

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, JUNE 25th, 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 Tuesday, June 25th, 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, Larry Snyder, Councilman District VI, Michael Wright, Councilman District V, Cheryl Millet, Councilwoman, District VII, Art Smith, Councilman, District I, Jaclyn Hotard, Councilman-at-Large, Div. B, Ranney Wilson, District II

ABSENT: Marvin Perrilloux

Councilman Snyder led the Prayer. Councilman Wright led the Pledge.

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

Natalie Robottom/Paul Rivera - Presentation - Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting

Natalie Robottom commented, Mr. Paul Rivera, Treasurer for Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) and CFO for the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office are here to present the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to Mr. Vince Lucia and the entire Finance Department. It takes a great deal of effort from this department, as well as all of the departments and staff to accomplish this task for one year, let alone 10 years in a row. Congratulations for a job well done.

Natalie Robottom/Raymond Goodman - Presentation - Community Recovery Strategy by Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)

Natalie Robottom commented, *Mark Allemond, FEMA Task Force Lead, has been working with the CAC since January and replaced Alan Nazzaro. I would like to thank Mr. Raymond Goodman, Mark Allemond and the rest of the CAC for their hard work over the past 6 months and their continued efforts. The culmination of their efforts can be found in the "Community Recovery Strategy" and is an excellent example of the quality of work completed by the group. Each of you have a copy of the document and one will be located in each Parish Library. The CAC is currently working on Infrastructure improvements, Welcome Center Projects and a Lake Pontchartrain Park with FEMA, NDRS, USACE and the National Park Service.*

Natalie Robottom - Appointment of Purchasing & Procurement Director

Natalie Robottom stated, *"I actually forwarded I think a letter and a*

bio earlier in the day. We have had some contentious times about getting contracts and procurement documents out and part of that reason is that we don't have a purchasing director before Mr. Vincent became the CAO he was trying to oversee some of that but that doesn't work everything that we are doing now requires proper procurement. It is required for all the funding mechanisms. We are having to go back and do some things for Gustav, Ike and Katrina that weren't necessarily following the proper procedure and we have spent a lot of time trying to figure out what was the best fit and what is needed and we were fortunate enough to have a liaison that was assigned to St. John, not just the parish but the school board and the sheriff's office who has a great deal of experience and knowledge not only with purchasing procurement and state, local and federal government operations. She is highly motivated team oriented and comes with a wealth of knowledge. She is Kia Callender Price. She is my recommendation for purchasing director. There are a number of things that need to get on track that we wanted to achieve we have just not been able to whether or not we could have moved forward without Hurricane Isaac I don't know but it is imperative, it has delayed us and we need to be able to maintain our contracts and also make sure that our policies and procedures are up to date or in compliance with the funding that we will assuredly be receiving. Again we are looking forward to finalizing our staff so we can move forward in this direction with someone who understands the requirements. Our staff has performed admirably but at this point with everybody doing one or two if not three jobs it is not possible to continue along our path."

Councilwoman Hotard asked, "Is she here tonight?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "No."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "The only comment that I have is that unfortunately I haven't received this information. I did make a request last week about the individual to be confirmed and I didn't even actually see this information until just now, maybe it came through today. I was on the road but I would like to offer a motion to table this item."

MOTION: Councilwoman Hotard moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to table the appointment of Purchasing and Procurement Director. The motion passed with Councilman Perrilloux absent.

Consent Agenda

Items: Approval of Minutes June 11th, 2013, Regular Meeting: Councilman Madere appointment of Kawana Ellis Perrilloux to the Animal Control Board

MOTION: Councilman Wilson moved and Councilman Snyder seconded the motion to approve the amended consent agenda consisting of Approval of Minutes June 11th, 2013, Regular Meeting; Councilman Madere appointment of Kawana Ellis Perrilloux to the Animal Control Board. The motion passed with Councilmen Madere and Perrilloux absent.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:

13-13 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance introducing the annual budget

for the Hurricane Isaac Fund and the Ike/Gustav CDBG Grant Fund for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2012 and ending December 31, 2012. (N. Robottom)

MOTION: Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Wilson seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 13-13. The motion passed with Councilman Perrilloux absent.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

13-14 An ordinance to add to nomenclature "Michael Carter" to the existing Phoenix Lane and Highway 44 in LaPlace. (J. Hotard & L. Gauff)

13-15 An ordinance granting approval of a re-subdivision of the M. P. Barre Lot, Lot B & Lot D to the 40 arpent line into a lot herein designated as Lot B-1, situated in Sections 3, 33, & 77, T-12-S, at 3135 Highway 18, Edgard, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (PZS-13-1059) (N. Robottom)

13-16 An ordinance granting approval of a re-zoning of Lot B-1 from the current zone Commercial One (C-1) and Residential One (R-1) to Rural, situated in Sections 3, 33, & 77, T-12-S, at 3135 Highway 18, Edgard, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana (PZR-13-1025) (N. Robottom)

13-17 An ordinance amending Ordinance 02-06 to adopt that revised St. John the Baptist Parish Civil Service Rules and Regulations. Said revised Civil Service Rules and Regulations attached hereto and made part hereof (N. Robottom)

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilwoman Millet stated, *"This evening we had quite a few items and a very lengthy council meeting and at this time I would like to ask that the council accept the recommendations of the finance committee."*

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

DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:

There were no department/engineer reports.

OLD BUSINESS:

Larry Snyder - Update on "Drainage clean team" activities

Councilman Snyder stated, *"We made a request to start cleaning and getting drainage ditches cleaned up a little bit and culverts blown out and we were told that it was being done and I just want an update on it. Where are we? What routes are we taking to get some of these things done to prepare for this hurricane season and we also are under the impression that we do have some sort of drainage department or drainage arm of another department and that is what I want to know. What are*

they doing? Are they working in certain areas? What is the scope of the work that they are doing right now?"

Brian Nunes, Director of Public Works, stated, "We do have a drainage department. It is part of the Public Works Department, an arm of us and those guys everyday are doing something drainage related whether it be installing culverts or blowing out culverts or cleaning canals so there is a process to get everything done. Additionally with canals we recently signed purchase orders with two separate companies for the spraying of our canals and those were completed one last Thursday, the first round and the other one completed earlier this week. One was doing the LaPlace area and some of Reserve, the other one did Reserve, Garyville, Mt. Airy and the West Bank but every day it is a different challenge but it is all drainage related because those people and that equipment is dedicated to drainage throughout the parish."

Councilman Snyder asked, "What about in the subdivisions where there is subsurface drainage? Are we doing anything there as far as checking the norm area that is flooding to see if we can pull any trees from them? I know in old Riverlands here they have a lot of trees over there a lot of leaves go down in the drainage and people do the best they can to try and clean some of that up."

Brian Nunes stated, "I understand that and appreciate the residents helping us as much as they do. Again we only have one vacuum truck but that is used. We go where our calls are first and then when we don't have the calls we send them out to areas that we know. Now additionally Royal Engineers completed the RFP to go out and get everything or what they identified as hurricane damages the culverts that were clogged and all of the debris in there we just finished the RFP. I have reviewed it. Mr. Randy has reviewed it. Their inspector is going out tomorrow they are going to come up with some representative quantities to put in the bid sheet or the pricing sheet and we will be advertising that I would say within two weeks. We will be ready to come to you with a recommendation hopefully by the end of July and that is going to take up a lot of River Forest, Cambridge, the Riverlands area and all of the subsurface systems that were impacted by the storm, the debris and the vegetation so that is in the process and we just completed the RFP and are ready to go with that one."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I was riding around the other day and I did see some of the larger canals you can see where they are killing and spraying that vegetation and I only had one thought and that was on the Lasseigne Canal, on the east side of Cambridge, they only sprayed half of it they couldn't get to the other side so half of it is dead and the other half is growing rapidly. So you might want to look at that when you get a chance Brian."

Brian Nunes stated, "I can call that contractor tomorrow and get you an answer."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Okay other than that it is starting to come around all of them."

Councilman Madere stated, "First I would like to say Brian you are doing a good job there is a big job in front of you concerning drainage but once again we are still not going to back off of the fact that the

residents are calling and I am here at 7:00 AM most of the time and I will probably be here tomorrow at 7:00 AM but I am calling for a Mrs. Robinson on Homewood I spoke to her recently in the last two weeks. We were supposed to clean out that canal behind Homewood, behind her house and we didn't do it last year and it needs to be done and also speaking on behalf of all of the residents these two ladies individually call me a lot Mrs. Brown, the lady that I took you to her house and I showed you the problem that she has behind her house and Mr. Gauff also went with me to her home and as of today we haven't cleaned that canal out and if she experiences another 4-5 inches of rain she may end up getting water back in her home again and she just recently completed her home for the third time this year. So those two canals along with the other many canals that we have to have cleaned I would like to see if you can get those two moved up on the list especially the one in Homewood and down where Mrs. Brown lives."

Brian Nunes stated, "We are aware of the problem with the Homewood Canal and I agree it does need to be done there is just a really tough accessibility issue with that one so we are analyzing a few different options of how to get back there and clean it but it is something that we all know needs to be done and actually when we went to do the assessment with President Robottom of all of our drainage that was one of her big points with us we need to figure out a way to get back there because it is obvious that it needs to be done but there is no room for us to get a machine back there so we need to figure something out."

Councilman Madere stated, "We are going to have to get back in there the old fashioned way cane knives, shovels and wheel barrels. It might take a little longer but we may have to get back in there if there is no other way to get it there is always old faithful. We may have to get these individuals to move their fences back off of our servitude because it is causing a problem for the other residents by them trying to get a little extra land."

Councilman Wilson stated, "I have drainage on here again and I guess it is going to be on here for a while. The storm brought in a lot of vegetation, leaves, trees and everything into the drainage areas but when the water left a lot of that stuff remained and I have been asking if they could dig all the canals they want if we don't get the water to the canals people are still flooding. So I am asking that we get some help in Mt. Airy, Garyville and Reserve because we have a multitude of problems there. They have more work then we can handle in any short period of time. I will get with Mr. Nunes sometime this week."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "I just wanted to mention that I did have the opportunity to walk with Mr. Nunes on the Ridgfield Canal the other day and I know that you are going to be getting back to me with a report on how we can take care of those issues that we noticed. Am I correct?"

Brian Nunes stated, "Yes, I am actually glad that you followed up with me with that email and we are going to address what we can and I will have you a response as soon as I have it."

Councilman Wright stated, "Also along that same note I think you and I had spoken about canal behind the Ridgewood area and there was a right-of-way problem getting in there. Will you still look into that and when

you get the results please get them to me."

Larry Snyder - Update on road repairs

Councilman Snyder stated, "I am pretty much satisfied with this but are we working with the road repair program plus working with the concrete. Are we doing anything with that or are we just doing the asphalt roads?"

Brian Nunes stated, "We went ahead and did a whole bunch of concrete initially and then we asked them to slow down because it is the same budget item that both of those contracts come out of so we asked them to slow up a little bit on the concrete while we went ahead with our asphalt so we could make sure where all of our numbers were. Now the concrete contractor knows that there are a few things that he has to come back and do specifically is that intersection of Ormond and Airline it is on the list we were waiting for the construction of that gas station to be completed before we move with that but those contracts are good until the end of the year. The problem is the budget is only also good through the end of the year."

Councilman Snyder stated, "Are we still doing the work orders that pertain to road repairs?"

Brian Nunes stated, "Definitely we follow those work orders all of the time. If it is a pothole we handle it in house. If it is something more major that is what we use the contractors for."

Councilman Madere asked, "I would like to address this question to Mrs. Robottom concerning road repairs. On the list they had three streets listed in District III I think it was E. 12th, E. 19th and E. 31st Street have any of those roads been removed because of budgetary problems or are we still going to get those three roads repaired or at least one or two of them out of the budget."

Natalie Robottom stated, "Actually I think the numbers that we gave you this year's budget was 1.2 million dollars. We haven't gotten all of the final invoices in on road repairs but it appears that we are slightly over 1 million in asphalt and about \$247,000.00 in concrete repair. So we are at our budget however towards the end of last year we kind of ceased on the asphalt because we thought we could get better pricing which we did and I think the document that you have in front of you has the comparison of what the 2012 pricing was compared to the 2013 which was a significant savings but we did a lot of concrete in the absence however each year this list continues. Some of these roads have been on here since 2010 so we budget money every year and we are gradually going through it. I think last year we did E. 20th and 21st. So it is just a matter of going through based on priority. We were fortunate to get some good prices. We anticipate doing the same thing and we are going to continue to move down this list. If you go down to the bottom we also have some roads that we think were damaged by hurricane Isaac so we are going to be pursuing FEMA reimbursements there but we are going to continue to move through the list whether or not it can all be done in this budget year we are not sure but we will definitely be ready to go in 2014."

Councilman Madere asked, "As you move down the list it is based on the

severity of the damage to the road?"

Natalie Robottom stated, "The list that you have is not. I kind of grouped them by Reserve, Garyville, they are grouped on your list by where they are located but historically what we have done is looked at the severity and that is how we selected the roads for that year however because we have a road improvement program we do something every year. So we continue to add to the list and you continue to add to the list there are some roads on there that weren't on the previous list that we are waiting on estimates on but we are going to continue to do that as some of the roads need repair we are going to keep adding to the list and each year based on our budget we are going to do as much as we can. We are also pursuing sometimes we can get CDBG dollars we didn't get the original grant I actually spoke to the executive director of that program sometimes people don't use all their funding so they are looking to see if there was any overflow that can actually come to us and I should find out that Thursday. So we go after every pot."

Councilman Madere stated, "If you get some District III."

Natalie Robottom stated, "We have Panther Drive on there and we did Leon Godchaux we are just trying to get our money back."

Councilman Gauff stated, "I just want to say thank you. There were quite a few streets that I have seen in Garyville and LaPlace maybe I didn't see one in Reserve but Garyville and LaPlace I have gotten numerous phone calls thanking me so I said it is a collaborative effort so thank you."

Natalie Robottom stated, "And of course we have asked before you guys are riding a lot you see more streets we put what we knew about as problem areas and each one of you came in and said add this or do this so again if there are others as time goes on please feel free to add them so that we can have pricing and have an idea as you can see the total is 5 million dollars but we didn't have 5 million budgeted for 2013 that is just not the type of budget that we have but compared to what has been done in previous years and going back we are making significant progress and you can go back and pull the documents to see the roads that have been repaired over that time just by doing a few each year and we are going to continue to do that."

Councilman Wilson stated, "I would like to ask also I don't know how this was left out of the main project W. 7th Street at St. Peter's on the side of the church and all the way to the school there is about 1,000 feet. I would appreciate it if somehow someday when we get to the end of this that we can work that in there."

Brian Nunes stated, "Once you and I spoke about it I contacted Mr. Savoie he went out with his crews and they surveyed it. We have a set of plans on it what we need to do is see when the invoices come in because you are right it is a short street and shouldn't be too expensive to do compared to some of the others but it is in bad shape and if it something that we can get done it would be ideal to get it done when school is out but I need the invoices from the contractor before I can do that because I want to make sure Mr. Lucia gets that award for the 11th year."

Councilman Wilson stated, "This street does have a lot of traffic because you have church and the school besides the residents that are there."

Brian Nunes stated, "I agree we need to get it done and we are looking at it we have already moved on it."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I have a quick comment on that I know I had called also about W. 7th Street once we get the estimate in if we run into some financial problem maybe let us know and we can work something out because this is next to a school you really wouldn't even really want to do the road except when you are out of school so it may even put you back the next summer so let's maybe weigh our options if you run into that problem."

Brian Nunes stated, "I do agree with that. We do have an issue with the contractor, it is not an issue but it could be a conflict because once they pull their machines out which they have it is difficult for them to bring it back in for such a small street. They may be able to work with us I am going to need to talk to them about it."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "What I am saying is that if you run into whenever they give you the estimate if there are not enough funds in the budget but it is not a significant of an amount let's try and get that one done now because you know that we won't be able to do it again until next year when school it out and we find money all the time for all sorts of things so I am sure if it is a small enough amount we will find it."

Lennix Madere - Comcast

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay I know a lot of residents wanted to get a piece of Comcast. I put this back on the agenda because I had several phone calls in the last month concerning Comcast and their service and how you can't get in contact with them and they are also concerned about certain items on their bill. Our secretary informed us several times that they said they had answered all the questions they needed to answer but then I caught up with her on the phone, she accidentally answered my phone call and I asked her about that comment and she said no she didn't make that comment, no one told her about the meetings. So I said well do you have a problem making these meetings? She said no I will be there. I said good I will have you on the next agenda that is why they are on this agenda but once again she called up and said that something came up and some other medical reason and I understand that but she also emailed a comment back to our office was that they have no franchise obligation to come down here and I think they do have a franchise obligation to come down here because every resident in St. John Parish is paying a bill with Comcast. So you have an obligation to every single customer that is taking your service. If they have a question then you should come down here I don't care how many times it is you come down here and answer the questions. So since the parish doesn't seem to have the contract with them like we used to and we don't have a strong hold on them, then I need to talk to Randall Gaines, Troy Brown and the Senator concerning these individual companies who feel as though they can take money without responding to the questions of the people in the community and I have a problem with

that. This is a multi-million dollar company catch a plane, take a bus but get someone down here to answer the questions of the citizens of St. John Parish and it shouldn't take 5-8 meetings to get you down here and yes you do have a franchise obligation to St. John Parish. You have an obligation to this state. So I think you need to be here, someone from Comcast and I will contact an individual in the state department to find out exactly how can we get a hold of them and make them respect the parish and the customers who are paying their money religiously every month because if you don't pay then they have a franchise obligation to cut you off but they won't come here to answer your questions. So this is strictly for Comcast and I hope someone sends them a tape."

Ranney Wilson - Drainage and Drainage equipment

Councilman Wilson asked that we keep this item on the agenda.

Art Smith - Discussion relative to the operation of the Reserve/Edgard Ferry

Councilman Smith asked that we remove this from the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS:

Lennix Madere - Update on Reserve Boat Launch lighting and clarification on removing of stumps from canal

Councilman Madere stated, "I got a very favorable answer from Brian Nunes and even though I get the answers I am looking for I would like to place it on the agenda because I like it to be said at the open meetings for the residents so they can hear the information themselves. So Mr. Nunes would you mind relating what you relayed to me at the meeting?"

Brian Nunes stated, "The boat launch we have contracted out the original person who installed those lights we did have some issues. We tried to get everything fixed and the way it was wired we couldn't do it. So we called the person who actually installed those lights and they agreed to come do it and they are scheduled to begin work on Thursday. We already purchased everything that they need to repair the lights. They will be here Thursday to start working. So we should see progress by the end of the day Thursday and for sure by Friday it should be well lit out there. As far as the stumps, for starters that Reserve Relief Canal was just cleaned by the Corp back in April that is not to say that there aren't any stumps in there. We can't see them. I don't know where they are. If it is something that is there that is a hazard that I can reach I don't have a problem getting it out but we are not necessarily equipped to go through and clean all these canals if there are stumps and we don't know where they are so it is going to be a case by case thing because we never want to pose a hazard that we know about to our residents for their property but we are not necessarily always equipped to do these things. If they let us know about things like that and it is something that we can reach then we will get a machine out there and pull it up."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay I will have the resident call me and probably go out there and take a look at it myself and then relate back to you if there is something that we can do until you can reach it. I know the resident appreciates that."

Brian Nunes stated, "I don't have a problem with that. What I would like to do is have you give me the opportunity to make sure that the Corp is not going to have a problem because that is a navigable waterway and if you would give me that time to make sure that they are okay if we have a potential hazard and we are able to remove it if they are okay with that but I am okay with that."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay thanks."

Councilman Wilson stated, "Mr. Nunes on the same thing I get a lot of calls on the Reserve Canal, I always did for years. When we have a very low tide situation I am sure that we can find somebody to take you back there to let you see and take pictures to see what the problem is. At low tide you can see them."

Brian Nunes stated, "We did ride back there actually as part of the damage assessment from the storm we went back with a FEMA representative and a representative from Royal Engineers took a boat in the Reserve Canal and kind of went all back there and we didn't see any at the time but that isn't to say that they are not there. If we are talking way back in the canals I have nothing that can reach that but that may be something that we need to contract out or look into."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "Maybe it might be advisable for the residents that are noticing this to maybe flag it so that Mr. Nunes could find it because when he looks for it he can't. So if one of the residents knows where it is if they could stake it out so the department can see where it is and take care of it for them but that is not what my question is I also want to ask about these lights have not been out there that long it has only been maybe three or four years since we have done this renovation out there. Do we have some kind of warranty on these lights or on this workmanship? Surely there is an errors and omission policy or some kind of a bond that we can go after because I know we accepted this but we accepted it as being completed and done but if we are having issues and we can't even figure out how to rewire it or hook them back up again there might be something we may have to go after on the legal side."

Brian Nunes stated, "That was a long and complicated story I still don't understand it completely but I am working towards understanding it but I think it was something to do with the equipment. It wasn't necessarily the contractor did it wrong but the lighting that they used something happened with it but it isn't under warranty anymore so that is why we went ahead and bought all the new stuff and this gentleman who is fixing it for us is actually being very reasonable and fair but as far as a legal issue to be honest I am not educated in this enough to be able to comment on this at this time but I can look into it and get you some type of response."

Councilman Gauff stated, "I know this has been going on for quite a while probably a year and half ago when I started getting complaints

about it I know public works your department went out Daron was following the job at the time Mr. Madere and I met him out there and he was telling us that it was more of an electrical problem not so much that the light themselves but just an equipment problem that they had stumbled upon. Some of the lights work, some of the lights work sometimes it was hard to trouble shoot the problem because some time you would go and all of them were on and sometimes none were on or two were on so it was hard to tell where the problem was and it seems like there was some sort of equipment problem that hopefully you have gotten to the root cause and we can get this corrected."

Brian Nunes stated, "We believe we have."

Lennix Madere - Update on lighting for LA 3179

Councilman Madere stated, "Once again I received a positive answer but I would like for Mr. Nunes to announce it at the meeting."

Brian Nunes stated, "That once again we had some delays with it because it has to be reviewed not only by our engineers but by the state and then returned back but we are in the process of that. We are looking at 30 days having a permit to install lights on 3179. So I am thinking within a month we will be able to come back with some good news and be ready to go but it is in the permitting spot and for processing it is almost done."

Councilman Madere stated, "Okay and that is good news because I was calling that street the most dangerous street in St. John Parish because of the lighting and it is good news that we are going to have that taken care of and the residents in that area for sure are going to be happy to hear this and that is why I wanted you to say it at the meeting and not just tell me because we get it out to more people by mentioning it at the meeting then I can possibly get out there and try to tell them but that is great news thank you."

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Natalie Robottom stated, "Good Evening - I would like to recognize Councilman Lucien Gauff for recently being named to the Board of Governors at River Parishes Hospital in LaPlace. He serves as an operator at DuPont where he has worked for the past 21 years, served as DuPont's Site Safety Activities Coordinator and has been a member of their Near Neighbor and Community Advisory Panel programs. Very well deserved - Congratulations! I'd like to thank the DuPont Near Neighbors for having me as the featured speaker at their community meeting last Monday to discuss Hurricane Preparedness and other Parish updates. The Near Neighbors meetings are a great way for residents who live near DuPont to stay informed. Congratulations to the 2013 Class of South Central Louisiana Technical College River Parishes Campus for recently graduating. I wish you all the best of luck in the future. As we enter hurricane season, residents are encouraged to finalize their family preparations. Please review the 10 step plan on preparation located on the parish website and register to receive Emergency Notifications at sjbparish.com. This allows you to receive emergency information on

your home phone, cell phone, or by email. We are also making preparations on our end. Most recently, The National Weather Service presented information to our emergency management staff to address changes in their forecasting this season. We are also continuing our fight against increase flood insurance rates. As a member of the coalition of Parish Presidents addressing the NFIP rate increases -we are urging Sens. Mary Landrieu and David Vitter to support a measure approved by the House that would block major flood insurance rate increases for many Louisiana property owners. Residents with questions about the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) can call 1-800-427-4661. The helpline operates from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Additional information is available at www.floodsmart.gov. We celebrated National Small Business Week last week and want to remind all of our businesses in St. John to register now for Shop Local, Shop St. John on our Parish website. This allows your business to be included in an online searchable directory of local businesses which in turn helps promote your business in a unique way. The Shop Local feature can be assessed from the home page of the website. Congratulations to Hey, Gorgeous Hair Studio located at 928 Carrollwood Dr. in LaPlace for their grand opening on Saturday. Owners Ashley Rodrigue and Kelley Loupe are licensed cosmetologists specializing in hair color, waxing and makeup services. They can be contacted at 985-651-0878. The salon is open Tuesday through Friday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. St. John Parish public pools are open for summer. The East bank pool at REGALA and the West Bank pool on Castle Dr. are open Tuesday through Thursday 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm, Friday 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm, Saturday and Sunday 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm. Hours are posted on the Parks & Recreation page on website. The 8th Annual St. John Parish Veterans Luncheon will be held next week on Wednesday, July 3, at 11:00 a.m. at the Louisiana Army National Guard Readiness Center in Reserve. This year's luncheon will pay homage to St. John's veterans and service members by featuring a video tribute at the luncheon and during the televised broadcast of the Independence Day Celebration. Video footage will be available for both sides of the river. The 13th Annual Independence Day Celebration and firework show will be held on the evening of July 3 on the grounds of the St. Peter Catholic Church, 1550 Highway 44, Reserve, LA and the St. John Courthouse, 2393 Louisiana 18, Edgard, LA at 6:00 p.m. The fireworks display will begin at 9:00 p.m. The East and West Bank events will be filmed and broadcast live on the government access channel (Channel 15) so residents can view from home. The Summer Food Service program is currently running Monday through Thursday until July 18 at **West St. John Elementary School, Garyville/Mt Airy Magnet School, East St. John Elementary, LaPlace Elementary School, 5th Ward Elementary School, Emily C. Watkins School, and New Wine Christian Center.** For more information or questions, please visit the Health & Human Service webpage or call 985-536-4955. The CN Railroad began making repairs to railroad crossings today. As a result, Walnut and Cardinal Streets will experience detours during construction. The CN railroad crossing on Walnut Street will be closed

to through traffic today through Thursday, June 27. The CN railroad crossing on Cardinal Street will be closed to through traffic Thursday, June 27 through Saturday morning, June 29. Residents are asked to use caution during this time. Currently, the Public Works Department is collecting tree limbs and branches throughout the parish on Mondays through Thursdays and Hurricane Isaac-Related debris on Fridays and Saturdays. Residents should call or submit a work order for collection through the Public Works Department by calling 652-4815 Monday through Fridays 7:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. or through the Public Works webpage on the parish website. This ensures the request is properly documented and added to our pick-up list. The Communication Department is working on an informational debris removal and trash pickup flyer that will be distributed to residents and included in utilities bills once finalized. St. John Parish Government Offices will be closed on Thursday, July 4 and Friday, July 5 in observance of Independence Day. We wish everyone a Happy Fourth of July and we hope to see you at our Independence Day celebrations on Wednesday July 3!"

COUNCIL BRIEFS

Councilman Gauff stated, "I would just like to say to everyone to have a happy and safe 4th of July. I would like to throw up some prayers for the Bossier family. Mrs. Bossier passed away, she was 100 years old and just celebrated her birthday but to the Bossier family I know they are celebrating her life but I know they are mourning her lost. So I would like to send out my prayers to her family."

Councilwoman Millet stated, "I will just keep it simple and echo Mr. Gauff."

Councilman Snyder stated, "I just have one thing I would like everyone to offer up some prayers for Andrew "Pee-Wee" Sterling, Jr. He is actually at the hospital fighting for his life right now. He had surgery today and I haven't heard the results yet but when you go to bed tonight say a little prayer for him."

Councilman Wright stated, "I just want to wish everyone a happy 4th of July and also sending out prayers to."

Councilman Madere stated, "I also had that on my agenda what Mr. Gauff said about Mrs. Bossier who was 100 years old. I send my deepest sympathy to her family and also to the family of Taj Thomas, mother Kelly Thomas who lost her son over the week and my sympathy goes out to these families. When you lose a loved one it is very hard and I just want them to know that they are in my prayers and thoughts. Also I would like to wish Pat Sellers who had a heart attack and open heart surgery that he has a speedy recovery he was on a little vacation when that happened. Also Laura Cook who had surgery I wish her a speedy recovery and also Pee-Wee keep them all in your prayers. Happy Birthday to my wife Sunday is her birthday and a happy 4th of July to everyone."

Councilman Wilson stated, "I have a few little things here. St. Hubert's Church every year puts a firework show on July the 4th they have jambalaya and they also play a little bingo. They put on a very

good show and I ask everyone that can participate to do so. Also Progressive Waste I have been having numerous complaints I think a lot of the problem is that these trucks are loading up and they have to drive all the way to Avondale to unload. I am going to ask administration to get with them and see if we can find a place or come up with an idea where those trucks can unload it here into big containers and then transport it. I would like to look at that situation because they are doing more driving then they are picking up garbage. I have been asking when they miss an area please get that area first thing in the morning when they start. One other thing at the entrance of Belle Point subdivision the very first street light was taken out at Christmas, it was replaced and replaced on an angle and someone took it out again this week. The pole is gone. I ask that they straighten it out because it looks terrible. I would just like to see them pick it up and fix it straight because it looks stupid."

Councilman Smith stated, "Well first I would like to say to Mr. Snyder Pee-Wee and I go a long way back so I just want to say he has my prayers and sympathy. I also want to thank everyone for fighting for the ferry. The ferry is very important to the people of the West Bank and the people of the East Bank so we need to continue that fight and find a way to make the state understand that we cannot do without the ferry. Happy 4th of July to everyone."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "I would also like to wish everyone a happy 4th of July. I would also like to commend Mrs. Lemmons on the summer feeding program. I had the opportunity to serve on Monday at LaPlace Elementary and it was an excellent opportunity. The food was good and there are a lot of kids, everybody enjoyed it. It is really a good program. I went to serve and eat but honestly it was some of the best food I have had. I would also like to send my condolences to the Bossier family. I did have the opportunity of spending her last birthday with the family so I do send my deepest sympathies to them and to the Thomas family and to Pat Sellers I did speak to him briefly and hopefully he is having a good recovery."

Councilwoman Hotard stated, "We do have an executive session item. I will accept a motion to go into executive session to discuss report, development and cause of action regarding security, personnel, plans or devices as it pertains to Parish Buildings."

MOTION: Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to go into executive session to discuss report, development and cause of action regarding security, personnel, plans or devices as it pertains to Parish Buildings. The motion passed with Councilman Perrilloux absent.

MOTION: Councilman Gauff moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to go back into regular session. The motion passed with Councilmen Snyder and Perrilloux absent.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

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

Parish Buildings - Security

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 8:33 PM, Councilwoman Millet moved and Councilman Madere seconded
the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilman Perrilloux
absent.

/s/Jaclyn Hotard
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
Council Secretary