

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH, 2013
CHAIR JACLYN HOTARD
VICE CHAIR LENNIX MADERE

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 Wednesday, February 13th, 2013, 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, Ranney Wilson, Councilman, District II, Jaclyn Hotard, Councilwoman-at-Large, Div. B, Cheryl Millet, Councilwoman, District VII

ABSENT: Art Smith

Councilman Gauff led the Prayer. Councilman Snyder led the Pledge.

Legal Counsel Tom Daley, Billy O'Regan and Vercell Fiffie were present.

Consent Agenda

Items: Approval of Minutes January 22nd, 2013, Regular Meeting

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda consisting of Approval of Minutes January 22, 2013, Regular Meeting. The motion passed with Councilman Smith absent.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:

There are no ordinances at this time.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

There were no ordinances to introduce at this time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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

MOTION: Councilman Gauff moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to accept the recommendations of the finance committee. The motion passed with Councilman Smith absent.

DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:

Larry Snyder - Flex hours at the Utility Service Center

Councilman Snyder commented that he had spoken with Mr. Vincent and was pleased with his response so this item can be removed.

Larry Snyder - Substantial damaged properties

Angelic Sutherland, Director of Planning & Zoning, stated, "As a result of Hurricane Isaac, a substantial damage assessment was required from the parish to assist residents in their rebuilding efforts. The parish was assisted by FEMA contractors to perform damage assessments and a substantial damage estimating program was utilized to calculate the percentage of damages. Letters were sent to property owners whose amount or cost of damages was 50% or more than the pre-storm value of the property. Residents were given the opportunity to dispute the substantial damage findings by producing a contractor's estimate, modified assessment from the Assessor, or an appraisal. Mr. Snyder prior to FEMA coming in with a contractor we were using residents, those who wanted to get permits and obviously they couldn't wait to get their permit until FEMA set up the system for us but we were allowing them to bring in their contractors estimate and we were using the assessor's tax roll information. The majority of the people didn't want to be substantially damaged and they were contesting the assessor's information and so they were allowed to visit the office and get a modified assessment whereas every property owner on that street or next door neighbor may not have done so. They were also allowed to bring in an appraisal to dispute numbers if that was the case with the assessor's information they could also bring in an appraisal. Once FEMA came in and set up this software system on our computers for us to input the numbers from the substantial damage assessment they actually had numbers or evaluations that they put on the property themselves and again the majority of the people that were calling in didn't want to be substantially damaged. I think that was the consensus but if you were found not to be substantially damaged and you had a contractors estimate that could dispute that and in fact you were we would allow that and make the determination based on that so it was a lot of different factors and I would just say that one property may not have been used the same method as the property next door and that is why you get some people that are substantially damaged and their neighbor might not be."

Councilman Snyder asked, "So the numbers that we put into the software is that what you got from the assessor and the contractor or what numbers did you put into the software?"

Angelic Sutherland stated, "The software came in kind of on the second phase. There were a lot of people who already came in to get their permits before the software got setup. So yes the assessor's numbers were used for that. They could have used the regular assessor's numbers or they could have gone to request a modified assessment. The assessor's office is only granting modified assessments on an individual basis. We could not get those from him he requested that the actual resident, if they wanted to request one, go into his office and request that modified assessment. So some numbers were different based on what method you used. Once FEMA set up that system we did use their numbers but again property owners had the right to come in and dispute if they wanted to use a different set of numbers."

Councilman Snyder asked, "So the evaluation numbers from FEMA, FEMA

went and looked at a home and said okay this home is worth \$130,000.00?"

Angelic Sutherland stated, "They based it on square footage and area."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Exactly and that is my point some of the homes are right next to each other and couldn't get substantial damage. Most of the homes back there have at least \$75,000.00 worth of damage and that isn't counting furniture or appliances I am talking about tearing everything down and with the mitigation of the mold and things like that they aren't too many homes back there worth \$150,000.00 now with the market the way it is. So my point there is why are some that way and others aren't and every house on Revere was substantially damaged all of the homes every last one of them were substantially damaged. I don't quite understand that. Some people call me and Ms. Hotard about the same thing that is why I wanted some answers for them."

Angelic Sutherland asked, "Are you talking about the apartment complexes on Revere? The assessor's office handles commercial assessments different then he handles residential assessments."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I understand that but it is the old thing again money goes where money is some people get taken care of the ones who have the money and the poor people have to suffer but that was my question."

Angelic Sutherland asked, "I am confused. Were you getting complaints from residents thinking they were substantially damaged and not or was it the other way around?"

Councilman Snyder stated, "Well you know how people are. When the rumor mill gets out there and people hear that the parish said that my property was substantially damaged and they tell someone else and they say well they didn't say mine was, I want to get my house raised too and just like with this insurance thing if you get devalued you can recoup some of that money a lot of people out there don't know that. They don't know that and we can't call them stupid they have a home that they worked for but it is our job to inform them that is what we are doing right here and right now and I am still not satisfied with the answer that why can one house be substantially next door to the other one and it is not maybe we need to dig into it a little bit more I just don't understand it. I believe I need more individual facts on individual homes."

Angelic Sutherland stated, "But again anyone who disputed our determination whether they were determined to be substantially damaged or not to be substantially damaged has the opportunity to come into the office to dispute those findings. They just need to come to our office."

Councilman Madere asked, "You stated some people didn't want their home to be considered substantially damaged. Is there a reason why?"

Angelic Sutherland stated, "I think most people were very afraid of being determined to be substantially damaged and having to incur that extra expense of having to elevate their property."

Councilman Madere stated, "I was just confused and wanted to understand why somebody wouldn't want that and like Mr. Snyder said he was getting phone calls because other people wanted it so I just wanted clarification as to why some of the people said they didn't want that to be labeled on their homes."

Angelic Sutherland stated, "It is my understanding that with your flood insurance you are eligible for up to an additional \$30,000.00 of IPP funds to elevate which in and of itself is not enough to elevate your property so I think it was the cost factor."

Councilman Gauff stated, "I was just going to suggest asking more or some of these questions to the assessor maybe he could help clarify I know he isn't here right now and I don't know if you were able to do that for the constituents that were asking maybe he had another understanding or why he assessed the way he did but he was always helpful with the questions that you are asking and he did a lot of the assessments so maybe he can help is what I am just offering to the constituents."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "I just want to kind of step away from this a little bit, the houses that were flooded and haven't been gutted and we are compiling a list correct and the DA is handling that? I just want to put that publicly out so the residents can know what is going on with these houses."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I will just add something and I did get a call and I guess the concern from the resident that I had was that they wanted to be found substantially damaged so that they could tap into some of that money whereas some of the homes that are smaller where the elevation isn't as costly it would make some financial sense to them to elevate and I guess reduce the risk of being flooded again because they don't know exactly when or if the hurricane protection levee is coming so they wanted to be found substantially damaged so that they could access that money. So you are saying that they can come back to your office?"

Angelic Sutherland stated, "They would have to come into the office with a contractors estimate because again the numbers that we use are based on FEMA's damage assessment. So if they are disputing and saying that the damage is more than what we have on record through our damage assessment they would need to bring in their contractor's estimate."

Councilman Gauff asked, "If you are found to be substantially damaged, I'm not exactly sure where you are talking about, I know in Cambridge and Revere but suppose I live next door to someone that you are saying is substantially damaged and I am not then you are going to raise five feet. Are you allowed to do that? What are you going to do to me and the rest of the neighbors that haven't been raised? Is that possible?"

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Well as it is right now on the substantial damage list we do have a situation where we have one house on one street that is already considered substantially damaged based on the list that Angelic provided to us. So we already have that situation that is set for by FEMA. You don't have to go up five feet. If the base flood elevation is at six and you are at 5.8 then you really only need

to come up to the base flood elevation not the five feet but you will see that even in Kenner on E. Loyola one house is five feet higher than the neighbor and it was based on where that house is according to the base flood elevation."

Angelic Sutherland stated, "Right and that is the same issue that you have with new construction because let's say you have new commercial buildings and you may have ones that were built years ago until we adopted the flood maps and so they are at a lower elevation but everyone coming in now has to build at their elevation. If you see on Highway 51 where you have a lot of those businesses closer to the Interstate you will see that Wendy's and Burger King are built higher than the other ones that have been there for a while."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I think Ms. Sutherland has covered a lot of it but when you brought that up I think it was at the Cambridge Association meeting Mr. Snyder one of the representatives got up and spoke about just what you are saying and that is problematic so I don't know that I think FEMA is in the process of changing their regulations to where they are going to be doing things differently. I know it used to be if your house was built you were allowed to go back to the elevation that was then adopted when you built your house. I think they are looking at that is costing them because they are allowing people to build below the existing or to repair below the existing elevation which pretty much means you are going to flood again if you know it should be here and you might remember the exact discussion but they were very concerned that the legislation that is going into effect that will affect your flood insurance if you choose to say at that lower level rather than come up to the necessary elevation. Again that information was provided by FEMA at the neighborhood association where quite a few of the homes flooded and we have not gotten anything in detail yet but they are concerned that you will get increased rates on your insurance if you choose not to build to a level that is sufficient or to rebuild back to that level."

Councilman Madere stated, "I think what Mr. Gauff said brought something to mind. If the house next door is elevated and I think if I am not wrong he was worried about the person next door getting flooded out from the water from raising the other home up and earlier in the year Ms. Sutherland I think you might remember you told me that there is a law that the neighbor next door doesn't have the right to flood the other neighbors out. I think you said it was a state law."

Natalie Robottom stated, "There is an ordinance that you are not allowed to build and flood your neighbor's property but if you raise your property to keep it from flooding or elevate your home which is what we are talking about elevating the home rather than building up the property then as long as it is not an adverse effect on your neighbor there is something on the books right now but I think what you see in the places that have elevated their homes is that exact thing people's homes are higher not necessarily their property but they elevate their homes so it keeps them from flooding it doesn't necessarily cause your home to flood it just protects theirs from being flooded. You will see a lot of that in the New Orleans area you will see some of the homes are elevated and some are not and to your point Ms. Hotard we try to work with everyone. Initially people wanted to get back into their homes, they knew the cost of elevating the \$31,000.00

that is frequently discussed was insufficient to elevate homes at least to the level that they thought based on prior history of elevation it could be as much at \$90 to \$100,000.00 knowing that they only had \$31,000.00 available to them many people elected to try and work within the allowable system and everything that Ms. Sutherland has explained was allowable you could use your assessment, you could request a modified assessment, you could use an appraisal which probably was higher than an assessed value because it is more detailed, when estimating damage rather than utilizing FEMA's estimate you could get a contractor to go in who understanding what you are looking for going in and doing a more detailed assessment to give you a higher damage cost. So all of those things we are willing to work with all of our residents again the key point to that is that you have the ability to appeal it and when you come in and appeal whatever that decision is you will get some direction whether it is going through the assessor's office or suggesting an appraisal or getting a second contractor's estimate but each individual is different and each home owner and what they wanted is different so again working within the system of what is allowable is what we did. We tried to provide all of the options to our residents some accessed them and these are the kind of things we continued to address right after the storm and it was necessary that you go in and meet and I know initially the assessor was very much involved, I met with him a few times with residents who actually went to him and appealed their assessment and left very happy with the results of that and some others are still working through it but the bottom line is if you have questions about your assessment you need to make an appointment through the P&Z Office and understand and know what all of your options are however right now the amount of money available for elevation is \$31,000.00."

Councilman Wilson stated, "This is a total nightmare and is going to be a serious problem. The property value of all of the homes in the subdivisions that have some elevated and some not is going to ruin the value of the whole subdivision and we need to get with our legislators in Washington and fight for this flood protection levee again this has been going on since I was on the council in 1994 we have been working on this and have gotten nowhere but just a week or so before the storm we sent \$180 billion dollars to Greece to help them with their finances but we can't get \$300 million to build a levee. I think we need to get serious with this and get our people in Washington to get on our side and help us with this."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Mr. Wilson I don't know if this is still on the topic but we have not stopped. It is in my remarks but at the Economic Development breakfast that was sponsored by the three parishes as well as the Port all of our delegation actually addressed the entire group with regards to their efforts in levee protection. We were named initially by the Senates passage of the bill by Isaac which would have allowed for an expedited construction as well as construction funds for our levee however when it went to the house side they removed the Isaac reference. Our legislators who represent this area both drafted an amendment which we saw and approved and it was very simple it just said and Isaac. Wherever they had Sandy they had and Isaac because as I have said repeatedly whatever the residents on the East Coast would need that is what our residents need. They need expedited flood protection so did we, they needed additional funding to help repair their homes so did our people. So it was a very simple fix however the republican body

refused to accept any amendment so whether it was written or not it passed with absolutely no amendments however there are other options. Senator Vitter is chair of the committee that oversees the Corp so he is working hard with them on their funding. We have suggested to them that if a \$60 billion dollar supplemental was passed for Sandy, then possibly some of their projects were already in the Corp's budget and they may not need that money so they can reassign that to what we need which at the time the request was \$750 million out of a \$60 billion dollar bill as I have said previously I consider it a slap in the face that we were not considered and treated the same way our residents were that is one opportunity to follow Senator Vitter's approach in dealing with the Corp and their budget. Senator Landrieu sits on appropriation we are also working with him and Congressman Richmond to work through the president's administrative budget to give us what we need for recovery. Our number one concern is levee protection which is interfering with many of our residents decision to repair, rebuild or come back as well as businesses without feeling a comfort level of knowing that they will be protected that is a concern for us so right now that is our number one focus Chris Guidry who has been working very closely with us has actually made some trips up there as well and met with Senator Vitter's assistant who was here last Friday we are in constant contact with regards to what is important to our people and right now we are asking for a mechanism to fund hurricane protection system for this area because that is critical to our recovery. In addition to and I do want to acknowledge that in the Sandy bill there are opportunities that will help our residents there were funds placed in HUD, there were transportations funds, there are other funds that were described in that bill that were for storms that occurred in 2012 without naming them but that covers us. So we are going to have some opportunities but the most critical piece to that was our levee protection so we are going to continue to work every angle to get to that. Please feel free to assist I think NACO is scheduled for March we are scheduling legislative visits again, we stay in email and phone contacts following what happens they are specific to Corp reform and their budget which is an opportunity to hold Col. Fleming to his commitment that he would find the money to complete the study to move our project forward and also to have our delegation who appear to be on the same page to work every angle possible to get funding for this levee in the near future."

Larry Snyder - Road repair causing standing water

Councilman Snyder stated, "I see where they say it is going to be evaluated and I guess that is all I can ask for but there are some areas I know on Ellerslie for sure whereas I had Mr. Verdell out there and they were doing some work and he saw how the street was a newly repair street and it was high and the drainage around the corner so the water was being kept right there in the block even after all the water drained out there was still water there all the time but it was caused because the road was tore up and the cement was put there and it was wasn't the right grade same thing like back on Revere it is the exact same thing where cement was torn up and more put down but the grade wasn't right so the water doesn't drain, it just sits there and cannot get to the drains. I see that they say they are going to be evaluating so that is fine no problem let's look at it and if we can do something with it fine even if we have to shave it down but something needs to be done about it."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "If this was a repair that was done by a contractor they need to come back out and redo it and fix it right and grade it down that is what we pay them to do and they need to come back and do it properly."

Natalie Robottom stated, "We were just discussing that and if there is a need to be monitoring the jobs that we are supposed to be approving as they are done but this one was done several years ago so we are still going to be looking at that but it also points to the fact that before we sign off on the work that is being done we need to have somebody out there to assure that it is right when they are doing it so we can hold them to making sure if it is too high that they do shave it but we had some other things going on at Ellerslie too there is something else and we actually met about it there are a couple of things that we are looking at on a broader picture for that entire area with regards to drainage. I know our citizen's advisory committee members are also looking at some infrastructure things but we will definitely be looking at those and pay closer attention to what is happening now."

Councilman Snyder stated, "That is going to have to be shot with a grade and that is the only way they are going to get that right because just looking at it, it looks beautiful but when it rains the water sits."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I think that is what Brian has proposed in going back out especially in those areas but if there are any others please make us aware of it but moving forward we need to just make sure that the grade is correct."

Councilman Gauff stated, "Since we are on that issue there was some work done on Capt. Bourgeois some drainage work and there were some barricades that were left up for a while and now there is just a big hole and I didn't right the work order so I am not faulting anyone but I am faulting the work that was done and for us to leave it like this without repairing it and I am thinking that it is our drainage department because they tore the street up and put barricades I am not sure who did it but I would like for someone to take a look at it to see what work was done along Capt. Bourgeois that they did not repair that properly they left it in pretty bad shape."

Councilman Madere stated, "I agree with Mrs. Millet because I have a problem since I have been in office on E. 20th & E. 21st Street. They repaired the road on E. 20th Street and I just can't understand why we would tilt a highway towards the ditch and when you tilt the highway that means the water sits in the other area and doesn't go over until it rises above the road and the people between 20th & 21st Streets the only ditch is on the left side of 20th Street and the only other way left for it to get out is on 22nd or 23rd Street so the individuals between 20th & 21st are trapped in water and I couldn't understand why and when I took office I had them to put a couple of pipes across to the ditch to allow some of the water to get out but when you repair that road and tilt that road this way then all the houses on this side needed a pipe or something to allow the water to get off of their property I couldn't understand that and if you look down 20th Street you might think you have been drinking a little bit because the road is

tilted."

Natalie Robottom stated, "I will let Brian address this but obviously these are specific instances and if you could refer them to us we do have a parish engineer who is designing and repairing our road repairs now I am not sure if that was one of them but you know initially asphalt repairs were just left to the contractor but now there is actually a design and an inspector onsite that represents the parish so if there is something specific that you have a concern about please get us that. I do recall when those streets were done. We also had issues with for a number of years we continued to add asphalt on top of roads and the water drained into the residents homes so lately when we do these asphalt designs they are pulverizing and decreasing the height of the road so that as you add asphalt you don't continue to build up the road and having the water drain into the resident's property so we are making some changes now to account for that. If there are incidents that you know of please let us know so that we can follow up on them but we are doing things now to try to prevent those things from happening."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I have to say maybe if we had a drainage department to go out there and check this out that wouldn't be happening."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I had met with Mr. Nunes about doing the concrete repairs if we can have the repairs from joint to joint so that we don't have these squares that you cut out here and there and they give some elevation problems then you disrupt the rest of that joint if going forward with our concrete road repairs you know most of the parishes they do repair joint to joint they don't do the cut outs so if we can look into doing that."

Brian Nunes asked, "Just go to a full panel replacement as opposed to the saw cut?"

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "Yes because it protects the whole piece once you do the saw cut later on you are probably going to have a problem somewhere else because you have disrupted the joint. If you go from seem to seem it should last longer."

Ranney Wilson - Drainage department, purchasing and repairing equipment

Councilman Wilson commented that he will wait until the next meeting and allow administration to come back with their findings.

Lennix Madere - Progressive Waste Solutions - Garbage issues

Councilman Madere stated, "Yes myself and Mr. Gauff met with Mr. Davis and Mr. Carter after I called in a couple of complaints and didn't get a response that is why I put them on the agenda and right away I got a response and a meeting with them. So we basically came to an agreement and understanding at the meeting and he wanted to have it removed from the agenda but I told him I was leaving it on there because I wanted the residents to know what we talked about and the concern I had was the fact that they are being paid to pick up garbage and not drop and leave garbage on the road and that was my biggest concern that when you drop it make sure that you pick it up and don't leave it. I expressed

to him that we already have enough drainage problems in the parish we don't need Progressive to contribute to our drainage problems by having trash go into the canals and they have assured me that they are going to do a better job with that and I just would like to say if anyone sees anything other than that please let me know and we will get them in here live and in person because this is something that has to be taken care of. You see they pick up trash don't drop it and if you drop it please stop and pick it up."

Councilman Gauff stated, "We also spoke with them about cart repairs. They did want us to let you know that the cans are on back order and you can call us or Progressive and give them the address and as soon as their shipment comes in they will be repairing or replacing the cans."

Lennix Madere - DRC - Update

The above item will be carried over to the next agenda - there was no one present from DRC.

Lennix Madere - Comcast - Customer billing issues

The above item will be carried over to the next agenda - there was no one present from Comcast.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Natalie Robottom - Resolution - R13-03 - A Resolution adopting a Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire as a required part of St. John the Baptist Parish's annual financial and compliance audit

Natalie Robottom stated, "This resolution enables the Parish President to complete the Compliance Questionnaire as a required component of St. John Parish's 2012 financial and compliance audit."

MOTION: Councilman Wilson moved and Councilman Snyder seconded the motion to approve Resolution R13-03. A Resolution adopting a Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire as a required part of St. John the Baptist Parish's annual financial and compliance audit. The motion passed with Councilman Smith absent.

Theresa Rodgers - Resolution - R13-04 - A Resolution approving the contract renewal of Guidry Associates, LLC as the Legislative Liaison for the River Region Caucus under a two-year agreement

Theresa Rodgers stated, "On January 9, 2013, the members of the River Region Caucus voted, subject to Resolutions adopted by the Parish Councils of Ascension, St. Charles, St. James and St. John the Baptist, to approve a two-year contract renewal with Guidry Associates, LLC as the Legislative Liaison. This agreement is for a period of two years in the amount of \$28,000 a year which is divided among the four parish caucus."

MOTION: Councilman Gauff moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the

motion to approve Resolution R13-04. A Resolution approving the contract renewal of Guidry Associates, LLC as the Legislative Liaison for the River Region Caucus under a two-year agreement. The motion passed with Councilman Smith absent.

PRESIDENT' S REMARKS

Natalie Robottom stated, "Good Afternoon - I hope everyone had a safe and Happy Mardi Gras! We have scheduled a wrap-up meeting for next week to discuss issues or concerns for both parades and plans for improvement. I would like to thank everyone for their work on both Towahpahsah and DuMonde parades and to all who participated for keeping it a family event. Managing both parades requires a coordinated effort and both were great events. At the beginning of the month, the River Region Economic Development Initiative (St. John, St. James, St. Charles & Port of South Louisiana) hosted its annual Economic Development Breakfast in Washington DC and attended the National Chamber of Commerce Luncheon to discuss future projects. The breakfast was a huge success as the Senators and Representatives for the River Region addressed the group relative to upcoming legislation and opportunities in the near future. They are continue to work with us to provide financial relief and assistance to our residents impacted by Hurricane Isaac and have vowed to continue to work to secure levee protection for our area. Levee protection is our number one concern as it is a driver for our recovery. Thank you to everyone who attended the National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF) Community Advisory Committee (CAC) open houses. The group received numerous suggestions and ideas on all topics. Residents who were unable to attend the meetings can still participate by visiting www.sjbparish.com and clicking on One Parish, One Future Building Back Better and Stronger link to an online survey. The Citizens Advisory Committee will continue to develop projects that meet the suggestions and ideas of the residents. Once these projects are developed, another round of open houses will be held to receive the resident's vote on projects that should take place in the community. Once those meetings are set up, more information will be released. I'd also like to thank all who attended the Public Meetings on the Parks Master Plan. We appreciated all input from those who attended the meetings. Once a final draft is completed, it will be presented before adopting. Congratulations to owner and operator Kathy Mesmer of Kathy's Party Store on their grand opening last week. Kathy's Party Store is located at 1512 West Airline Hwy in Riverlands Plaza near Smoothie King. Kathy's Party Store features a large assortment of party supplies for all ages including tableware, decorations, favors, invitations and balloons. Theme party

and holiday items are also available for purchase. The store is currently offering Valentine's Day and St. Patrick's Day merchandise. Items can be ordered by request. Kathy's Party Store is open seven days per week, 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Sunday. For more information, call (985) 359-1717. There are several Black History Celebrations scheduled this month and the following programs are scheduled: **Sunday, February 17th at 11:00 to 1:00** - 2nd African Baptist Church - Reverend C.Z. Mollaire - 136 West Third St. Edgard **Sunday, February 17th at 4:00 to 6:00** - Harvest Time Christian Center - Pastor Eldridge Moll, Jr. - 1295 Hwy 18, Edgard - Next to Lucy Fire Station. **Sunday, February 24th at 11:00-12:30** - St. Michael's Baptist Church Youth Ministry - 701 Colony Dr. The Cambridge/Colony Homeowner's Association will hold a meeting on Saturday, **February 16 at 9:00 a.m.** at the Arcuri Center located at 1020 Cambridge Drive in LaPlace. Resources available to Cambridge/Colony residents will be discussed. All residents in this subdivision are encouraged to attend. In recognition of Heart Health Month, St John Parish Human Resources is sponsoring a Brown Bag Lunch and Learn for Parish Employees: Love Thy Heart on **February 21 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** in the Council Chambers. Pam Pourciau, Certified Nurse Practitioner at River Parish Hospital Occupational Medicine Center will speak on maintaining a healthy heart. All employees are encouraged to bring their lunch and learn heart health tips. The 5th Annual Cancer Survivor's Brunch is **February 23rd from 9:00 to 10:00 am** at the VFW Hall on W. 5th ST. in LaPlace - All cancer survivors are invited. St. John Parish Animal Rabies Vaccination Campaign will take place on Saturday, **March 2, 2013** for free at the following locations: LaPlace

Wayne Jacob's Smokehouse at 8:00 a.m. Super Foods Grocery at 9:00 a.m. River Forest Subdivision at 9:30 a.m. Capital One (Airline) at 10:30 a.m. Reserve & Garyville East St. John High School at 12:00p.m. Garyville Post Office at 1:00p.m. Westbank Club's Grocery - Edgard (River Road) at 2:00 p.m. Duck's Ice Inc. - Edgard (River Road) at 2:30 p.m. Household Hazardous Materials Collection Day will also take place on **March 16, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** at Plaza LaPlace Shopping Center located at 1921 W. Airline Hwy. in LaPlace (New Wine Parking Lot) Residents can drop off paint, solvents, auto batteries, used oil, and computers for proper disposal. Visit www.hhmed.com for a complete list of acceptable materials or call the HHMCD hotline 504-465-7444 and leave a message. A ribbon cutting for La Belle Place will be held on Monday, **February 18, 2013 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.** La Belle Place is located at 1905 West Airline Hwy in LaPlace. La Belle Place is comprised of a Reception and Conference Center, The Baloney Funeral Home, and Broussard Baloney Law Firm. I'd like to wish everyone a very Happy Valentine's Day!"

COUNCIL BRIEFS

Councilman Wilson stated, "I would like to give my condolences to Mr. Larry Snyder and his family for the loss of his grandson. May God be with you and your family."

Councilman Madere stated, "I would also like to do the same. There are a couple of things I would like to say one Mrs. Robottom spoke about black history month I had an incident that happened and I am not going to name the fast food restaurant where an individual placed an order and was basically ignored and had to repeat the order and produce a ticket in order to get the order that he had made but previously other individuals just stepped up and received them and it was based solely on how this man was dressed and he didn't appreciate it and I didn't appreciate it and after he left and my order came up I wasn't subjected to the same type of thing as he was and I went outside and spoke with him about it and he was upset and I told him I was going to mention it at the council meeting because I don't think this should be going on at this time in St. John Parish or anywhere else. I think everyone should be judged the same regardless of how you look or dress and I didn't appreciate it and thought it was something that I needed to bring out and say at the meeting. This type of thing shouldn't be going on anywhere. Now regarding Valentine's Day, I would like to wish a very lovely day to my wife and my daughters and everyone else but I would also like to wish Mrs. Robottom and the female portion of her staff a Happy Valentine's Day. I would also like to wish a speedy recovery to Mr. Art Smith and he is doing better so we look forward to seeing him really soon. I would also like to give my condolences to Mr. Wilson's family."

Councilman Perrilloux stated, "I would also like to echo get well wishes to Art and condolences to Councilman Snyder and his family and to Councilman Wilson and his family and I would like to say Happy Valentine's Day to my wife and girls I hope they have a good one."

Councilman Wright stated, "I would like to echo the sentiments of the council and I do want to offer to Mr. Wilson and Mr. Snyder my condolences to your families and also a speedy recovery to Mr. Smith and a Happy Valentine's Day."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Thanks to everybody for the prayers, calls, cards and emails about my grandson. It really helps trust me. I would like to see Art get better soon. We need to get more people out to the Association meetings. I didn't get to the parade because I was working but it looks like the parish and the sheriff did a tremendous job. I would like to give condolences to the Martin family and to the Kelson family they lost a soldier who fought in World War II."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "I would like to echo my fellow council members on their condolences to Mr. Wilson and Mr. Snyder and Mr. Smith I do miss you over there buddy come on back. Also I want to wish my husband Happy Valentine's Day because he complains that I never talk about him at the meetings so I will probably forget tomorrow. I also want to let everyone know that I was contacted a few months ago by a company called Free Library and we did install a free library and I want to let the residents of my district know that the library is in place located at 1925 Ridgefield and you just drop off a book and pick up a book. It is a community service and is opened and there for the public to use. I just wanted to let everyone know we will have a grand

opening on that in the next couple of weeks and if anyone is interested in having a free library they are always looking for places to put those so get in touch with me and I will let you know or put you in contact with the people that are involved with that."

Councilman Gauff stated, "I would just like to send my condolences to Mr. Wilson and Mr. Snyder. Art get well buddy we miss you. I have been calling and emailing and he has yet to respond. I would also like to congratulate the crews of DuMonde and Towahpahsa for their parades I had a lot of fun at the LaPlace Parade. I want to thank the state police, the sheriff's office and the administration for keeping us informed and for giving us such a safe Mardi Gras. I got a lot of calls if we would even have Mardi Gras and I think we did a great job. I would also like to say that DuPont is having their black history program on February 28th and it is at 5:00 that evening. Also I would like to congratulate all of the athletes from St. John the Baptist Parish that got scholarships or signed their letters of intent anyways. This is a great opportunity for these young men and women to further their education and their futures so this is a big success for our parish and hopefully we can recognize them or get a list of names to publicly recognize these people that are given the opportunity to further their education and hopefully they don't squander that. Please get your education it opens more doors to your future and Happy Valentine's Day."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I would like to also pass my condolences onto Mr. Wilson and Mr. Snyder's families and also to wish everyone a Happy Valentine's Day."

MOTION: Councilman Gauff moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to go into executive session to discuss LaPlace Industrial Properties, LLC versus The Parish of St. John the Baptist - 40th JDC, Docket No. 61301. The motion passed with Councilman Smith absent.

MOTION: Councilman Gauff moved and Councilwoman Millet seconded the motion to go back into regular session. The motion passed with Councilman Smith 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 8:20 PM, Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Perrilloux seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilman Smith absent.

/s/Jaclyn Hotard
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
Council Secretary