

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS**  
**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL**  
**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017**  
**CHAIRMAN LARRY SNYDER**  
**VICE-CHAIR JACLYN HOTARD**

The Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist Parish, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session in the Joel McTopy Chambers, LaPlace, Louisiana on Wednesday, December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017, at 12:30 PM.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

**PRESENT AT ROLL CALL:** Larry Sorapuru, Jr., Councilman-at-Large, Div. A, Kurt Becnel, Councilman District I, Julia Remonet, Councilwoman District II, Lennix Madere, Councilman District III, Marvin Perrilloux, Councilman District IV, Michael Wright, Councilman District V, Larry Snyder, Councilman District VI, Thomas Malik, Councilman District VII, Jaclyn Hotard, Councilwoman-at-Large, Div. B

**ABSENT:** None

Councilman Snyder led the Prayer. Councilman Perrilloux led the Pledge.

Legal Counsel Keith Green, Jr., Geoffrey Michel and Law Clerk Kennilyn Schmill

**PUBLIC COMMENT - AGENDA ITEMS ONLY (2 minutes per citizen)**

Richard Stricks, Public Defenders Office, asked, *"I am last on the agenda would this be the appropriate time to speak or later?"*

Councilman Snyder stated, *"You can speak on any agenda item but you only have two minutes."*

Richard Stricks stated, *"Okay I have some papers that I would like to pass out to you."*

Councilman Snyder stated, *"Mr. Stricks, I will give you an opportunity to speak when this comes up on the agenda if you would want to wait."*

Richard Stricks stated, *"Thank you sir that would be fine."*

**INTRODUCTION OF BUSINESSES**

There were no new businesses.

**Natalie Robottom - Presentation - 2016 Miss Andouille Queen, Janet Nelson and 2016 Teen Andouille Queen, Kash'Mir Foley - Keys to the Parish**

Natalie Robottom presented the Queen's with their Keys to the Parish. The council commented on the great job that they have done in the past year and wish them well in all of their future endeavors.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**ITEMS:** Approval of Minutes - December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017, Regular Meeting; Councilman Snyder - Appointment of Tammy William Milioto to the Animal Control Board

**MOTION:** Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes - December 12th, 2017, Regular Meeting; Councilman Snyder - Appointment of Tammy William Milioto to the Animal Control Board. The motion passed with Councilmen Becnel and Perrilloux absent.

Councilman Snyder stated, "Before we get into the ordinances I would like to possibly suspend the rules to discuss a couple of issues that I think we need to discuss. The discussion of possible extension of adjudicated properties contract with the DA's office until a CEA is reached and a discussion on possible resolutions of the Teche Action Clinic information to be reviewed by an independent study. I would like to have discussion on this and if it leads to some place fine. So I would like to get someone to suspend the rules."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Councilman Snyder if I may, these two items are actually finance items what we can do since we already closed the finance meeting we can open the finance meeting back up and suspend the finance rules to place it on the agenda, we just wouldn't be able to do it in a regular meeting."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Is that right? We can't do it at a regular meeting?"

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Well because these are finance items."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I understand that. You can stretch your imagination a little bit. If it isn't legal to do that then we just won't stretch our imagination. So we just won't do this at this time. I am not going to open up finance. I will just leave it alone and that is that."

Councilman Sorapuru stated, "I would like to request that we suspend the rules to add something to the agenda. I would like to add possible discussion withdrawal from the South Louisiana Tourist Commission, the River Parish Tourist Commission. Only for discussion."

**MOTION:** Councilman Sorapuru moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to suspend the rules to add to the council agenda - Larry Sorapuru - discussion withdrawal from the River Parish Tourist Commission. The motion failed 5 yeas and 4 against (Hotard, Remondet, Malik, Wright).

**\*NOTE** - In order to Suspend the Rules the Motion has to be unanimously approved.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:**

**17-50** (Public Hearing Held) (Tabled 11-14-17) An ordinance introducing the annual operating budgets for the St. John the Baptist Parish General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, Enterprise Funds and Capital Project Funds for the fiscal year Beginning January 1, 2018 and ending December 31, 2018 (N. Robottom)

**MOTION:** Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Becnel seconded the motion to removed Ordinance 17-50 from the TABLE. The motion passed unanimously.

Natalie Robottom stated, "Budget workshops have been completed and all questions and concerns submitted have been addressed. Administration recommends approval."

Councilman Snyder asked, "I have one question and it may be a legal question and it may be a stupid question also because I have a lot of those. What would be the reason for us to amend this ordinance next month? Do we have to have a reason? I mean I can understand saying well this looks like this isn't going to work we

*need to put more money here and less money here. Can we do something like that and amend this ordinance if we pass this today?"*

Keith Green, Legal Counsel, commented from the side not on audible.

Natalie Robottom stated, *"Typically we do amendments during the year when things change so it wouldn't be uncommon to amend this one later on as things change. For example we are amending the 2017 or proposing that tonight."*

Councilman Snyder stated, *"But that is only if you decide that okay I will do that."*

Natalie Robottom stated, *"No actually it is an ordinance we would introduce with your amendments the same way this one was done to amend this ordinance we would have to introduce with your amendments."*

Councilman Snyder stated, *"I understand that. What I am saying is that if you decide you don't want to do that then it can't be done."*

Natalie Robottom stated, *"That is not likely."*

Councilman Snyder stated, *"That's not likely? Okay. Does this ordinance, because I couldn't find it, but I think we passed an ordinance to create something for the courts. Did we address that in this budget? I know we passed an ordinance to establish that program, the Community Service Program, but we also needed to get some money put in this agenda for that and I was wondering because I looked for it and maybe I over looked it but did we put it in here someplace or even if we have to fund it internally, did we do anything with that in this ordinance?"*

Natalie Robottom stated, *"Actually this budget was introduced October 20<sup>th</sup>, so if you all did anything after that we have made no changes to this document."*

Councilman Snyder stated, *"Okay so it is not in there?"*

Natalie Robottom stated, *"We couldn't change it on our own."*

Councilman Snyder stated, *"In all likelihood that we would get together on this and say well yes we might be able to do something here or something there because if we don't fund it we don't have a program. Am I right?"*

Councilman Madere stated, *"I understand Mrs. Robottom says she couldn't do it at the time but I think it was made clear and we need to make sure that we put a line item in there because we passed an ordinance to do this community service which is going to benefit the parish and the people out there that have to serve community service. So just to pass an ordinance without doing anything is like I said about doing studies and don't do anything with the studies. So this ordinance passed and it needs to be in this budget. We need to find the money somewhere and put a line item in there that is strictly for that ordinance because it doesn't make sense to pass an ordinance and then don't carry it out."*

Councilman Snyder stated, *"Yes and we can't amend it in the future."*

Councilwoman Hotard stated, *"I just wanted to clarify that, we can amend the budget prior to us adopting it however once we adopt the budget all of the budget amendments recommendations do have to come from the administration. So if we do want to amend it we need to do it now before we actually adopt it procedurally."*

Councilman Wright stated, "Also just to add to that if the administration does bring forward a budget amendment we can amend it at that time."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I understand that. Are there any plans to do that for that program?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Actually I am not sure, do you all have costs? If you are talking about amending the budget and adding a line item is there an amount you are looking at spending?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well I thought maybe you all might look through if this is going to be a civil service job or a contractor job we can do it under purchase orders I know there is some sort of way that we can get this done. Do you have any plans? Any at all besides the fact that we don't have the money so we can't do it? None? Okay."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I think when it was adopted you guys indicated that even between departments that it wasn't a plan it was an ordinance asking that a plan be developed and between all of the agencies that will be working on it we can get together because I think everybody was going to do something different and develop a plan, that was my understanding of what the request was that moving forward the ordinance just said you wanted a department but because it crosses agencies that we would get together and develop a program and of course just to respond to that if it is a civil service position we would have to create a job description, go before the civil service board for approval, then you guys and then post and advertise. If it is some other type of position whether it be contract or part time then that would be something different but again we have to decide what it is that you are asking for because each way that we do that will require a different action."

Councilman Snyder asked, "And that would be the administration's responsibility for looking at the best way to handle that?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "With the other agencies."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Has anything been initiated yet?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "No sir."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay I didn't view that meeting exactly like Mrs. Robottom classified just now. There was never, in my understanding, anything about meeting with the different groups. We met with the groups already. I spoke with them and my understanding at the meeting was that Mrs. Robottom was upset because she wasn't involved with it and said she was blindsided and my comment was that we were blindsided when the program was discontinued. This program was going on for years in St. John the Baptist Parish with no line item, no contract and with nothing and it was being administered in St. John Parish for years. This is just an ordinance that is mandating that it must be done by the parish and a certain amount of money a line item. There is no more discussion about if it is going to be done. It is going to be done. That is what the ordinance says and the ordinance is a law that the council has passed onto administration to fund this program. Now it is up to the administration to find the amount of money. There are no more meetings to be held. The meeting has already been held and it passed. So it is about putting the money in the budget and find the line item because what I see is going to happen this getting together and everything is going to

take another year and nothing is going to be done this year and like I said it wasn't a line item in 2015, 2014, 2013 or 2012 since I have been here and that program was in effect until it was cancelled by the administration with no line item. Now it is a law with a line item."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Just procedural I guess, the ordinance doesn't actually create a line item. Councilman Snyder if you like we can create a line item. I do believe that getting with the other agencies is imperative because we need to understand what their contributions will be because only once we know what their contributions will be as far as Sheriff's Office and those other entities will we know what it is actually going to cost us. So if we do need to create a Community Service line item right now without the dollar amount I will support doing that and that may be proper because the ordinance didn't actually create the line item however I do believe we also need to request administration to schedule a meeting or something with those other agencies because I know the Sheriff's Office will need to be involved in this and we need to know what their contribution will be or what level of support they will provide before we will even know what exactly it is actually going to cost us. It may not be a matter of adding another position or anything like that it could be an employee assigned to do something as it was done in the past but we won't know until we know what the contributions of those other agencies will be. So if you would like to create the line item like I said I will support that and offer the motion but short of that we really don't know what any of this is going to cost us and what the other stake holders participation will be at this time."

Councilman Madere stated, "I can agree with what you just said because we need to create that line item to make sure that it is understood that it will be included in the budget this year. I don't want it to linger and pass on to the next year and the next year and as far as how much it would cost, I think the administration has a very good idea of what it is going to cost and who is going to do it because it has been done since before I got in office and like I said it was in place in 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016 so if that isn't a study to know what it would cost, we don't need studies, we have done it for all of these years so you know exactly how much it is going to cost or the ballpark figure of what it is going to cost because we have been paying it for years. So go back on your record and see what you have paid out and that will give you an idea of what it is you have to put in and like you said have a meeting with the Sheriff's Department and everybody else to find out what they are going to do but to say that we have no idea how much this program is going to cost just go back to all the previous years before because you paid someone."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Who will facilitate this program, the DA's Office?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "In the past it does come the assignments from the DA's Office and I think one of her staff members tracks who has been assigned, what the number of hours are and if they are meeting that. The difference from what was done before is that it was just the parish. Now we have partners in that the Sheriff's Office has agreed to help by providing staff members and to be honest with you it wasn't a good program and whether they were getting documents signed saying they were meeting their hours was very questionable because it was supposed to be specific to litter abatement and I don't know that that was done all the time because we didn't have people consistently here therefore they sat in the back near the recycle yard. So what we are hoping now and I think in my meeting with the DA she referenced a law that specifies that exactly what the requirements are that we haven't had an opportunity to visit but I do think everybody was in agreement to do it together. The cost are not going to be what

they were in the past and hopefully it will be a better program than it was in the past because I don't think it met any bodies needs the way it was set up before and if we are going to do it as the Judges suggested to make sure that they remain in compliance with what they are doing we have to do it right and again it is not my expertise. I know nothing about Community Service neither does my staff so we need to go to the people that do and that is the DA's Office, the Judges and the Sheriff's Office and I do think there is a way to do it without creating a job description. I don't think it is a full time job again we really don't know based on what the Judges said they could have as many as 14 to 20 on any given day but they are not going to have that everyday so if we hire somebody to just do that on some days they aren't going to have anything to do because it is not something that we can predict. So I do think there is a method to determining what would work best. I don't have a dollar amount right now but again that is because we have not established how the program was going to run and I didn't make this up at your last meeting when you adopted it what you basically said was that we are adopting an ordinance to create a program and then the direction was to get together and establish what that program would be."

Councilman Snyder asked, "That is exactly what we are asking right now and you are telling me you have not initiated any discussion with any of the other stake holders?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "Not at this point. We are actually trying to get through an amendment and a budget."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Can I get a motion so that we can get this done to have the administration bring something to us at least a contact person or someone from the administration or from the courts and the DA office so that we could at least get started?"

Councilman Madere stated, "I understand what you are saying but before we do that Ms. Hotard mentioned about creating a line item for this thing. We need to create a line item to make sure it is included in this year's budget that is the most important thing. Now as far as getting together and how you are going to work it out is fine but the most important thing is to make sure that we have a line item in this budget tonight or we get a commitment from the administration that after the meeting this will be introduced but you need a line item in this budget because if we don't put a line item in this budget the administration may never come back and put a line item in it. So we need to create a line item."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Hold on Mr. Madere if we give the administration time to get this thing started and to get some dialogue going between the stake holders and let's start there and from there if we need to make an amendment to the budget the administration can to get that line item and maybe if we can handle it without a line item then we can do it from that perspective. So let's don't jump the gun and put a line item in there but that is up to you if you want to make a motion it is fine to do that but I am just looking at things logically and how it should flow."

Councilman Madere stated, "Well my thinking is just to ensure that this program happens this year we can put a line item and come back the line item doesn't indicate the amount of money at that particular time but there is a spot when you work all the details out you know whatever amount they come back with that is where it goes that is all I am saying to make sure unless the administration 100% guarantees that they are going to come back and amend this budget to put that in there. I just need a commitment."

Councilman Snyder asked, "Can we put a line item in there and just zero it out and then come back and amend it if we need to?"

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Procedurally we can do that. It does sound like we do have a commitment from the administration to come back and let us know because if it is an assignment of duties to an employee we already have it might not require a line item if there was never one before so I do think that if we have a commitment with them to get with those parties if that is suffice for you Councilman Snyder I will yield to your wishes."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Councilman Madere had requested it, I just want something done about it. I just want to see some movement on it."

Councilman Sorapuru asked, "Can we make that commitment stand for the next meeting from the administration? They haven't met yet so we need to move forward."

Keith Green, Jr., Legal Counsel, stated, "I would just recommend that the council go ahead and vote in the line item for this particular item just to ensure that it is already in place instead of having to receive a commitment or to expect something in exchange from administration to ensure that this is done. This is an ordinance that you all passed. It is a law that you all made for St. John the Baptist Parish. I think that you all should do as much as you can to ensure that it is fulfilled and adhered to."

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to amend Ordinance 17-50 to add a line item for Community Service wherever the administration see's appropriate for the line item to be placed. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Snyder stated, "Now we have a motion on the floor to accept Ordinance 17-50. Any other question on Ordinance 17-50 as amended?"

Richard Stricks, Public Defenders Office, stated, "What I am hearing is that this is the item that will result in the adoption of the budget and my role in being here today is to request that the Public Defender Office be included in the budget so I have to be heard to see if that is even a possibility before the budget is adopted. So I passed out some very basic information about the office and the financing. We came before the council last year about this time and asked to be included in the 2017 budget to receive some funds from the special revenue funds, the juvenile justice funds, which is a separate mileage that is collected by the parish for juvenile justice detention and personnel. The council was generous enough last year to include us so that during 2017 the parish council reimbursed the Public Defender's Office 3500.00 a month for a total for the year of 42,000.00 now we have received 10 of the 12 monthly payments. I have submitted a request for reimbursement for November and I will be requesting the reimbursement for December so that is going to come out of 2018's money I suppose but I think that I will be getting the money in 2018 so how that exactly works I am not certain but what I am here for today is to request that the purpose of the juvenile justice fund be extended into 2018 and I have included a spreadsheet which shows the amount of money remitted by the Sheriff to the Public Defender's Office for court costs which is the principal source of funding for the public defender's by state law and as you can see the average for the calendar year 2016 was 55,000.00 a month, for 2017 the average per month is even lower 43,000.00 per month. When I spoke to the council last year we were in such bad circumstances

*with receiving court cost that you included the public defender's office and this year I am showing you that the amount of money collected for court costs on a monthly basis is even less. Now the state has sent us some district assistance funds, I am simply requesting that since the court cost collection is based on LACE ticket writing activity which I know you all have heard about I have been to several budget workshops here this year and I have heard LACE discussed, the local agency compensated enforcement which is quite frankly the money generating function of the ticket writing traffic enforcement and we know that last year the St. John Sheriff's Office for 8-9 months which was resumed in the Spring of 2017 now recently we have heard that the state police have suspended their participation and I am seeking from you a more reliable source of funding this is dedicated to representing children whose parents are needy and indigent and unable to afford counsel which is constitutionally required to be provided to the children."*

There was much dialogue between the council and the administration with it ultimately culminating in the fact that the budget cannot sustain this added cost. It was also noted that the parish workers aren't getting raises for the first time in many years due to the parish being so strapped for funds. It was suggested that Mr. Stricks try to work with what he has and if the council or the administration sees that the budget is getting better he was encouraged to come back and requests again at another time but that right now it just wasn't able to be sustained in this budget. Also the new CFO noted that we should look at all of their expenses and see if all of the necessary cuts are being made, we as the parish have been to all of our departments trying to trim the fat and get rid of what isn't necessary spending and would like to look at their budget before we would move forward and make that commitment when we aren't even giving our employees raises.

Councilman Kurt Becnel left the meeting at 2:23 PM.

**MOTION:** Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 17-50 with added amendment. The motion passed with Councilmen Becnel and Perrilloux absent.

**17-60** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance authorizing the issuance of not exceeding Six Million Dollars (\$6,000,000) of Taxable Sales Tax Bonds (DEQ) Series ST-2018 of St. John the Baptist Parish Sales Tax District; prescribing the form, terms and conditions of said Bonds; providing for the payment thereof; awarding said Bonds to the purchaser thereof; authorizing the execution of a Loan and Pledge Agreement and other loan documents with the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (the "Department"); providing for the delivery of the Bonds to the Department; and providing for other matters in connection therewith (N. Robottom)

Natalie Robottom stated, *"Adoption of this ordinance is required to issue Taxable Sales Tax Bonds in an amount not to exceed \$6,000,000 for a low interest loan through DEQ. The loan will be used to fund the Parish's water meter project and will be at a fixed rate of 0.95% for a 22 year term with no pre-payment penalty. Administration recommends approval."*

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 17-60. The motion passed with Councilman Becnel absent.

**17-61** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance amending ordinance 17-35 relative to the annual operating budgets for the St. John the Baptist Parish General

Fund, Special Revenue Funds, Enterprise Funds and Capital Projects Funds for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2017 and ending December 31, 2017. (N. Robottom)

Natalie Robottom stated, "This amendment is closely aligned and recognizes current Revenues and Operating expenditures with actual trends. A separate document was presented to the Council Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup> which explains the changes in greater detail. Administration recommends approval."

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 17-61. The motion passed with Councilman Becnel absent.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Councilman Madere stated, "I'd like to make a motion that the council accept the minutes from the finance committee meeting."

**MOTION:** Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to accept minutes from the Finance Committee meeting. The motion passed with Councilman Becnel absent.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

There was no old business.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Natalie Robottom - Resolution - R17-45 - A Resolution naming a check signer for the Parish of St. John the Baptist, effective December 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

Natalie Robottom stated, "Administration requests authorization to add Mr. Robert Figuero, Jr., CFO, as a check signer on the Parish's bank accounts effective December 28, 2017."

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to approve Resolution R17-45. The motion passed with Councilman Becnel absent.

**Natalie Robottom - Resolution - R17-46 - A Resolution authorizing and approving a grant agreement between St. John the Baptist Parish and the Louisiana Housing Corporation for administration of the Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) for the grant October 1, 2017 - September 30, 2019, and further authorizing the Parish President to execute all documents related thereto**

Natalie Robottom stated, "This is an annual requirement to obtain funding through LIHEAP. The Department of Health and Human Services will implement the provisions of LIHEAP adhering to program performance and reporting requirements. This year's authorized allocation for St. John is \$282,982.45. Administration recommends approval."

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to approve Resolution R17-46. The motion passed with Councilman Becnel absent.

**Natalie Robottom - Resolution - R17-47 - A Resolution to accept ownership of 3.19 miles of LA 643 in exchange for transfer credits and to formalize prior road transfers (SJ1-SJ6) dating back to 1958**

Natalie Robottom stated, "Administration requests this item be tabled until the

January 9, 2018 Council meeting as DOTD finalizes the proposed resolution with their legal department."

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to TABLE the Resolution R17-47 until the next Council Meeting. The motion passed with Councilman Becnel absent.

**Natalie Robottom - Request adoption of the amended CDBG Procurement Policy**

Natalie Robottom stated, "The CDBG Procurement Policy has been updated to comply with requirements of Housing and Urban Development, Office of the Inspector General (HUD OIG) requirements. Administration recommends approval."

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to grant administration adoption of the amended CDBG Procurement Policy. The motion passed with Councilman Becnel absent.

**DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:**

**Larry Snyder - (Tabled 12-12-17) Update on current bonding capacity**

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to remove the item Update on current bonding capacity from the TABLE. The motion passed with Councilman Becnel absent.

Councilman Snyder commented that Mr. Akers had already left but he had basically had his questions answered earlier in talking about the bond ordinance. He commented that he really wants to make sure that it is understood that he is working towards getting as much information as possible to help with funding the Ruddock Well system.

**Larry Sorapuru - (Tabled 12-12-17) Discussion possible re-instatement of Medical Board**

Councilman Sorapuru asked that this item remain on the table.

**Larry Snyder - (Tabled 12-12-17) Millage optimization and disbursement study**

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to remove the item Millage optimization and disbursement study from the TABLE. The motion passed with Councilman Becnel absent.

Councilman Snyder commented that he would like the information on the millage to make sure that we are doing exactly what is good for the parish. He would like the administration to get someone on this and give us your recommendations and we can all cohesively move forward.

**Larry Sorapuru - (Tabled 12-12-17) Financial Report and findings on 2017 Andouille Festival**

Councilman Sorapuru asked that this item remain on the table.

**Lennix Madere - Update on drainage and road repair in District III**

LaVerne Toombs stated, "Punch list items are nearing completion and work should resume this week, weather permitting. The Parish Engineer is currently reviewing all bids received for the 2018 Asphalt Road Improvements program. We anticipate

awarding a contract at the January 9<sup>th</sup>, Council Meeting. The draft road list is being finalized for review by the Council.”

**Larry Sorapuru - Possible funding for the Public Defender's Office**

The above item was addressed earlier in the meeting.

Councilman Wright and Councilwoman Hotard left the meeting at 2:46 PM.

**MOTION:** Councilman Perrilloux moved and Councilman Malik seconded the motion to go into executive session to discuss the first two items: Oci Ann Hill-Davis v. St. John the Baptist Parish, Docket #70518 and John Barrett vs. St. John the Baptist Parish, Docket #68043 (Graffiti issue). The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilmen Becnel and Wright absent.

**MOTION:** Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Remondet seconded the motion to go back into regular session. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilmen Becnel and Wright absent.

As a result of the executive session the following motion was offered.

**MOTION:** Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Remondet seconded the motion to authorize Attorney Carl Butler to negotiate a settlement with Oci Ann Hill-Davis v. St. John the Baptist Parish, Docket #70518 in a not to exceed amount of between 3,500.00 and 8,000.00. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilmen Becnel and Wright absent.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Oci Ann Hill-Davis v. St. John the Baptist Parish, Docket #70518

John Barrett vs. St. John the Baptist Parish, Docket #68043 (Graffiti issue)

Parish Buildings - Security

Any and all pending legal matters

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:**

**17-62** An ordinance approving the establishment of a Community Home for minors on Lot 273, Belle Pointe Plantation Subdivision No. 2, located in the area generally bounded by Houma Dr., Sunnyside Dr. Jackson Ave., and Grant Dr., containing municipal address 8766 Houma Dr., LaPlace, LA; with the stipulation that the site must be fully licensed with the Department of Children and Family Services and must remain in good standing with all applicable State regulatory agencies; as shown in Exhibit 1 attached (PCH-17-001)

**17-63** An ordinance approving the re-subdivision of Lot 31-A, River Road Terrace Subdivision into Lots 31-A-1 and 31-A-2, River Road Terrace Subdivision, located in the area generally bounded by Walnut St., Hwy. 628, and Elvina St., containing municipal Address 409 Elvina St., LaPlace, LA as shown in a survey prepared by Clint M. Simoneaux, P.L.S. on October 27, 2017 (PZS-17-1179)

**17-64** An ordinance approving the re-subdivision of Lot 1B of the west half of Lot 30 of Woodland Plantation into Lots 1B-1 and 1B-2 of

the west half of Lot 30 of Woodland Plantation, located in the area generally bounded by Dove St., the Illinois Central Railroad, Hawk St., and Eagle St., containing municipal address 113 Dove St., LaPlace, LA as shown in a survey prepared by Stephen P. Flynn, P.L.S. on October 23, 2017 (PZS-17-1178)

- 17-65** An ordinance approving the re-subdivision of Tract DLS-1, being a portion of Belle Pointe Plantation into Tracts DLS-1-A and SJ-LS, being a portion of Belle Pointe Plantation, located in the area generally bounded by U.S. Interstate 10, W. Airline Hwy./Lee Dr., Whitlow Ct./Jefferson St., and Big Lou Ave., in the area just North of Belle Pointe Plantation Subdivision Phase 3, LaPlace, LA as shown in a survey prepared by Cletus Langlois, P.L.S. on December 14, 2017 (PZS-17-1181)

**PRESIDENT REPORT:**

Natalie Robottom stated, "Good afternoon, I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and enjoyed time with family and friends and are prepared for the beginning of 2018. I'd like to thank my Administrative staff, employees and firefighters for their generosity in donating food items to assemble 27 food baskets for families in need this holiday season. The baskets of non-perishable food items, gift certificates, and holiday fixings were distributed last Wednesday morning just in time for Christmas. Special thanks go to I want to thank my staff and Communications and Health and Human Services staff for spearheading the project and the Fire Dept for making deliveries to those who were unable to pick up their baskets. Thanks to our Department of Public Safety for managing and monitoring the Christmas bonfires throughout the Parish. The creativity of our residents this year was astounding. It was hard to watch them go up in flames. We hope you enjoyed participating in our Shop Local Trivia game this month and shopped locally. The deadline to turn in shop local cards is tomorrow, December 28<sup>th</sup>. Participants with correct answers can win gift cards and other prizes from local retailers. Winners will be announced this week. I want to thank the staff of the Department of Public Safety, Fire, the Communication Dept, the Sheriff's Office and a few others for working hard these past few weeks to complete a FEMA evaluated radiological drill. This activity requires a great deal of time and preparation and the staff did an excellent job. We passed with flying colors. I would like to remind all elected officials that the Governmental Board of Ethics code of Governmental Ethics and sexual harassment trainings required for all public servants must be completed by December 31 of this year. Please contact Lakisha Morris in HR if you have questions on how to complete the training. Also, each elected official is required to also complete a financial disclosure for every term in office so please ensure you fulfill this requirement if you have not done so already. As we enter the New Year, I am grateful for the support and encouragement I've received and thank my Administrative staff and employees for their efforts. There is so much more to do, and I am confident that it will get done with support of residents, business owners and regional and state officials. The beginning of a new year is a great time to reflect, while continuing to move forward. I'd like to wish all of you a Happy New Year - may God Bless you and your families and keep you safe. Please visit the updated parish website at [sjbparish.com](http://sjbparish.com) to view our latest news and upcoming events in the upcoming year and sign up for emergency alerts if you have not done so already. REMINDER: Parish Offices will be closed on Monday, January 1, 2018 and Tuesday, January 2, 2018 in observance of the New Year's Holiday. While we hope that you have an enjoyable holiday, we ask that you be mindful of the firework regulations to ensure your safety: Fireworks can lawfully be discharged in St. John on New Year's Eve from dusk until 1:00 a.m. and New Year's Day from dusk until 10:00

*p.m. No fireworks should be discharged closer than 500 feet from any hospital, church, nursing home or school and should always be discharged with proper supervision from an adult. More information can be found on the government access channel and website. Again- have a safe and Happy New Year! See you in 2018!"*

**ADJOURNMENT:**

At 3:33 PM, Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Malik seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hotard and Councilmen Becnel and Wright absent.

/s/Larry Snyder  
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche  
Council Secretary