

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS**  
**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL**  
**TUESDAY, April 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2010**  
**CHAIR RONNIE SMITH**  
**VICE CHAIR CHERYL MILLET**

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, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010, at 6:30 PM.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

**PRESENT AT ROLL CALL:** Haston Lewis, Councilman District I, Darnel Usry, Councilwoman District V, Charles Julien, Councilman District III, Ronnie Smith, Councilman District VI, Cheryl Millet, Councilwoman District VII, Steve Lee, Councilman-at-Large, Div. B, Jaclyn Hotard, Councilwoman District IV, Danny Millet, Councilman District II, Dale Wolfe, Councilman-at-Large, Div. A

**ABSENT:** None

Councilwoman Usry led the Prayer. Councilwoman Hotard led the Pledge.

Legal Counsel Kerry Brown was present.

**Proclamation – Keep St. John Beautiful Month – April 2010**

Buddy Boe stated, *"I'm just going to read the last paragraph. Now, Therefore, I, Patrick T. McTopy, Acting Parish President in conjunction with St. John the Baptist Parish Council Members do hereby proclaim April, 2010 as Keep St. John Beautiful Month in St. John the Baptist Parish."*

**Consent Agenda**

**Items:** Approval of Minutes March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2010, Regular Meeting; added Permit Approval – Rising Star Baptist Church – Fun Walk/run – Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010 – 8:00 AM

**MOTION:** Councilman Julien moved and Councilman Millet seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2010, Regular Meeting; Permit Approval – Rising Star Baptist Church – Fun walk/run – 04-24-10 – 8:00 AM. The motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:**

**10-04** (Tabled 03-23-10)(Public Hearing Held)An ordinance to re-zone the Old Wallace School Lot Area 1 from R-1 to C-1 and Area 2 from R-1 to C-1, Wallace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (PZ-09-005) (P. McTopy)

**MOTION:** Councilman Lewis moved and Councilman Millet seconded the motion to remove Ordinance 10-04 from the table. The motion passed

unanimously.

Mike Henderson, Director of Planning and Zoning, stated, "This applicant has requested a rezoning of the property as you all know from your packets. We have identified that there has been some legal discrepancies as to the ownership of the property. Naturally to rezone a piece of property you need to first own it. We do have a declaration from the court that identifies the applicant as the owner. We have been told by our legal counsel that there are currently no other arguments for or against that. The council did delay the rezoning at its last meeting and tabled it which enabled all the parties involved to have any kind of a legal argument to be able to make their arguments before the court. To my knowledge that has not been done. I guess what I am really trying to say is that it really has become a legal issue. I would like to recommend to you to talk to your legal counsel."

Kerry Brown, Legal Counsel, stated, "Mr. Perilloux who is not here tonight is the one who is advising Mr. Henderson. Mr. Perilloux sent me a message recently a recommendation that he needs to receive from the zoning board to the council as it relates to where the zoning board stood on that issue. There was a legal question as to whether or not the 45 days from the point that it was presented had created a problem for the council to move forward on it. Mr. Perilloux is the one who pretty much handled everything with it. He did in fact notify me that he thought that there should first of all come a recommendation before the council makes a decision on it. At that point I am just making sure that Mr. Henderson realizes I think what Jeff was telling me was that there has to be a recommendation first presented to you before you proceed forward with any decisions as to whether or not you proceed forward or what you do with it. I was just letting you know that is what Mr. Perilloux notified me that I must in fact notify you."

Mike Henderson stated, "Just for clarification, the ordinance says that it first goes to the planning commission. It went to the planning commission and it passed based on the recommendation letter that we have from our attorney. From there the procedure says I forward it to the parish council and we have done that."

Councilman Smith stated, "Be advised that the reason this was not opened to the public for comment is because we had public discussion on this at an earlier meeting. At this time are there any comments from the council?"

Councilman Julien stated, "I just have some questions. I would ask because both sides have been coming to the meetings diligently trying to figure out what's going on. I would ask that maybe I could meet with Mr. Perilloux to find out exactly what's going on. To be honest with you I am kind of lost in the whole process. So I would ask at this point, Jackie if you could set up a meeting with Mr. Perilloux for me so that I could get some clarity for myself."

Councilwoman Usry stated, "I would like to see some paper work with this."

Mike Henderson stated, "You should have received a letter from the District Attorney. You should have a letter that was forwarded to the planning and zoning department requesting that we send it to the

*planning commission. That's how it went to the planning commission. It was originally denied. We received from the District Attorney a note saying that we need to move forward with it. That's how we got to where we are. I did that based on he is your legal counsel. It should be in your packet Mrs. Usry."*

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Usry moved and Councilwoman Hotard seconded the motion to take a five minute recess. The motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Councilman Julien moved and Councilwoman Usry seconded the motion to reconvene the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

*Kerry Brown stated, "Again like I earlier said, you dealt with an issue that was tied to a request for a rezoning. There was in fact a recommendation made by the Zoning Board on February 9th, 2009. I just want to reference and bring your attention to our ordinance Section 33:145 - It states actions by the governing authority. That particular ordinance reads that the governing authority shall not take official action until a report of the planning and zoning commission is received. You in fact received it on February 9th, 2010. The final vote shall have been taken on the proposal by the governing authority within 45 days after the report has been received from the planning and zoning commission. More than 60 days have lapsed since that particular report was given to you. In the event that no final vote is taken the proposal shall be automatically approved. What I would recommend to this council is that your desire to make any vote on this issue becomes a moot point because your tabling it the last time pretty much extended the time period on this therefore the request that was made should be operation of law be approved. Now I know that there is an issue tied to ownership. From my understanding some of the owners do have an issue that they believe may be a ripe issue in court. They have every right to keep challenging what they are doing in court never the less the request for the rezoning and the issues that were brought before you. What governs your authority to act is the ordinance that I recently read. Therefore in my opinion any action you take would be moot because by operation of our ordinances which govern your authority to act on this issue 45 days have lapsed. The request for the rezoning should be granted based upon the fact that we did not make a timely make a decision on it. The owners or those contesting that issue have every right to move forward in court and fight as long as they want to fight. In the event that a judgment comes in their favor, whoever is challenging that issue of ownership they have every right to come back before this board to request to have whatever actions that may have been done to be undone if they are in fact the rightful owner."*

Councilman Smith stated, "Thank you Mr. Brown."

**10-06** (Tabled 03-23-10) An ordinance adopting and enacting a new code for St. John the Baptist, Louisiana; providing for the repeal of certain ordinances not included therein; providing a penalty for the violation thereof; providing for the manner of amending such code; and providing when such code and this ordinance shall become effective. (P. McTopy)

**MOTION:** Councilman Julien moved and Councilman Millet seconded the motion to remove Ordinance 10-06 from the table. The motion passed unanimously.

Mike Henderson stated, "This ordinance is related to the contract that we now have with Municode Corporation which was hired to do the codification of our codes. When you read it, it sounds like we are creating a new code. I want to assure you we have not created any new codes. What we did do was in the codes that are in place we went through and removed those items that had become subordinate to state law. You can't create an ordinance that is already in the state law. We basically cleaned up some of the verbiage and sentencing and those kinds of things. So we have not created any new ordinances. What has taken place is this is just the end result of our contract with Municode. It is a very good system. I believe it reduced the code of ordinance. It will be updated much quicker online. I think you will be very pleased with it. It is a good contract and the work that they have done we have taken almost 8 months and we have gone through chapter by chapter and we have reviewed and changed and reviewed and changed and we have gotten to the various department heads and given them opportunity to sign off and I think you will be pleased with the end result."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "I just have one comment. After having a meeting with Mr. Henderson and Ms. Murray on this I feel very comfortable and want to commend you on the job that has been done because it does bring our parish much more accessible to the outside. I commend you for all of your efforts that you did put into that. Thank you administration as well."

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Lee seconded the motion to accept Ordinance 10-06. The motion passed unanimously.

**10-07** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance amending Ordinance 09-33 relative to the Annual Operating Budgets for the St. John the Baptist Parish General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, Enterprise Funds and Parishwide Sewerage Construction Fund for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2009 and ending December 31, 2009. (P. McTopy)

Buddy Boe stated, "This is the annual ordinance that basically closes out the 2009 books in anticipation of beginning the auditing process. We ask for your approval. The auditors have begun their process and this is the first year, 2009 that all of our financials are on laserfische which is our electronic document management system. Which should expedite the auditing process. We are very proud of that. It has been a very labor intensive process."

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Lee seconded the motion to accept Ordinance 10-07. The motion passed unanimously.

**10-08** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance granting approval of the revocation of that portion of the right-of-way of Evangeline Court of Chateau Acadian Subdivision located at the dead end of Evangeline Court, situated in Sections 21, T-11-S, R-7-E, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana; all as shown on a plat prepared by Stephen P. Flynn, PLS, dated March 20, 2010, attached hereto; whereby that portion of the right-of-way of Evangeline Street is no longer needed for a public purpose. (P. McTopy)

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilwoman Usry seconded the

motion to accept Ordinance 10-08. The motion passed unanimously.

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:**

There were no ordinances to be introduced at this time.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Councilman Julien stated, *"At 6:00 PM this evening the finance committee met. At this time, I make a motion to accept the recommendations of the finance committee."*

**MOTION:** Councilman Julien moved and Councilman Millet seconded the motion to accept the recommendation of the finance committee. The committee approved to reject the bids for the generator housing and re-bid the project, approved to award the Lions Water Treatment Plant expansion to Sea-level Construction in the amount of \$3,636,000, approved to grant administration authorization to go out for bids for the Ruddock Station #3 Ground Storage Tank rehabilitation funded by the Water Enrichment Grant Fund, approved to grant administration authorization to execute the cooperative endeavor agreement between St. John the Baptist Parish and South Central Planning and Development Commission – Inspection Services , approved to grant administration authorization to sign all agreements in connection with the Andouille Festival, approved to grant administration authorization to sign a cooperative endeavor agreement with the DOTD for completion of that portion of engineering design of Woodland Drive funded by the state, approved to grant administration authorization to seek public bids for the sale of Lots 18, 19 and 20 of Cali Subdivision extension number one located on Cardinal Street in LaPlace and approved to renew the three existing Code Enforcement Officer contracts The motion passed unanimously.

**DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:**

**Dale Wolfe - Personnel Matters**

There were no personnel matters at this time.

**Dale Wolfe – (Carry over 03-23-10) Trailer Placement Permit – Deatrice Gauff, Lot 52 Little Hope Street, Garyville – Overturn Planning & Zonings decision**

Councilman Wolfe stated, *"So moved."*

**MOTION:** Councilman Wolfe moved and Councilman Julien seconded the motion to grant a trailer placement to Deatrice Gauff, Lot 52 Little Hope Street, Garyville, Louisiana. The motion passed with 8 yeas and 1 abstaining (Cheryl Millet).

**OLD BUSINESS:**

There was no old business.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Hugh Martin – Resolution – R10-17 – A Resolution providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the result of the special election held in the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, on Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2010 to authorize the levy of a special tax therein**

Hugh Martin, Bond Attorney, stated, "Mr. Jason Ackens with our office will make the presentation."

Jason Ackens, Foley & Judell, stated, "The results of the election from the March 27th election date were a total of 5,531 votes in favor, 3,851 votes against with a majority for over 1,680 votes. The proposition only required a simple majority and it garnered that. The resolution before you adopts the Proce's Verbal which allows the filing of the election results everywhere that is required and the publication as required by law to be in the preemption period. I would be happy to answer any questions that you may have about that resolution."

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Millet seconded the motion to accept Resolution R-10-17. A Resolution providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the result of the special election held in the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, on Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2010 to authorize the levy of a special tax therein. BE IT RESOLVED by the Parish Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, that: SECTION 1. Canvass. This Governing Authority does now proceed in open and public session to examine the official tabulations of votes cast at the special election held in the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, on SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 2010, to authorize the levy of a special tax therein, and said Governing Authority does further proceed to examine and canvass the returns and declare the result of the special election. SECTION 2. Proce's Verbal. A *Proce's Verbal* of the canvass of the returns of said election shall be made and a certified copy thereof shall be forwarded to the Secretary of State, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, who shall record the same in his office; another certified copy thereof shall be forwarded to the Clerk of Court and *Ex-Officio* Recorder of Mortgages in and for the Parish of St. John the Baptist, who shall record the same in the Mortgage Records of said Parish; and another copy thereof shall be retained in the archives of this Governing Authority. SECTION 3. Promulgation of Election Result. The result of said election shall be promulgated by publication in the manner provided by law. The motion passed unanimously.

**Pat McTopy – Resolution – R10-18 – A Resolution proclaiming April as Fair Housing Month**

Pat McTopy stated, "*WHEREAS, the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, as amended states that "...no person shall be subjected to discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin in the sale, rental, or advertising of dwellings, in the provision of brokerage services, or in the availability of residential real estate-related transaction including lenders, builders and homeowners insurance companies..."* and *WHEREAS, the State of Louisiana passed the Louisiana Equal Housing Opportunity Act which allows the Louisiana Attorney General's Office to enforce fair housing laws, and WHEREAS, St. John the Baptist Parish desires to promote Fair Housing practices throughout the community and in particular regard to those programs providing housing assistance to area residents. NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, does hereby proclaim April as "Fair Housing Month" in order to raise public awareness about the requirements of the Fair Housing Law, and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to South Central Planning and Development Commission.*"

**MOTION:** Councilman Lewis moved and Councilman Millet seconded the motion to accept Resolution R10-18. A Resolution proclaiming April as Fair Housing Month. *WHEREAS, the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, as amended states that "...no person shall be subjected to discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin in the sale, rental, or advertising of dwellings, in the provision of brokerage services, or in the availability of residential real estate-related transaction including lenders, builders and homeowners insurance companies..."* and *WHEREAS, the State of Louisiana passed the Louisiana Equal Housing Opportunity Act which allows the Louisiana Attorney General's Office to enforce fair housing laws, and WHEREAS, St. John the Baptist Parish desires to promote Fair Housing practices throughout the community and in particular regard to those programs providing housing assistance to area residents. NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, does hereby proclaim April as "Fair Housing Month" in order to raise public awareness about the requirements of the Fair Housing Law, and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to South Central Planning and Development Commission. The motion passed unanimously.*

**Hugh Martin – Resolution – R10-19 – A Resolution authorizing the advertising for sealed bids for the purchase of not exceeding \$1,400,000 of Public Improvement Bonds, Series ST-2010B, of the St. John the Baptist Parish Sales Tax District, and providing for other matters in connection therewith**

Jason Ackens stated, "*The resolution before you authorizes the borrowing of money from the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality. The Louisiana DEQ has a revolving loan program that makes very low interest loans to public bodies such as yourself or in this case the sales tax district. The money will be used for sewer work in the parish. It will be secured by the 1% sales tax that is currently in place. Even though it is a loan from a state body from a revolving loan fund it does require us to go through the typical bond issuing process*

*which requires the publication of an advertisement for bids for the bonds not the project, well the project also but in this case the bonds. That is the resolution before you. It authorizes the publication of the advertising of the notice of sale. It authorizes us to pursue the approval of the Louisiana State Bond Commission and it takes other actions in connection there with all leading up to an ordinance that will be back before you on your meeting of May 11th."*

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Usry moved and Councilman Julien seconded the motion to approve Resolution R10-19. A Resolution authorizing the advertising for sealed bids for the purchase of not exceeding \$1,400,000 of Public Improvement Bonds, Series ST-2010B, of the St. John the Baptist Parish Sales Tax District, and providing for other matters in connection therewith BE IT RESOLVED by the Parish Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana (the AGoverning Authority@), acting as the governing authority of the St. John the Baptist Parish Sales Tax District (the AIssuer@) that: SECTION Advertisement for Sale. The Issuer is hereby empowered, authorized and directed to advertise in accordance with the provisions of law for sealed bids for the purchase of not exceeding One Million Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,400,000) of Public Improvement Bonds, Series ST-2010B (the ABonds@) of the Issuer. The Bonds will be issued for the purpose of constructing and acquiring capital improvements for the sewer collection and treatment system for the Issuer (the AProject@), pursuant to Sub-Part F, Part III, Chapter 4 of Title 39 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, and other constitutional and statutory authority. The Bonds may be issued in one or more series as taxable bonds and shall be payable solely from and secured, equally in all respects with the Issuer=s outstanding (i) Public Improvement Bonds, Series ST-2010 and (ii) Public Improvement Refunding Bonds, Series ST-1999 (collectively, the AOutstanding Parity Bonds@), by an irrevocable pledge and dedication of the avails or proceeds of the special one percent (1%) sales and use tax being levied and collected by the Issuer, pursuant to elections held in the Issuer on November 16, 1985 and January 19, 2002 (collectively, the ATax@), subject only to the prior payment of the reasonable and necessary costs and expenses of collecting and administering the Tax, and after making payments required by certain outstanding (i) Public Improvement Bonds, Series ST-1996, dated October 1, 1996 and (ii) Public Improvement Refunding Bonds, Series ST-1996, dated December 1, 1996, of the Issuer (collectively, the AOutstanding Prior Lien Bonds@). SECTION Basic Terms of Bonds. The Bonds will be in fully registered form, will be dated the date of delivery thereof, will be in the denomination of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) each, or any integral multiple thereof within a single maturity, and will bear interest from date thereof, or the most recent interest payment date to which interest has been paid or duly provided for, at a rate or rates not exceeding two per centum (2%) per annum (including an administrative fee, if any) on any Bond in any interest payment period, said interest to be payable on June 1, 2010, and semiannually thereafter on June 1 and December 1 of each year as determined by the Governing Authority. SECTION Sale of Bonds. The Bonds shall be sold in the manner required by law, and in accordance with the terms of this resolution and the official Notice of Bond Sale herein set forth. In advertising the Bonds for sale, the Governing Authority shall reserve the right to reject any and all bids received. SECTION Notice of Bond Sale. The President of the Issuer is hereby further empowered, authorized and directed to issue a Notice of Bond

Sale and cause the same to be published as required by law, which Notice of Bond Sale shall be in substantially the following form:

OFFICIAL NOTICE OF BOND SALE NOT EXCEEDING \$1,400,000 PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT BONDS, SERIES ST-2010B OF THE ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH SALES TAX DISTRICT NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Parish Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana (the AGoverning Authority@), acting as the governing authority of the St. John the Baptist Parish Sales Tax District (the AIssuer@), will receive sealed bids or electronic bids at the Parish Council Office, 1801 W. Airline Hwy., LaPlace, Louisiana 70068, until six thirty (6:30) o'clock p.m., Louisiana Time, Central Time, on Tuesday, May 11, 2010 (or such other date as may be determined by the Acting Parish President) for the purchase of not exceeding One Million Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,400,000) of Sales Tax Bonds, Series 2010 (the "Bonds") of the Issuer, authorized for the purpose of constructing and acquiring capital improvements for the sewer collection and treatment system for the Issuer, pursuant to Sub-Part F, Part III, Chapter 4 of Title 39 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, and other constitutional and statutory authority. The Bonds may be issued in one or more series as taxable bonds and shall be payable solely from and secured by, equally in all respects with the Issuer=s outstanding (i) Public Improvement Bonds, Series ST-2010 and (ii) Public Improvement Refunding Bonds, Series ST-1999 (collectively, the AOutstanding Parity Bonds@), by an irrevocable pledge and dedication of the avails or proceeds of the special one percent (1%) sales and use tax being levied and collected by the Issuer, pursuant to elections held in the Issuer on November 16, 1985 and January 19, 2002 (collectively, the ATax@), subject only to the prior payment of the reasonable and necessary costs and expenses of collecting and administering the Tax, and after making payments required by certain outstanding (i) Public Improvement Bonds, Series ST-1996, dated October 1, 1996 and (ii) Public Improvement Refunding Bonds, Series ST-1996, dated December 1, 1996, of the Issuer (collectively, the AOutstanding Prior Lien Bonds@). The Bonds will be issued in the form of a single fully registered bond per series, will be dated the date of delivery thereof, will bear interest from date thereof, or the most recent interest payment date to which interest has been paid or duly provided for, at a rate or rates of interest not exceeding two per centum (2%) per annum (which includes any administrative fee which may be charged to the Issuer) and shall be in the denomination of \$1,000 per principal installment within each such bond. Interest on the Bonds shall be payable on June 1 and December 1 of each year, commencing December 1, 2010, and the principal shall be payable in twenty (20) annual installments with the first payment to fall due on or before December 1, 2012. The Governing Authority may elect to designate some or all of the Bonds as ABuild America Bonds (Direct Payment)@ pursuant to Section 54AA of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the ACode@). In such event, interest on the Bonds shall not be excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes and the Issuer will irrevocably elect to designate all of the eligible Bonds as ABuild America Bonds@ under Section 54AA of the Code and specifically as Aqualified bonds@ within the meaning of Section 54AA(g) of the Code. The Issuer will not pledge the subsidy received in connection with the Bonds, if any as security for the Bonds. The installments of principal of the Bonds are subject to prepayment at the option of the Issuer at any time, in whole or in part, at a prepayment price of par plus accrued interest and accrued administrative fee, if any. The Acting Parish President of the Issuer may request from any

bidder evidence of good faith to accompany its bid in the form of a certified or cashier's check in the amount of Fourteen Thousand Dollars (\$14,000) drawn on an incorporated bank or trust company and payable to the order of the Issuer. The good faith check of the successful bidder, if requested, will be retained uncashed by the Issuer until delivery of the Bonds and payment therefor, or will be cashed and forfeited to the Issuer as liquidated damages in event the bidder should fail to fulfill the terms of its bid. The checks of the unsuccessful bidders will be returned to them immediately upon the rejection of their bids. The right is reserved to reject any and all bids received. A commitment has been obtained from the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ), pursuant to which DEQ will purchase the Bonds at par at a rate of interest not exceeding two per centum (2%) per annum, including an administrative fee, unless an equal or better bid is received from a bidder or bidders other than DEQ, within the terms herein specified. The approving legal opinion of Foley & Judell, L.L.P., who have supervised the proceedings, the printed Bonds and the transcript of record as passed upon will be furnished to the successful bidder without cost to it. Said transcript will contain the usual closing proofs, including a certificate that up to the time of delivery no litigation has been filed questioning the validity of the Bonds or the tax revenues necessary to pay the same. For information relative to the Bonds and not contained in the Notice of Bond Sale address Mr. Pat McTopy, Acting Parish President, 1801 W. Airline Hwy., LaPlace, Louisiana 70068 or Foley & Judell, L.L.P, One Canal Place, Suite 2600, 365 Canal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70130, Bond Counsel. The motion passed unanimously.

**Ronnie Smith – Letter of support for Housing Authority**

Councilman Smith stated, *"Ms. Johnson I see you have walked in at an appropriate time. Please come up to the podium."*

Cindy Johnson, Housing Authority, stated, *"This letter of support I am asking of the parish is to support me in my application for the Louisiana Recovery Authorities Hurricanes Gustav and Ike affordable rent program. It is a Fifty Million Dollar grant. Each entity is capped at Four Million Dollars. Each entity can compete for these funds to do rehab or renovation of housing units. What we are doing is we are asking or competing to have our existing housing stocked. So I was asking the parish to give me a letter of support to go after these funds."*

Councilman Smith stated, *"I don't know if you stated or not that you do need a separate letter for each housing development. Am I correct?"*

Cindy Johnson stated, *"Yes I do. Correct."*

Councilman Smith stated, *"When and if this passes get with our secretary Ms. Landeche and she will work that out for you."*

**MOTION:** Councilman Julien moved and Councilman Wolfe seconded the motion to grant a letter of support for the Housing Authority. The motion passed unanimously.

**CORRESPONDENCE/COUNCIL BRIEFS**

Councilman Millet stated, "I want to thank the administration for getting the right permits that we needed to get the Hope Canal cleaned. I just want to thank them and the Utilities Department for doing that. Also St. Hubert's has a fair this weekend. Hopefully everybody can attend it. Thank you."

Councilman Julien stated, "I want to commend administration on the way they manage St. John the Baptist Parish. We had some turmoil. Mr. McTopy doesn't say a whole lot but he is quietly getting things done. I just want to tell you that we do appreciate you even though I may not say it all the time. Thank you."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "I just want to thank the parish administration for the Easter Egg Hunt. The kids had a great time and I want to thank you all for the efforts that you did put out to make that a success."

Councilman Smith stated, "I do want to thank the administration for the Easter Egg Hunt but I would really and truly like to thank the employees, Pam Perilloux and any other employees that came over and worked the park in District VII. The kids had a great time. They said they partied all day long Saturday."

#### **PRESIDENT'S REMARKS**

Pat McTopy stated, "I have a few items and please bear with me another proclamation. This is a proclamation that our Public Safety Department asked that we adopt or proclaim recognizing the 911 System. People don't remember or recall how important that system is to the community as a whole until there is an emergency and you need emergency services. I will read it quickly. Whereas 911 is nationally recognized as the number to call in an emergency to receive immediate help from Police, Firemen, EMS or other appropriate emergency response entities and Whereas in 1967 the President's Commission on law enforcement and administration of justice recommended that a single number should be established nation wide for reporting emergency situations and other federal government agencies and various governmental officials also support it and encourage this recommendation and whereas 911 was designated by congress as a national emergency call number under the wireless communication and public safety act. Whereas the 911 System is the connection between the eyes and ears of the public and the Emergency Response System in the US and is often the first to know of emergencies of all magnitudes making 911 a significant Homeland Security Asset and Whereas people of all ages use 911 and it is critical to educate the public of all ages of the proper use of 911 and Whereas we as a nation should strive to annually host at least one educational event in every school in the country, every year regarding the proper use of 911. Now therefore I, Pat McTopy, Acting Parish President, in conjunction with the St. John the Baptist Parish Council Members do hereby proclaim April 14, 2010, as National 911 Day in St. John Parish and urge the US congress and governors of all states and territories to recognize April as National 911 Education Month. Mr. Millet mentioned the progress being made on the Hope Canal Project. We have been working hard with the council on this for some time now. In addition we will be opening bids on the Reserve Boat Launch on April 27<sup>th</sup>. So that should be of interest to our hunters and fishermen and the people in Garyville are concerned about Hope Canal for drainage.

*Operation Clean Sweep will be this coming Saturday, at 8:30 AM we will meet at the Community Center grounds on new Highway 51. This coming Saturday at 8:30 AM all volunteers are welcome to help the parish out. Administration is going to be calling a meeting soon, probably next week, with representatives from the parish legal advisor, that is the District Attorney's Office, Clerk of Court and the Secretary of State as necessary to arrange and coordinate for a smooth transition for the new Parish President as they assume office in May. Finally we have a presentation to make from the Government Finance Offices Association. This is another year that our Finance Department has merited the Certificate of Achievement in financial reporting. It is presented to the St. John the Baptist Parish Council for its comprehensive annual financial report for the year ending December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008. There is a little exert that I would like to read. A certificate of achievement for excellence in financial reporting is presented by the Government Finance Office Association of the United States and Canada to government units in public employee retirement systems whose comprehensive annual financial reports achieve the highest standards in government accounting and financial reporting. So Mr. Lucia, Finance Manager, on behalf of the parish thanks for the good work."*

Vince Lucia, Finance Manager, stated, "On behalf of this I would love to applaud our entire financial staff for doing a great job year after year and looking forward to doing it once again next year. Thank you."

There was no executive session.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Dale Wolfe - Personnel Matters

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

Housing Authority Board appointments

Any and all pending legal matters

**ADJOURNMENT:**

At 7:15 PM, Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilwoman Usry seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

/s/Ronnie Smith  
COUNCIL CHAIR

/s/Jackie Landeche  
Council Secretary