor booth and it is going to be a branded booth promoting all tourism aspects of St. John and the last piece will be the food truck, this grant will allow us to purchase a food truck branded with the taste of St. John and what is great about this is we are going to pick ten festivals throughout the state of Louisiana that our local chefs can participate in. This grant will allow us to pay for their participation fees but the great thing is the revenue that they generate at these festivals and some are very profitable those are the monies that they get to keep which will help them to grow and expand their business."*

Councilwoman Millet asked, *"Do they apply for this or who gets to be the lucky ten?"*

Torri Buckles stated, *"Again we are going to pick ten separate festivals and the success of this program will really depend on the vendors that want to participate. We have spoken with seafood vendors*

and local restaurants already that have expressed an interest in it but still they have to choose which event knowing many of them have limited staff they may be able to participate in one in April or December but basically we are going to have a sign up list and we will be able to go through and select which vendors will participate at which festival based upon their recommendation or preference I should say. I would also like to give some information on our shop local/shop St. John program which we actually announced this weekend there were ads that ran in the paper and the shop local program is designed to promote locally owned businesses in St. John Parish and help the residents understand the importance of shopping locally. Did you know that for every \$100.00 spent in St. John that \$68.00 remains in the community and that is for local taxes, wages, supplies, community donations as well as local business services. So we encourage everyone as you are doing your holiday shopping to try to do as much as you can with the locally owned businesses in the parish. We are not saying don't shop big but please look at your local vendors first."

Raymond Goodman, Billing Specialist, gave a brief presentation on the new online payment process, new cash receipt system and phone system for St. John Parish residents with water service. The new system will allow billing personnel to perform their duties more efficiently, expedite payment postings and allow the monthly bills to be sent out in a timelier manner. All this can be done through the parish website at sjbparish.com.

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 stated, "I am sorry that this took so long to get here but there are some problems between the paid and the volunteer fire departments. The volunteer fire department has been in existence for over 60 years. They have been run well. They have been handled well. We have a lot of volunteers now and had them in the past but we are losing some right now and it is alarming right now. The fire chiefs are telling me one thing. I speak to Mr. Boucvalt and it is different. We have fire chiefs. The volunteer fire chiefs and my concern is that they stay the fire chief all this other stuff with the paid people saying the district chief or whatever. I think the only ones that should be running that fire department are the volunteer firemen. The volunteer fire chiefs and they report to Mr. Boucvalt but we have and I have heard stories where the volunteer chiefs have asked paid people to do something and they turn around and say we don't have to listen to you and they do absolutely nothing. Then you hear that volunteers that come here on the weekends or during the day and they are doing the jobs that these paid people should be doing. They are there for 24 hours they should work. The only thing I have seen or heard is that they drive in the trucks all over the streets burning fuel all day and putting a little more trouble on to the equipment and I have also been told by somebody from out of town that they have seen one of our trucks all the way in Lutchter and this should not be happening. I don't think that the trucks really need to be on the road unless it is on a call. The overtime right now is simply out of control. They have two people assigned 24/7 to each one of the fire stations. If one misses a day and I don't know how they are working things out but it is really out of hand but they can do with one for one day and I don't see us having a

problem I mean they have one man there where there was none before and things were getting done properly and I would like to see that the fire chiefs and the only fire chiefs in St. John volunteer fire department the parish doesn't even own the buildings that the fire departments are in they were here long before we ever started putting money into it. I think it is important. I wanted to have the chiefs go out and try to get some more volunteers because they are losing more they say well you know I come out here for free and I have to do this and that and we are paying somebody and they aren't doing anything but sitting and playing on their Xbox. This thing with the overtime needs to stop and again I think our fire chiefs, our volunteer fire chiefs that have been there for many years, some of them have more experience than some of the paid people have even been living and I think this is something that needs attention sooner than later because if something happens and these volunteers decide to get up and quit than what are we going to do because that $\frac{1}{4}$ cents sales tax is not enough now and I don't know who did the math when they put it together doesn't cover the people now and if they even took another $\frac{1}{4}$ cents it still isn't going to cover a fully paid fire department and it would probably take over a penny sales tax or more to get a fully paid fire department. I don't want to run our people off. We need to have more order and the chiefs need to have control so that they know their stations, streets and that they know what is going on and I think they should report to Mr. Boucvalt and they should be able to give orders to the paid people and have them do something. The overtime is really out of order and it needs to be fixed the administration needs to come up with something to stop it now and like I said if one stays home or is sick than one man in that department will be enough for one day and I don't know if these guys are putting something else together to get all of this overtime but it needs to stop today."

Jobe' Boucvalt, Director of Public Safety, stated, "Mr. Wilson you brought up a lot of issues. I have called you and requested a meeting anytime you would like to discuss some issues that you brought up tonight that anything I could answer ahead of time that possibly we could handle before the meeting some of the things that you did bring up are personnel issues that I cannot discuss here at this meeting tonight without seeking counsel but when we talk about employees not doing their jobs we address them. We are addressing some presently and we do work with the fire and district chiefs. The one thing that we have to remember is that the district chiefs are working running the department 24/7 with the paid department and they are going to have personnel issues and they address them with those employees. On several occasions I have had discussions with fire chiefs they brought concerns that you brought up and I told them at any time that they feel like they need to take a supervisory role they should do so and get with a district chief and handle any disciplinary problems they need to handle and if that cannot be resolved between a fire chief and a district chief my door is wide open, that is what I am there for and they are welcome to come into my office and if it is something that I need to handle I will handle it myself other than that fire chiefs are fire chiefs. We have four of them who have the areas that they are responsible for and they are supervisors so if they see something going on in the department it is their responsibility. It is my responsibility to address something that needs to be corrected and if they feel the need to have to talk to an employee that is fine the only thing I ever requested was that if they need to address something they

should be addressing it with their immediate supervisor which is a district chief so other than that I would rather not go too much further in because we do handle personnel problems on a daily basis. We have a lot of employees volunteer and paid but the thing I want to make sure that we all understand is we do have a great bunch of volunteer and paid firemen out there and they are working hard and we are proud of them look at the things they just did in the storm that just passed and I don't want to take away anything from these guys all departments have issues and we address them and as supervisors we handle them and nobody is trying to take anything away from the fire or district chiefs or fire fighter but we do have to do our jobs and do certain things. Now presently today the structure is director, fire chief, district chiefs and we follow that and I have had fire chiefs that came into my office with some concerns you brought up and we addressed them moving forward the overtime yes we have a lot of overtime, we know we have a lot of overtime but our fire chiefs and district chiefs have worked very hard on our budget for 2013, we have had some deficit spending and they did a great job of consolidating some things and combining some things and working together as a group and addressing that we have a huge reduction of that as you all will be aware as you see the budgets for 2013. Yes we should be making sure we are taking care of issues and I address them on a daily basis and I have records and anything that I would be more than happy to share with you sir we are not hiding anything and we will respect the fire chief and the district chief and we give respect and we deserve respect back and I just want to finish by saying I am very proud of all of our volunteers and paid guys and we do work together and that is the structure and I hope I answered some of your questions and if I didn't feel free to ask."

Councilman Smith stated, "Mr. Boucvalt it seems as though listening to Mr. Wilson that the employees don't know the line of authority or that there is something broken between all of the chiefs and that no one knows who is in charge or who reports to who or who has the upper hand and that pecking order seems to be the major concern and maybe we can clear that up by letting the paid fire fighters know that hey you report to the volunteer chief or whatever and clear this up at the lower level instead of bringing it up here but my major concern with the fire department happened before we got here and it is the way the money was divided I just don't like that LaPlace gets a big chunk, Garyville gets a big chunk and each city gets smaller chunks and to me that is unfair when all this money should be in one pot and everyone should be treated equally because to me it is like we are saying that the bulk of the people are here in LaPlace so they should get the bulk of the money because as I stated before I was frustrated seeing an Edgard fireman in an used LaPlace uniform and that was a long time ago and my major problem is the way the money is divided and it is going to always be a problem until we can get all the money into one pot so that everyone is treated equally. I don't really know how it came about but it needs to be straightened out so that everything can come out of one fund."

Jobe' Boucvalt stated, "I hear what you are saying but that is the way that the people passed it and it was passed by the residents of the parish and I cannot do much about that."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Mr. Boucvalt you are right and I agree with you, you had nothing to with that and it was a monster that was created

back in the day and to me there wasn't enough perimeters put up and that is why we have this problem today. Whenever you are going to have a volunteer fire department working side by side with the paid fire department you will have problems. Now one way I believe that we can work on those problems is that we need some job specific task set up I don't know if it is that way or not. We need to get a committee together with those volunteers and the paid people and those guys need to come up with some job descriptions because it seems like that is where the problem is. I have talked to some of those members and the paid people train more than the volunteers so they don't like working with the volunteers because they aren't as trained as they are. The volunteers don't get paid so they figure they shouldn't have to water the trucks. There are small things that we could curb by just putting some job task down and have everyone be responsible for their own task. Now I ask this question when a paid member calls in sick is it possible that you can get a volunteer to come in and work that overtime and get paid for it? Have we looked at doing things like that maybe that would help cut back on the overtime but what you have here is going to be a problem until we can put every bodies responsibilities down on paper and they have to be specifics. You can't say come and wash the truck it has to be addressed. Now as far as the money is concerned I can see how LaPlace can get more money I know we have 6,000 people just in Cambridge but if a group can accumulate millions of dollars of money and another one has a deficit than we have a problem there and that needs to be looked at."

Jobe' Boucvalt stated, "We have been working very hard to put some things together and with the hurricane it took a little longer than I wanted but I do have a packet together that has already been presented to administration and we are talking about it right now and I would just like to read something. The office of fire services has completed actions items this year which address budgets, policies, procedures and consolidation of resources. Presently we are creating a unified command and an administrative structure that will be followed by both volunteer and paid firemen. Uniformity is critical in the success of our combination fire department. In achieving this goal we have created a sub-committee and we have a representative from all chiefs that meet and are already addressing standing operating procedures and coming to me on a weekly basis to address a lot of these issues in addition to that 2013 goes with this committee and myself and through administration we need to create exactly what you said and we are working on it. If we have a captain across the board that captain has to have specific job duties, qualifications and the things that go with that and we are putting that in place so that it is a nice uniformed structure across the board and these are the things we need to have a great volunteer fire department which we can have but it is going to take hard work and a lot of catching up and we are in the process of doing that right now."

Councilman Madere stated, "I met with both paid and volunteer fire fighters when this came out and I agree totally with Mr. Snyder. I think the main disconnect is that there is a lot of finger pointing. Each side seems to believe they have the right formula. I wasn't aware that each department has separate uniforms and striping on the trucks. Now if we are going to be the St. John Fire Department it should be uniformed everyone should have the same stuff so if I go to the fire and see a different uniform I am going to think it is someone else but

it is really St. John. The sheriff's department doesn't walk around with different uniforms so that shows a disconnect right there. We are one department whether it is the volunteer or paid department. We have to come together as one to serve this parish and we need to figure this out."

Councilman Wilson stated, "These fire departments were each created all on their own which is why you see things that are different because it wasn't St. John it was Reserve, Garyville, West Bank and LaPlace volunteers that is why you see the difference in the striping or uniforms but I have no problem with putting everybody in the same uniform and like Mr. Snyder said we need a flow chart stating who is responsible for what and who reports to who so that there are no mistakes and this needs to be fixed where there is one person that is running everything. I just don't want us to lose volunteers over this because we cannot make up the difference any kind of way. If they were to quit tomorrow this parish would be in some big trouble. I want to make everybody happy. There have been people that have been there and we just can't kick them out because we have paid people there, they have volunteered their time for many years. We have to have a flow chart it has to be fair."

Cheryl Millet - (Carry Over 11-27-12) Code Enforcement Officer contracts

Councilwoman Millet removed this item from the agenda.

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

Councilman Smith stated, "The information I am reading here doesn't make sense with what I or other people I know have seen. I know Mr. Fiffie said he was there and he didn't see any water and I spoke with Daron Cooper about the design and he sent an email that says that the contractor said it was a flawed design but this doesn't make sense to me because Mr. Fiffie passed there after it rained and he said there was no water and I passed there today and there is water there and I even showed Mrs. Rodgers a picture that someone had taken at the time of the discussion that there was water there so I am really confused but something is wrong."

Theresa Rodgers stated, "The concrete surface was re-sanded after you showed us those pictures that had puddeling of water. It was re-sanded and there has been a certified roof inspection. Mr. Fiffie went out there when it was raining. Mr. O'Regan is here and has every document pertaining to this project that exist but legal counsel has reviewed everything and there are no grounds for litigation."

Councilman Smith asked, "I got these documents late this afternoon and I haven't had a chance to go over it but I do know for a fact that water puddles under there and too many other people have seen it so that is a fact but Mr. Cooper told me about the emails that the contractor said there was a design flaw. I am just repeating what I was told and re-sanding it probably made it worse. That thing should have been done with a pitch so that the water would roll off and the contractor was supposed to do the ground work and that wasn't done. I am tired of contractors coming in here doing bad work and getting paid and this all happened before we got here but still it doesn't remove

them from doing a good job. I want a meeting with the contractor so that he and I can go out there and he can explain to me why this is collecting all these puddles. I want him to show me the original design and show me a facility that is open and if he can show me that I have not seen the designs until this afternoon. Everyone is completely dissatisfied with the way this was built."

Jaclyn Hotard - Street lights

In Councilwoman Hotard's absence this item will be carried over to the next agenda.

Lennix Madere - Update on infiltration project

Natalie Robottom stated, "Manhole rehabilitation is 100% complete. The specs and drawings for the point-to-point repairs have been approved by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality and it is anticipated that bids will be advertised the beginning of January."

Councilman Madere stated, "I understand the manhole part is finished and myself and the people are very happy about that I just wanted to give them an update as to when it would all be finished I am still receiving phone calls after it rains heavy and they are just making sure that we are still working on it and I am just keeping them updated."

Lennix Madere - Update on Council on Aging Building

Natalie Robottom stated, "A notice to proceed for the replacement of the roof was issued November 26 and the work was completed December 5. A contractor mobilized onsite December 6 and has begun the rebuild of the interior of the building, which includes insulation, sheetrock, painting of the interior walls and replacing all damaged ceiling tiles. The interior work has a tentative completion date of December 20."

Lennix Madere - St. John Abandoned Properties

Councilman Madere stated, "I have this on the agenda because it has been a problem in my district and throughout the parish and I know the storm came in and some residents may even decide not to come back so it may end up being a bigger problem in the LaPlace area than it is in my district. The concern I have about it is the process. As I look on the list of properties that was turned in by Planning & Zoning we have some houses got their final notice in 2009 and I am still writing them up and sending them in now in 2012 so the process of getting rid of these abandoned homes seems to be stagnated or not moving and I think we need to find a way to make this progress and I want you to understand I am not trying to knock down homes but when people in my area call me and complain about a house that has been next to them for years and it is infested with rodents then it becomes a problem and I react according to the residents in my district. When they call me about a problem no matter what that problem is my job is to react and that is what I do. They have been waiting for years for some of these homes to be torn down especially if they have been through the court system and it has been since 2009. I have one imparticular that a guy himself told me that if nothing happens he is going to take action against the parish because he is going to sue because he is being overrun by rodents from

the house next door. So that is my concern. We have to find a way to get rid of some of these abandoned homes especially the ones that are beyond repair."

Natalie Robottom stated, "We understand that Mr. Madere and we are going to ask that you work with us on this throughout existing system much of what we do follows the current laws and ordinances and requirements with regards to property owners some go a lot quicker than others there are things that sometimes intervene through the court systems that causes delays but what I can tell you is that since 2010 we have knocked down more than were ever knocked down before. We are vigilant at working through these and are going to continue to be. We have two separate problems we have the abandoned and unsafe houses that have been there for years than we have the newer ones that appear to be related to Hurricane Isaac. We have been working hard to identify property owners to make sure we have the right contacts and we are going to continue to do that working through utility billing by analyzing some additional homes that may not have been worked on but as we have been informed by our legal counsel it is three months since the storm and not enough time to declare some of those properties abandoned already. There are people who are just coming back now that intend to do some things to their homes but may have been out of town. So we have asked legal counsel to investigate what took place in Orleans, Jefferson and St. Bernard in terms of their policies and ordinances that were put in place to deal with blighted property as a result of those hurricanes so that we can have something in place. We are going to continue to work on the properties that have been around for a long time. We are bringing them to court and we are also following the ordinances that are on the books and I understand your impatience but we are asking you to try to show some patience with us. There are a number of reasons why they are delayed and I can tell you that this administration is committed to cleaning up as many of the neighborhoods as possible and continue to work with all the council members to clear up the neighborhoods. Our first choice would be for the property owners to clean up their own property. When we do it we are using tax payers' dollars to clean up someone else's property so our first effort is personal responsibility take care of your own property and do what is necessary so that we don't have to come in and do that."

Councilman Madere stated, "I agree with 95% of what you said but basically homes that are in LaPlace there is no need to rush because these people are probably coming back so it is hard to determine how many homes are abandoned because of the storm. Basically my concern is the ones that have been in St. John through several storms for a long time and I am looking for relief for the residents that call me that live next door to these homes. One particular home I know for a fact has been over 15 years and maybe we need to change the way we do things because this particular home owner is dead and this home I would like to speak to the person that has this house that lives somewhere else because if you aren't going to do something with it then let us know because I have residents in my district that live around it and it has been sitting there for over 15 years. It is on E. 30th Street."

Angelic Sutherland asked, "If that is the one you have shown me and I would like to specifically address that property. The property has been written up on two other occasions in 2010 & 2011 for board and secure that is all we can do with the property. It does not fit under our code

those five characteristics to determine if you are going to proceed to demolish a property. So other than having the home owner sell it or put it into the stream of commerce it is boarded and secured. It is not in deplorable condition. It is not structurally unsound or falling apart."

Councilman Madere stated, "Well we must be talking about a different house than because I was there the other day and it is not boarded or secured."

Angelic Sutherland stated, "We have had to do that on more than one occasion because people still break in and we have to go back and do it."

Councilman Madere stated, "I really need to see the criteria for a home to be torn down because if that house doesn't fit it than I don't know what would."

Angelic Sutherland stated, "I understand your concern and your request but right now we are limited with what we can do like I said we boarded and secured it and people go remove it all we can do is write it up and go back and board it again. The last time it was written up for grass was in October and we cut it and we put numerous liens on the property that are filed in the clerk of courts office right now. We constantly cut the grass but as with some of the other property that we constantly cut or upkeep if we had to take this property to court to ask a judge to demo it I am more than sure that the judge would not give us the order because it doesn't fit the criteria. We can ask the owner to repair it but that is our only option at this point. It was written up again."

Councilman Madere asked, "How long should it take once it is written up again to board and secure it?"

Angelic Sutherland stated, "First you have to give a notice which gives the property owner 30 days and after that if they haven't boarded it up we have to send a second notice than after 24 hours we can take action ourselves to board and secure. We send a work order to public works they get the materials and go out and board it."

Councilman Madere stated, "What about the property that we own or recently acquired in Reserve?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "We anticipate the utilities being disconnected by this Friday and demolishing the property instead of wasting the money to board and secure it."

Lennix Madere - Walking Path - Safety light issues

Councilman Madere stated, "The path has been a great success in the parish and especially in my district and more and more individuals are taking advantage of it. The reason I put this on there is we came down the levee to cross by Our Lady of Grace where they have the warning lights. Well when we entered we stopped and the approaching traffic heading towards LaPlace the lady stopped for us to go forward and here comes another lady that zipped about 70 mph in front of us and that was a concern because I would hate to see any resident from my district or just someone visiting to get hit by a vehicle and I spoke with Mr.

Tregre about putting a car there to maybe ticket some of these individuals but people need to understand this is a walking path and people are up there with kids. I am hoping that by me speaking about it people will be more careful and pay more attention when passing that area."

Art Smith - Canal Cleaning update

Natalie Robottom stated, "Daron Cooper has a meeting with the Lafourche Basin Levee District this week to discuss the timeline for the cleaning of the West Bank canals. The permits were forwarded to the Levee Board office October 25. The design phase for clearing and de-snagging of the twenty East Bank canals has been completed. Specifications are being finalized for a competitive bid process required to initiate the construction phase of this project."

Art Smith - Ruddock Well

Councilman Smith stated, "This was something I put on because of residents' concerns about the water basically and Mr. Savoie and Mr. Rayneri were supposed to get back with me at this meeting so basically that is where we are."

Natalie Robottom stated, "We had an unusual event with Hurricane Isaac where we lost water and of course right before that probably two weeks before that we had a break in the pipe that caused all of LaPlace to lose water for several hours. Previously under the 2003 bond issue there was a study conducted to assess other sites along the river for a water source rather than continuing with the well at the same time the NANO filtration system was underway and we have made significant progress with getting it to work properly as intended after having to change all the filters in a shorter period of time than was originally anticipated. So we continue to be concerned about the water source here in LaPlace. Right before the storm I spoke with Parish President St. Pierre who suggested that they have enough water on the East Bank to supply water to St. John utilizing a pipe along Airline Hwy. Our department has met with his and we are currently working on a process to create that linkage understanding that it would be for emergency purposes only not a long term prospect but it is one that we could utilize in the event of an emergency. In addition to some of the upgrades Mr. Savoie has been working on at Lions and some of the additional ones that we will be making we are hoping that as an alternative source in the event that something would happen we will have water coming from Reserve and of course we can get from St. Charles Parish. Ultimately we have had some discussions and I think the engineer team composed of our utility director, parish engineer and some other staff members have actually been assessing what is happening out there at Ruddock and again with the meeting we had today our water source is critical so we need to be mitigating and preparing for prevention of what happened last time from happening again and what they have looked at is ways to make improvements to our existing system to prevent us from using water but keeping in mind that our water source is 16 miles from our treatment facility. We have had problems with the coupling around the piping that goes from the treatment facility to Ruddock. I actually have what I think is some good news after meeting with Administrator Fugate today on what some options might be to mitigate some of the concerns because we have had to change

three sets of couplings since the storm which suggest that some of the others are damaged and we can use that information to help us make some decisions moving forward. So the team is looking at that now they have also discussed the idea of a third well out there but our concern remains the same the facility is still 15 miles from where we are. We continue to have problems with the piping that extends there and as a source of water we think the best source would be coming from the river. Again utilizing some of the data from the study that was done at the sites along the Mississippi River that may be viable the team is actually assessing what we could do either with a different plant or a different pre-treatment facility coming from the river but utilizing our investment which it has been significant into the NANO system that is already there. So we are exploring several options. We are looking at some for the short term and we are preparing for the event that there is high water or flooding again in working through utilities as well as the Corp of Engineers but just know that we could not access those wells after the storm because of the high water and that continues to put our employees and our residents here in LaPlace at risk and they will come to us with a recommendation when that is done."

Councilman Smith stated, "Accessing those wells during the high waters was that electronics because I am a big fan of natural gas generators and putting them up in the air."

Natalie Robottom stated, "We have done that our people couldn't get back there. They were flown in by helicopter with equipment and materials to make the repairs that allowed our water to be put back on. They could not physically get to where the wells were located because the water was so high and it was dangerous for them to travel that road. The only mechanism for them to reach the wells was by helicopter and fortunately we had the national guard stationed next to my office and they were able to transport them. We did raise the gears and next year we will probably be doing some more elevation as well but it doesn't resolve the issue it is not the best system."

Councilman Smith stated, "It is not the best system and I understand what you are saying a new treatment plant is going to cost us 30 million which we don't have right now."

Natalie Robottom stated, "We are looking at a couple of options. A new treatment plant and a new water source and intake structure and pre-treatment. So there are some variables here again we are going to task our engineers to make some recommendations to us that one will have cost estimates which will determine pretty much what we are able to do."

Councilman Smith stated, "I heard you mention a third well which is I think everyone's main concern, do we need a third well and my question is will you include that as an option or is that an option?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "No."

Councilman Smith asked, "A third well is not an option?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "We can include it but it is not an option that we want to pursue because the other problems will not change. It will continue to be 15 miles from our source, it will be right next to

Lake Pontchartrain. The piping that runs from the well to the treatment facility will continue to be in mud or slush where the chance of it breaking continue to be there. Our safer and more readily available source for water is the river. Our plants that have been along the river and we don't wish to invest any additional dollars in that."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "Mrs. Robottom this has been a pet peeve of mine for a long time the clean water of LaPlace. At this point in time I know you are doing a study, I know you are doing a meeting with your engineers and that is all wonderful and great but what time frame are we talking about because at any moment in time this well can go out and LaPlace has no water and I understand you are meeting with Mr. St. Pierre to have a pipe drawn from St. Charles. How much are we going to pay for this water or is he going to give it to us?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "It is very typically for municipalities to loop their water systems in the event that there are problems. We used to be able to connect to St. James Parish it is not very uncommon to do this. It is underway right now. Mr. St. Pierre is very optimistic like I said he suggested it before the storm, actually the day before and because of our other minor break and we have already met with him. As I said we have put money into Lions to expand that plant capacity there and that is underway. We have made some progress on the water line under the river which also gives us capacity from the West Bank so we are progressing along all of those lines. We are not studying them these are actually meetings and discussions about where to go and with regards to the line in St. Charles it is just a matter of design and connectivity. We will be billed for the water that we use. They can put a meter at the line to meter how much water we use and we can pay them for it. These are all things that are underway now."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "If this well tomorrow or the next day and I don't really know because I have never looked at the well and I am not an engineer or an expert all I am doing is that I know wells last for what about 10 years and this well is now 13 so we are on borrowed time. If it shuts down tomorrow LaPlace has no water."

Virgil Rayneri, Utilities Director, stated, "We have two wells. One is 4,000 gpm and the other one is about 1,400 gpm."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "So we will have diminished use of water? For how long until we decide to build something else?"

Virgil Rayneri stated, "As long as one runs we can repair the other one and we will have water coming from Reserve and we could have water coming from St. Charles so you have other avenues."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "My question here is do we have a permanent fix in the works or are we still just..."

Virgil Rayneri stated, "You want a permanent fix get the water from the river that is the final permanent fix."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "So are we working on this or are we still talking about it. I don't have any problem getting it from the river or the well my concern is making sure that the residents of LaPlace do not lose water."

Virgil Rayneri stated, "Not only you. We are highly concerned."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "This is my concern are we in the works for getting this I understand we are meeting and deciding I am saying if tomorrow so we go down to 50% capacity is the situation?"

Virgil Rayneri stated, "Let me make sure you understand we have 5 million gallon capacity at Reserve the problem that we are having throughout the whole river system is that the tivitidy and I don't want to get into all of that. You have 5 mgc in Reserve that you can supply a certain amount of water from Reserve whose consumption maximum is 3 million. So you can supply a certain amount of water to LaPlace plus you can get a certain amount of water from St. Charles plus you can supply 2 million gallons from the other well to LaPlace so you have a bunch of other ways to do it but that is not the permanent solution. The permanent solution is to come from the river and that is what we need to do and we are working on that."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "Going to the river would take how long?"

Virgil Rayneri stated, "Chuck might have a better feel for that but I would say years."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "We don't have years."

Virgil Rayneri stated, "Well that is not a true statement you have been having years for many years. I am not being funny. These are wells that were supposed to have lived for 10 years and there are still alive."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "Well number one is barely alive."

Virgil Rayneri stated, "No it is not it is at half capacity but it is barely alive. It is running perfectly with a good insert in it that we had just established with a new lining in it."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "So we have two working wells is what you are telling me?"

Virgil Rayneri stated, "Yes one at half capacity and double capacity at the other one."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "My concern and like I said I am not a component for well or river I want to make sure that the resident continue to have potable water at all times."

Natalie Robottom stated, "On a daily basis we are working on these things. You are correct for many years it was left undone and we are making efforts to change that so what we are asking is for you to not allow us to do what has been done in the past which is half do it. We know the system needs to come from the river instead of investing additional money and wasting it in a system that is not the best system for our residents. We are finalizing some alternatives in the event that there is a loss of water but our ultimate goal is to secure water from the river."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "Okay but you are also talking years for

the river. I am not talking years I am talking if it shuts down tomorrow than I am asking the residents until we get a well that is built or the plant to the river what are we going to be using in the interim is my concern."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I think Mr. Rayneri explained that to you. We will be combining sources of water. One well has capacity the other is still working and we have alternative sources we have explained that three times."

Virgil Rayneri stated, "I think maybe I didn't make myself clear. It is just a matter of numbers and arithmetic we are in the process to build two more filters at the Lions Plant which is a process of two more years that will give us 3 million more gallon capacity at the Lions plant. So if you take the small filters out and you use the new filters it will give you 6 million gallons in a place that had 3 million gallons. You will have a half a million more gallons coming from the West Bank plus you have 2.5 coming from the well plus you have the water coming from St. Charles."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "My job is to make sure that the people of St. John are not compromised by their water. My concern is the plant in Reserve is two more years before it is finished. So right now it is at 3 million correct?"

Virgil Rayneri stated, "Yes."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "We have the power to push water all the way throughout LaPlace?"

Virgil Rayneri stated, "Yes we have made improvements on that is it the way I would like to see it now we can always improve on it more but we do have installed 3 sets of 12 inch lines and it will give us that availability from Reserve."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "So in your opinion we are okay and there is nothing to worry about until the plant is built on the river?"

Virgil Rayneri stated, "No you said a mixed statement, we don't have anything to worry about we always have something to worry about and that is our job to make sure we do the right thing and the right thing is coming from the river."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "Like I said I don't have a problem with that my problem is that you are saying that it is years away and there is no funding for it set aside yet so it is not even in the works but flushing my toilet is in the works today."

Virgil Rayneri stated, "If you are talking about two years from now when the facility capacity increase at Lions will be complete we will be in heck of better shape than we are today but that still isn't the permanent solution."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "I agree that is my concern. I just want to make sure that the people of St. John are taking care of the way they expect us to take care of them."

C.J. Savoie, Parish Engineer, stated, "If you are going to replace a well it would be putting it where the 1,400 gallon well is and you can do that because there has to be a certain distance between them because of draw down and they were going to put that size well initially at that location."

Councilman Madere stated, "I understand what Mrs. Millet is staying and that there are other resources that can supply to the LaPlace area and that isn't good but it is the hand that we are dealt with right now and we all agree that to solve the problem is to go to the river and that is something that we have been knowing for years and the failure of the previous council or administration that first recognized this problem is where we are at right now and we are relying on wells that have really performed beyond their capacity. At any moment they could go out but I agree with my fellow council members if we want to build it we need to act on it and look for the funding and we are going to have to solve this problem for the future of LaPlace and hope nothing else happens until we can get that pipeline to the river."

Councilman Snyder asked, "This new plant that we are talking about on the river out there what kind of price are we looking at?"

C.J. Savoie stated, "I would say in excess of 25 million the CDM was an engineering company that did a cost estimate and came up and did a study on it about 10 years ago and they had a price of about 20 million to build the plant so the price has inflated so I came up with an estimate of 25 million at this point in time."

Councilman Snyder asked, "That is with all the infrastructure?"

C.J. Savoie stated, "Well at 25 million you are going to have to put in some infrastructure. You are going to have to because you have to pipe to get to the water and we are assuming you would go back to Ruddock station three and that is where you will distribute it from so you would have to have sufficient piping to get it there."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Have you ever looked into expanding Reserve plant?"

Virgil Rayneri stated, "That is what we are doing with the new filters."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I know that is what you are doing with the new filters let me finish expanding that plant to maybe make Ruddock obsolete?"

Virgil Rayneri stated, "It is a possibility you can build behind the plant and we have talked about that but those are options and those are the things that we are talking about and weighing."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I think one of the things that we all agree on is that it needs to come from the river there is no doubt about that but I think the other issue that Mrs. Millet was talking about was that when I flush my toilet and somebody has a house fire at the same time will we be alright because I know we have problems at the well and we have to keep the fire department in water pressure."

Virgil Rayneri stated, "You remember you have several million gallon capacity in the towers to that is reserved and fully stocked."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Yes that happened during the storm it came on for a fire some place and it dropped really quick."

Virgil Rayneri stated, "No it didn't."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well I asked you that question a few meetings ago and you told me it dropped really quick. I am only telling you what you told me because I used water from that tower to fill my bathtub."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "Mr. Savoie you are our parish engineer. We have been talking back here and I am not an engineer, are any of you guys engineers. In your opinion for the residents of St. John especially in the LaPlace area where the well water is coming from because Reserve is being taken care of, the West Bank is being taken care of, Garyville is being taken care of but LaPlace where the majority of our population is is crossing their fingers to make sure that the water continues to run. What is your professional opinion?"

C.J. Savoie stated, "Well Virgil and I have had this discussion many times and I think that if you were thinking about going to the river and I had to make a decision of what I had to do in the interim I probably would suggest that you put in the well for the 3 million dollars because it would then give you the time because I think if you started tomorrow and it is 3 million because I told you that 1.5 million would be for the filters and the reverse osmosis but in any case if it is 3 million or 1.5 million the point you are asking me is would I put in a well. I would probably put in a well because then it would give you to me would provide you with some time if you want to go to the river than it would provide you adequate time because I think if you had the means and the money and you started tomorrow I think it is going to take you five years from the time you start to complete it. I don't think you are going to be satisfied by just depending on all these other sources until that time that is why I would give you that as an opinion."

Councilman Smith stated, "I would just like to thank everyone for those comments and I ask Mrs. Robottom and her administration to start really aggressively looking at building this well. I have always said that we do things passively. I think we need to put the pedal to gas and start this water treatment facility."

Art Smith - Meyer Engineers - Parishwide Recreational Park Assessments

Councilman Smith stated, "I guess I am not satisfied with the money that we spend and the amount of time that they are putting into the project because it has nothing to do with REGALA for 51 it is just that I suspected things to move a lot faster. If you take a project on you should go at it full force and this was taken before the storm. We have not had one public hearing yet and the storm didn't affect where their office is so they should have still been working and that is my problem I don't see enough progress coming out of them. The last time they were here they said the public hearing was coming and I guess I am not satisfied with the way that they are treating our projects."

Natalie Robottom stated, "The contractor was directed to address REGALA Park first because of opportunities to partner for funding. The Malcom Jenkins Foundation is working with the parish to make repairs at the park following Hurricane Isaac. There are other options for sponsorship under consideration, pending completion of a master plan. The Highway 51 Park is also being assessed and a conceptual underway because it is the most frequently used park."

Anne Terrio, Meyer Engineers, stated, "I would like to update you on where we are. We did submit the REGALA park and late tomorrow we will be sending over 51 for her review and we have been trying to compile all these drawings and in looking at the parks trying to see what we can add and improve to. We are trying to confirm property lines for these different parks and like you said we have 11 parks plus the 3 boat launches so we are assessing the use and the needs of all the existing facilities to determine if we still want to keep what you have or if we want to incorporate new ideas so in doing that it seems like it has taken a while but we had to look at it as a whole although it is a conventional design at each park we really are trying to take a comprehensive look at all of these because they are all adjacent to each other so that is what we have been doing there. We hope to have the public meetings by mid to late January and I apologize if we were off to a slow start we were issued a notice to proceed just prior to Isaac but we felt like it wouldn't be prudent to push recreation at a time where everyone was really just struggling to get back into their homes and houses. So that is where we are with the project and we hope to be sending over the rest of the parks for review and getting comments from everyone."

Councilman Smith asked, "So the end of January so on February 1st I can say you have had your public meetings?"

Anne Terrio stated, "Yes."

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Lucien Gauff - Resolution - R12-37 - A resolution requesting the LA DOTD to expand La. Hwy. 3127 on the West Bank of St. John the Baptist Parish from two (2) lanes to four (4) lanes

MOTION: Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilwoman Millet seconded the motion to approve Resolution R12-37 - A Resolution requesting the LA DOTD to expand La. Hwy. 3127 on the West Bank of St. John the Baptist Parish from two (2) lanes to four (4) lanes. WHEREAS, in an attempt to provide a safer and more expedient evacuation route, and to provide for the accommodation of commercial traffic, the St. John the Baptist Parish Council implores the LA DOTD to expand La. 3127 to a four (4) lane highway; and WHEREAS, in the interest of public safety and welfare for all commuters who travel La. 3127, the St. John the Baptist Parish Council deems it a necessity to expand said roadway to a four (4) lane highway. NOW BE IT RESOLVED, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council that it does hereby urge, implore and request the LA

DOTD to expand La. 3127 from two (2) lanes to four (4) in the interest of public safety and welfare. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard & Councilman Wilson absent.

Theresa Rodgers - Resolution - R12-38 - A resolution to accept ownership of DOTD Roads (I-10 Frontage Road and LA 639)

Theresa Rodgers stated, "The Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) "road swap" program provides a source of funding to the parish for accepting state roads into the parish system that have no true state purpose. DOTD will mill, patch, re-surface and restripe these sections of state roads before turning them over to us. In exchange, St. John the Baptist Parish will obtain a \$465,000 credit towards operation of the ferry. Administration is also pursuing other sources of funding for the ferry through our legislative delegation."

MOTION: Councilman Smith moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to approve Resolution R12-38 - A resolution to accept ownership of DOTD Roads (I-10 Frontage Road and LA 639). The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard & Councilman Wilson absent.

Jason Ackers - Resolution - R12-39 - A resolution giving preliminary approval to the issuance of not exceeding \$6,400,000 of General Obligation Refunding Bonds of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana; making application to the state bond commission for approval of said bonds; and providing for other matters in connection therewith

Jason Ackers, Bond Attorney, stated, "Forgive me I have lost count but I think this is about the fourth or the fifth time we have presented a refunding bond to you over the last couple of years. Our interest rate market is still incredibly low everybody thinks it is going to go up and it hasn't so we are going to take advantage of it as long as we can and that results in savings for the parish. What I have given you is a 2 page handout of where we think things are right now this is prepared by your financial advisor. Government Consultants in connection with Cruise and Associates, an investment banking firm, who is requesting to be retained on the transaction. They did bring the transaction to us and to the administration. What we are looking at is if market conditions hold as they are today by the time we go to market a savings of roughly \$40,000.00 a year. These are on general obligation bonds so that is advalorum tax savings with your permission and the adoption of the resolution today you will authorize us to move forward and file an application on your behalf with the state bond commission and beginning the preparation of all the documentation required for the sale date like our normal process we will have to come back to you for final approval by ordinance so you will see me again at some point later in the future. This is just part of our continuing efforts to look for any opportunities you have to save money as the parish."

Councilwoman Millet asked, "How many more bonds do we have out there that we can do this with?"

Jason Ackers stated, "We are scraping the barrel Mrs. Millet but we will find them if they are there."

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Wright seconded the

motion to approve Resolution R12-39 - A resolution giving preliminary approval to the issuance of not exceeding \$6,400,000 of General Obligation Refunding Bonds of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana; making application to the state bond commission for approval of said bonds; and providing for other matters in connection therewith. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard & Councilman Wilson absent.

Natalie Robottom - Contract Discussion - Minor Repair Housing Program

The above item was removed from the agenda by the administration's request.

Lucien Gauff - Waiving of temporary banner permit fees until December 31st, 2012

Councilman Gauff removed his item.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Natalie Robottom stated, "Good Evening, St. John Parish, through the Safe Routes to Schools Grant Program, will host its First Annual Walk/Bike to School Day at Laplace Elementary School on Friday, December 14 at 7:30 a.m. Helmets, bike chains and locks, snacks and other related items will be distributed to students in the LaPlace Elementary cafeteria on Thursday, December 13, at 1:30 p.m. to guarantee a successful and memorable Walk/Bike to School Day. Thousands of students and schools across the country have participated in Walk/Bike to School Day, and now St. John the Baptist Parish and LaPlace Elementary School will join their efforts. Bonfire Permits are 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. The Miss and Teen Andouille Pageant will be held this Saturday, December 15 at 7:00 p.m. at St. John Theatre. Tickets are \$10 in advance and at the door. Anyone interested in purchasing tickets in advance can visit the Percy Hebert Building between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., at St. John Theatre Wednesday through Friday from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m., and at the door Saturday night. The Baby through Jr Miss Andouille Pageants will be held Sunday, December 16 beginning at 10:00 a.m. Registration will begin at 9:00 a.m. All pageants will be held at the St. John Theatre located in Reserve. New Wine Christian Fellowship along with other organizations are hosting a Christmas Party on Saturday December 15, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at 1921 W. Airline Hwy in LaPlace (gym) for St. John Parish families with children ages newborn to 17 whose homes were flooded by Hurricane Isaac. Food, face painting and toys will be available. USMC toys for tots, Breakthru Media Magazine, River Region Kiwanis, Riverlands Christian Center and LaCare are hosting a "Toy Giveaway" for St. John children on Saturday, December 22 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Riverlands Christian Center, NW 3rd St. in Reserve. Admission is free and there will be live entertainment.

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 Tops 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. December 17 is the last day to donate. 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 pick-up of debris. 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.

The St. John Parish Sheriff's Office is hosting the Fallen Four Run on Sunday, January 13. The 1 mile run/walk will begin at 8:00 a.m. and the 5K will begin at 9:00 p.m. Registration forms can be picked up at the St. John Parish Sheriff's Office. Registration fee is \$20 before January 4 and \$25 after. Participants 18 and under are \$15. All proceeds will be distributed to the families of Brandon Neilson, Jeremy Triche, Jason Triche, and Scott Boyington. All Parish Offices will be closed Monday, December 24, Tuesday December 25, Monday, December 31, and Tuesday, January 1 in observance of the Christmas and New Year's Holidays. I'd like to wish all of our residents a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I'd like to say thank you to all those who have shown great patience and resiliency through these past few months. St. John will recover. Please enjoy these holidays to the fullest.

COUNCIL BRIEFS

Councilman Smith stated, "First I would like to congratulate WSJ and their fine football team and the WSJ girls basketball team they are 11-0 and also the post office has been a big issue in Edgard and we are having a public meeting tomorrow at 7:00 and hopefully we can get this all resolved and you guys are all invited and also since our next meeting isn't until after Christmas I want to wish everyone a safe and very joyous Christmas holiday."

Councilman Madere stated, "I would also like to congratulate WSJ's football team. I know it was heartbreaking not to get to the big game but if that is the worst thing to happen to you in this lifetime you

have a great life. I would like to congratulate all the other teams in the parish that made it to the playoffs and you know once again I would like to wish Merry Christmas to everyone in my district and throughout the parish. I would like to tell all the people in my district anything that you deem important give me a call and that is what I will fight for you."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "I would like to say they are having fee palates' and stretching classes at the library on Hwy. 51 and you can call over there for more information. Merry Christmas to all the residents I hope you have a safe and happy one."

Councilman Wright stated, "I just want to wish the residents of St. John Parish a Merry Christmas and we will see you on the 27th."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I would like to say thank you to the Cambridge Homeowners Association and the group that led our event last week. I thank all of administrative staff that came out to support us. I would also like to thank New Wine and Pastor Bernard for everything he did and supplied for us that day. I can't say enough about him and the people that volunteered and gave their time. They had music and pictures free of charge and it was a beautiful time. Our next meeting for the HOA is on January 12th at 9:00 AM at the Arcuri Center. Happy Birthday to my son Larry Jr. and Merry Christmas to everyone."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "First off I want to thank the public works department for putting up our decorations throughout the parish. It kind of looks a little bit like Christmas in St. John. I know we have been through a lot this year and we have a lot to be thankful for. We are here and we didn't lose any lives during Isaac but I want you to also remember the people that do need you to remember them on Christmas the Veteran's don't forget them. Sometimes they are in that hospital by themselves think about them on Christmas too. We have a lot to be thankful for so let's share the wealth that we have and the gifts that God has given us."

Councilman Gauff stated, "I would like to once again congratulate the local teams for making the playoffs. It was a very good year. I would like to thank the Cambridge and Colony Organization for a very heart felt and warm Christmas event. There were a lot of residents out. They did a lot of the community and I think the other HOA's could learn a lot it is what we need to rebuild. So I would like to say once again thank you for that opportunity. Also John McCluster who wrote the biography on LaPlace native Kid Ory will be at PJ's Coffee House on Thursday at 6:00 PM for book signing. Merry Christmas to all of the St. John residents."

MOTION: Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to go into executive session to discuss St. John the Baptist Parish vs. Roussel Welding and Metal Works, Inc., et al. Case No. 64187 Div. B. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard & Councilman Wilson absent.

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilwoman Millet seconded the motion to go back into regular session. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard & Councilman Wilson absent.

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 - 40th JDC, Docket No. 61301

St. John the Baptist Parish vs. Roussel Welding and Metal Works, Inc., et al. Case No. 64187 Div. B

Any and all pending legal matters

ADJOURNMENT:

At 10:24 PM, Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard & Councilman Wilson absent.

/s/Lucien Gauff, III
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
Council Secretary