

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
THURSDAY, APRIL 16TH, 2020
CHAIRMAN LENNIX MADERE
VICE-CHAIR KURT BECNEL

CERTIFICATE

The St. John the Baptist Parish Council, through its Chairman, Lennix Madere, Jr., hereby certifies as follows: In accordance with Executive Proclamations JBE 2020-30 issued by Governor John Bel Edwards on March 16, 2020, and concurrence by the Attorney General on March 19th, 2020, this Notice shall serve as certification by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council of its inability to operate in accordance with the Louisiana Open Meetings Law due to a lack of quorum as a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency. Pursuant to Section 4 of JBE 2020-30 the St. John the Baptist Parish Council will provide for attendance at its essential government meeting on Thursday, April 16th, 2020 via video conference in order to obtain a quorum of its members. Therefore, in accordance with JBE 2020-30, the St. John the Baptist Parish Council meeting on Thursday, April 16th, 2020 at 11:00 AM will be held via video conference and in a manner that will allow for observation and input by members of the public, as set forth in the notice posted on Tuesday, April 14th, 2020. All other Open Meetings Law requirements have been met.

The St. John the Baptist Parish Council members will meet via Zoom video/teleconference at the posted date and time.

Via Telephone access: Call 985-652-1702

Via Web access: www.sjbparish.com {click on (Government) Menu button, then select (Parish Council)}

Also, you can watch as normal on our Government Channels live with scheduled replays.

CALL TO ORDER:

PRESENT AT ROLL CALL: Lennix Madere, Jr., Councilman-at-Large, Div. A, Warren Torres, Jr., Councilman District II, Tammy Houston, Councilwoman District III, Tyra Duhe-Griffin, Councilwoman District IV, Robert Arcuri, Councilman District V, Tonia Schnyder, Councilwoman District VI, Thomas Malik, Councilman District VII, Michael Wright, Councilman-at-Large, Div. B

ABSENT: Kurt Becnel

Legal Counsel Keith Green, Jr., Christopher Cortez and Kennilyn Schmill were present.

PUBLIC COMMENT - AGENDA ITEMS ONLY (90 seconds per citizen)

There was no public comment.

INTRODUCTION OF BUSINESSES:

There was no introduction of businesses.

CONSENT AGENDA:

ITEMS: 1)Approval of Minutes - March 10th, 2020, Regular Meeting; 2)Councilwoman Schnyder - Appointment of Stephanie Anderson Forest to the Zoning Board of Adjustments; 3)Robert Figuero - Monthly Financial Report (February 2020); 4)Robert Figuero - Monthly Financial Report (March 2020); 5)Councilman Torres - Appointment of Gail Simon Hill to the Animal Advisory Board of Control; 6)Councilman Arcuri - Re-appointment of Lisa Tregre Wilder to the Library Board of Control

MOTION: Councilman Torres moved and Councilman Malik seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda item - Approval of Minutes - March 10th, 2020, Regular Meeting. The motion passed with Councilman Becnel absent.

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda item - Councilwoman Schnyder - Appointment of Stephanie Anderson Forest to the Zoning Board of Adjustments. The motion passed with Councilman Becnel absent.

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilwoman Schnyder seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda item Robert Figuero - Monthly Financial Report (February 2020). The motion passed with Councilman Becnel absent.

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Arcuri seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda item Robert Figuero - Monthly Financial Report (March 2020). The motion passed with Councilman Becnel absent.

MOTION: Councilman Torres moved and Councilman Houston seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda item Councilman Torres - Appointment of Gail Simon Hill to the Animal Advisory Board of Control. The motion passed with Councilman Becnel absent.

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda item Councilman Arcuri - Re-appointment of Lisa Tregre Wilder to the Library Board of Control. The motion passed with Councilman Becnel absent.

PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION ON ORDINANCES:

20-04 Public Hearing Held (Carry Over 03-24-20) An ordinance amending ordinance 19-49 relative to the annual operating budgets for St. John the Baptist Parish General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, Enterprise Funds, and Capital Project Funds for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2020 and ending December 31, 2020. (J. Hotard)

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "*These amendments reflect changes to estimated revenues and expenditures to actual revenues and expenditures for 2020. Administration recommends approval.*"

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Arcuri seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 20-04 from the agenda. The motion passed with Councilman Becnel absent.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Wright stated, "At this time I'll offer a motion to accept the recommendations of the finance committee."

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

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Jaclyn Hotard - Resolution - R20-05 - (Carry Over 03-24-20) A Resolution giving preliminary approval to the issuance of not exceeding Eleven Million Dollars (\$11,000,000) of Public Improvement Refunding Bonds of St. John the Baptist Parish Sales Tax District; for the purpose of refinancing outstanding debt of the Issuer; providing certain terms of said bonds; making application to the State Bond Commission for approval of said Bonds; hiring professionals in connection therewith; and providing for other matters in connection therewith

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "The St. John the Baptist Sales Tax District (a special taxing district created and governed by the Parish Council, subject to the provisions of the Home Rule Charter) issued \$15 million in Public Improvement Sales Tax Bonds in 2010. Those bonds bear interest which are rates from 4.00% to 4.125%. In the current market, the bonds of the same maturity should have lower yields, so there is an opportunity to refund (i.e., refinance) those bonds, which will result in savings to the District. Since the debt service is paid exclusively from the 1% sales tax currently being levied, any savings realized as a result of the refunding will allow for more sales tax proceeds to be budgeted for road improvements or to support the water or sewer systems. The refunding will not extend the final maturity of the bonds. Administration recommends approval."

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Malik seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R20-05. A Resolution giving preliminary approval to the issuance of not exceeding Eleven Million Dollars (\$11,000,000) of Public Improvement Refunding Bonds of St. John the Baptist Parish Sales Tax District; for the purpose of refinancing outstanding debt of the Issuer; providing certain terms of said bonds; making application to the State Bond Commission for approval of said Bonds; hiring professionals in connection therewith; and providing for other matters in connection therewith. The motion passed with Councilman Becnel absent.

Robert Figuero - (Carry Over 03-24-20) Request adoption of the Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity for Technology Policy

Robert Figuero stated, "This policy is a new requirement from the Louisiana Legislative Auditor (LLA) in order to be in compliance with the State Agreed Upon Procedures. Administration recommends approval."

MOTION: Councilman Malik moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to grant administration authorization for the adoption of the Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity for Technology Policy. The motion passed with Councilman Becnel absent.

Stacey Cador - (Carry Over 03-24-20) Authorization to amend the St. John the Baptist Parish Employee Handbook to effectuate compliance and consistency with the St. John the Baptist Parish Home Rule Charter

Stacey Cador stated, "After a thorough review of the Employee Handbook, Administration is requesting amendments for consistency with the Home Rule Charter, to update or further clarify existing policies within. Administration recommends approval."

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilman seconded the motion to grant administration authorization to amend the St. John the Baptist Parish Employee Handbook to effectuate compliance and consistency with the St. John the Baptist Parish Home Rule Charter. The motion passed with 7 yeas, 1 against (Houston) and 1 absent (Becnel).

DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:

There were no department/engineer reports.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

There were no ordinances to introduce.

PRESIDENT REPORT:

The President Report can be viewed in its entirety at www.sjbparish.com.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 1:01 PM, Councilwoman Schnyder moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilman Becnel absent.

/s/Lennix Madere, Jr.
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
Council Secretary

The meeting can be viewed in its entirety at www.sjbparish.com.

Public Comment Form: <http://st-john-parish.com/council-meeting/>