

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS**  
**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING**  
**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2008**  
**CHAIR JACLYN HOTARD**  
**VICE CHAIR RONNIE SMITH**

The Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, met in Special Session in the Joel S. McTopy Chambers, Percy D. Hebert Building, LaPlace, on Monday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2008, at 6:00 PM.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

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

**ABSENT:** Councilman Dale Wolfe

Councilman Smith led the Prayer. Councilwoman Millet led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Bill Hubbard/Jaclyn Hotard/Steve Lee - Bid Award Carrollwood Drive Improvement Project**

Pat McTopy, Chief Administrative Officer, stated, "As you recall we recently opened bids for the Carrollwood Drive Improvement Project. The bids came in under budget. The low bidder was a company called Thigpen Construction. His bid was in the amount of \$567,465.00. As I said earlier it was underbid. Wal-Mart has agreed in writing, although we don't have the dollars yet, they have agreed to fund at least \$150,000.00 towards that project. We have funds appropriated in a specific line item in the public works department to cover the cost of the improvements. We may need to amend that budget later in the year to provide for a few more dollars to carry us through October, November and December, but essentially we have funds there now and we recommend that we make the bid award today. The next council meeting is two weeks off. We did not want to wait. We would like to see this project started and completed prior to the Christmas holidays."

Councilman Smith asked, "Do you know if that roadway is going to be done in asphalt or in concrete?"

Ray Davezac, Davezac Engineers, stated, "We are going to rip out the existing roadway. We will come back with twelve (12) inches of rock and eight (8) inches of concrete. So it is going to be a concrete roadway, with concrete curbing were they exist now."

Councilman Smith stated, "I thought there would be because I figured that road would last a lot longer being concrete instead of asphalt."

Ray Davezac stated, "The traffic counts a lot more than I think the people realize. Just as a side note, as another part of the project as well. We did do the TV'ing of the existing sewer and drainage lines. We

didn't want to not replace everything and then have issues later on. So we are going to replace the sewer line which is a couple of hundred feet as well on one side of the road and on the other side of the road we are going to line the existing drainage lines so that we don't have any problems with it in the future. So that is in a nutshell the scope of the work. It will be one lane at a time. There will be traffic signs everywhere. Traffic detour signs will be up. It will be an inconvenience. One lane will be opened to come one way for a time than we will repair that roadway and open up the other one. So the public is just going to have to bear with us, but the end project will be something you will be proud of."

Councilman Smith stated, "Mr. McTopy could you please get with the school board, St. Charles Catholic High School and the Sheriff's Department because we have school that lets out right there at Carrollwood and that traffic is really heavy. See if they can detour that traffic another way please. Just give them a heads up that we are going to be doing that work there."

Ray Davezac stated, "Just to address that, we will have a pre-construction conference right away which I would suggest for the parish to have the Sheriff's Office and the School Board office involved in it. It is a 120 day project. Obviously if we can get finished earlier we will. It will cost \$500.00 a day for not finishing on time."

**MOTION:** Councilman Lee moved and Councilwoman Millet seconded the motion to award the bid for the Carrollwood Drive Improvements Project to the low bidder, Thigpen Construction Company, Inc. in the amount of \$567,465.00. The motion passes with Councilman Wolfe absent.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

At 9:15 AM, Councilman Smith moved and Councilwoman Millet seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilman Wolfe absent.

/s/Jaclyn Hotard  
CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche  
COUNCIL SECRETARY