

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH, 2023
CHAIRMAN THOMAS MALIK
VICE-CHAIR KURT BECNEL

The Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist Parish, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session in the St. John the Baptist Parish Government Complex Chambers, LaPlace, Louisiana on Tuesday, February 28th, 2023, at 6:00 PM.

CALL TO ORDER:

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

ABSENT: Michael Wright

Michael Hotard, SCC football player, led the Prayer and the Pledge.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT - AGENDA ITEMS ONLY (3 minutes per citizen)

Public comments were given on agenda item R23-40 by Nickie Monica, Whitney Joseph, Joy Banner, Jo Banner, Pam Spears, Justin Cray, Dave Hayden, D. Davis, D. Hayes, Robbie Gilbert, Kimberly Terrell, Ricky Davis, and Stephanie Aubert.

Jaclyn Hotard - Recognition - (Carry Over 01-24-23) St. Charles Catholic High School Football Team LHSAA Division III State Champions

Jaclyn Hotard - Proclamation - March as Procurement Month

CONSENT AGENDA:

ITEMS: Approval of Minutes - February 14th, 2023, Council Meeting

MOTION: Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilman Becnel seconded the motion to approve consent agenda item - Approval of Minutes - February 14th, 2023, Council Meeting. The motion passed with 6 yeas, 2 abstaining (Duhe-Griffin, Torres) and 1 absent.

REPORTS:

President's Report

Jaclyn Hotard - Monthly Financial Report (January 2023)

PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION ON ORDINANCE(S)/NEW BUSINESS:

23-06 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the rezoning of Lot A, Newton

Dinvaut Subdivision, located in the area generally bounded by Central Avenue, Castle Drive, Highway 18, & Highway 3127, Edgard, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA from the Residential District One (R-1) & the Commercial District One (C-1) to the Residential District One (R-1) as shown in Exhibit 1 attached.
(PZR-23-1367) (J. Hotard & T. Lambeth)

MOTION: Councilman Becnel moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to Approve Ordinance 23-06. The motion passed unanimously with Councilman Wright absent.

23-07 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the resubdivision of Lots 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, & 22 into Lots 17-A, 18-A, & 21-A, located in the area generally bounded by W. 5th Street, Camphor Drive, Dupont Road and W. Airline Hwy, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA, as shown in Exhibit 1 attached (PZS-23-1334) (J. Hotard & T. Lambeth)

Public Comment was given by Sandra Ratcliff on Ord. 23-07.

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 23-07. The motion passed unanimously with Councilman Wright absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Cain Dufrene - Resolution - R23-35 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to solicit bids for Extrication Tools for the Office of Fire Services

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to approve Resolution R23-35. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to solicit bids for Extrication Tools for the Office of Fire Services. **WHEREAS**, Article IV, Section H (2) and (5) of the St. John the Baptist Parish Home Rule Charter permits the Parish Council to adopt a resolution when authorizing a designated person(s) to execute a previously approved contract on its behalf and/or to perform a ministerial act related to the administrative business of the Parish; and, **WHEREAS**, St. John the Baptist Parish entered a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) with the State of Louisiana, Department of Treasury in connection with a line-item appropriation in Act 170 of the 2022 Regular Legislative Session of the Louisiana Legislature in the sum of \$250,000.00 for the purchase of fire and safety equipment; and, **WHEREAS**, extrication tools are needed for The Office of Fire Services; and, **WHEREAS**, the estimated costs is \$250,000. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, that St. John the Baptist Parish is hereby authorized to solicit bids for extrication tools for The Office of Fire Services. The motion passed unanimously with Councilman Wright absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R23-36 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to award the Liquid Chlorine and Sulfur Dioxide Requirements to Harcros Chemicals, Inc.

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Torres seconded the motion to approve Resolution R23-36. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to award the Liquid Chlorine and Sulfur Dioxide Requirements to Harcros Chemicals, Inc. **WHEREAS**, Article IV, Section H (2) and (5) of the St. John the Baptist Parish Home Rule Charter permits the Parish Council to adopt a resolution when authorizing a designated person(s) to execute a previously approved contract

on its behalf and/or to perform a ministerial act related to the administrative business of the Parish; and **WHEREAS**, Harcros Chemicals, Inc. of St. Gabriel, LA submitted the lowest responsive and responsible bid in the amount of \$5,701; and, **WHEREAS**, purchases are made on an as-needed basis and will be funded through the Utilities and Wastewater Budgets. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, that St. John the Baptist Parish is hereby authorized to award the bid for Liquid Chlorine and Sulfur Dioxide Requirements to Harcros Chemicals, Inc. The motion passed unanimously with Councilmen Madere and Wright absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R23-37 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to award the Office of Fire Services Group Health Insurance to Blue Cross Blue Shield of Louisiana

MOTION: Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin moved and Councilman Arcuri seconded the motion to approve Resolution R23-37. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to award the Office of Fire Services Group Health Insurance to Blue Cross Blue Shield of Louisiana. **WHEREAS**, Article IV, Section H (2) and (5) of the St. John the Baptist Parish Home Rule Charter permits the Parish Council to adopt a resolution when authorizing a designated person(s) to execute a previously approved contract on its behalf and/or to perform a ministerial act related to the administrative business of the Parish; and **WHEREAS**, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Louisiana through Tatje Insurance and Financial Products, Inc. submitted the only proposals received and reviewed by the Source Selection Committee; and, **WHEREAS**, the estimated premium will be \$514,950. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, that St. John the Baptist Parish is hereby authorized to award the Group Health Insurance for the Office of Fire Services to Blue Cross Blue Shield of Louisiana. The motion passed unanimously with Councilman Wright absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R23-38 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 2 with TBT Contracting, Inc. for the Ezekial Jackson Airnasium Project

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to approve Resolution R23-38. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 2 with TBT Contracting, Inc. for the Ezekial Jackson Airnasium Project. **WHEREAS**, Article IV, Section H (2) and (5) of the St. John the Baptist Parish Home Rule Charter permits the Parish Council to adopt a resolution when authorizing a designated person(s) to execute a previously approved contract on its behalf and/or to perform a ministerial act related to the administrative business of the Parish; and **WHEREAS**, Change Order No. 2 increases the Agreement time by sixty-seven (67) days at no additional cost; and, **WHEREAS**, the additional days are due to the metal building delivery delay which has an estimated delivery date of March 8, 2023; and, **WHEREAS**, this project is funded through the Recreation Budget. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, Parish President, Jaclyn Hotard is hereby authorized and empowered on behalf of the St. John the Baptist Parish Council to execute Change Order No. 2 between St. John the Baptist Parish and TBT Contracting, Inc. The motion passed unanimously with Councilman Wright absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Daron Cooper - Resolution - R23-39 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to place Magee Excavation & Development in default and direct their Surety to complete the work for the Mississippi River Multi-Use

Trail - Phase IV

Public Comments from Meyer's Engineering were made by Donovan Duffy and Randy Asterley in reference to Resolution R23-39.

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilwoman Schnyder seconded the motion to approve Resolution R23-39. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to place Magee Excavation & Development in default and direct their Surety to complete the work for the Mississippi River Multi-Use Trail - Phase IV. **WHEREAS**, Article IV, Section H (2) and (5) of the St. John the Baptist Parish Home Rule Charter permits the Parish Council to adopt a resolution when authorizing a designated person(s) to execute a previously approved contract on its behalf and/or to perform a ministerial act related to the administrative business of the Parish; and **WHEREAS**, as advised by the Engineer, Magee Excavation & Development is not completing the work for the Mississippi River Multi-Use Trail - Phase IV Project in a timely manner; and, **WHEREAS**, Section 108.04.02 of the specifications (LSSRB 2016 Edition) states in part "if requested by the Department, the contractor must meet with and provide the project engineer with an acceptable written plan which details how the contractor will regain lost progress and prosecute remaining work"; and, **WHEREAS**, Magee Excavation & Development has given no notice as to when the project will be complete and has not attempted to complete the work which places the contractor in default; and, **WHEREAS**, Section 108.09 allows for written notification to be given to the contractor with a copy sent to the contractor's surety that the contractor is in default and can direct the surety to complete the work. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, that St. John the Baptist Parish is hereby authorized to place Magee Excavation & Development in default and direct their surety to complete the work for the Mississippi River Multi-Use Trail - Phase IV Project. The motion passed unanimously with Councilman Wright absent.

Jaelyn Hotard/Tara Lambeth - Resolution - R23-40 - A Resolution granting a permit for D. Hayes Enterprises, LLC for a dirt pit located on Lot F-1-A in Formosa Subdivision, Wallace, St. John the Baptist Parish

Additional Public Comments from Dave Hayden, Dee Davis, and John Oly were made on Resolution R23-40.

MOTION: Councilman Becnel moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Resolution R23-40.

Jackie Landeche, Council Secretary, stated, *"It failed."*

Councilman Malik stated, *"For two abstains?"*

Jackie Landeche stated, *"Hold on let's see, four yeas, two against, two abstaining and one absent. I want to make sure I get this right."*

Councilwoman Schnyder stated, *"Mr. Chairman, (in audible)"*

Councilman Malik stated, *"Excuse me, you miss voted?"*

Councilwoman Schnyder stated, *"Yes, I change my vote, (in audible)"*

Councilman Malik stated, " We have a miss vote. Let's go ahead and vote on this one more time."

Jackie Landeche stated, "Okay, we are going to vote on it again."

Councilman Malik stated, " We didn't call it."

Jackie Landeche stated, "Now, it passed, five in favor, two against, one absent and one abstaining."

Councilman Malik stated, "It is a vote of five yeas, two nays, one abstention and one absent. Thank you and thank you to everyone that was here."

MOTION: Councilman Becnel moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Resolution R23-40. A Resolution granting a permit for D. Hayes Enterprises, LLC for a dirt pit located on Lot F-1-A in Formosa Subdivision, Wallace, St. John the Baptist Parish. **WHEREAS**, Article IV, Section H (2) and (5) of the St. John the Baptist Parish Home Rule Charter permits the Parish Council to adopt a resolution when authorizing a designated person(s) to execute a previously approved contract on its behalf and/or to perform a ministerial act related to the administrative business of the Parish; and, **WHEREAS**, D. Hayes Enterprises, LLC has applied for a permit to dig a two hundred and fourteen and one-half (214.5) acre dirt borrow pit on Greenfield Louisiana, LLC's industrial site, specifically located on Lot F-1-A in Formosa Subdivision, bordering Highway 3213, Wallace, Louisiana; and, **WHEREAS**, a resolution by the Parish Council is required because the proposed dirt borrow pit is over five (5) acres; and, **WHEREAS**, the Planning and Zoning Department has reviewed this application and determined that it meets all requirements stipulated by the Code. **NOW, THEREFORE THE ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL HEREBY RESOLVES: SECTION I.** To grant a permit to D. Hayes Enterprises, LLC to excavate a two hundred and fourteen and one-half (214.5) acre dirt borrow pit on its site, specifically located on Lot F-1-A in Formosa Subdivision, St. John the Baptist Parish. The motion passed with 5 yeas, 2 against (Malik, Torres), 1 abstaining (Arcuri) and 1 absent (Wright).

Jaclyn Hotard/Joseph Savoie - Resolution - R23-41 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to award the 2023 Parish Wide Street Ditch Drainage Improvements to LA Contracting Enterprise, LLC

Jackie Landeche stated, "That carries with six in favor.."

Councilman Malik stated, "One nay."

Jackie Landeche asked, "Mr. Kurt, you didn't vote?"

Councilman Becnel stated, "Yes, I tried to press my button."

Jackie Landeche asked, "And you were voting for it?"

Councilman Becnel stated, "Yes."

Councilman Malik stated, "Okay, erase that, we had some technical difficulties."

Jackie Landeche stated, "Okay, that carries seven in favor, one against and one absent."

MOTION: Councilman Becnel moved and Councilman Arcuri seconded the motion to approve Resolution R23-41. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to award the 2023 Parish Wide Street Ditch Drainage Improvements to LA Contracting Enterprise, LLC. **WHEREAS**, Article IV, Section H (2) and (5) of the St. John the Baptist Parish Home Rule Charter permits the Parish Council to adopt a resolution when authorizing a designated person(s) to execute a previously approved contract on its behalf and/or to perform a ministerial act related to the administrative business of the Parish; and **WHEREAS**, LA Contracting Enterprise, LLC of Thibodaux, LA submitted the lowest responsive and responsible bid in the amount of \$2,993,300; and, **WHEREAS**, various items such as excavation and culvert replacement will be ordered on an as-needed basis; and, **WHEREAS**, purchases will be funded through the Public Works Budget. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, that St. John the Baptist Parish is hereby authorized to award the bid for the 2023 Parish Wide Street Ditch Drainage Improvements to LA Contracting Enterprise, LLC. The motion passed with 7 yeas, 1 absent (Wright), 1 against (Torres).

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

23-08 An ordinance that Sections 2-20 and 2-21 of Chapter 2, Article II Establishing the composition and membership of the Parish Council; creating of Election Districts and Precincts, and the designation of Polling Places hereby amended to provide for District, Precinct Boundary Descriptions and Polling Places all in accordance with the 2023 St. John the Baptist Parish Redistricting Plan (K. Becnel)

CORRESPONDENCE/COUNCIL BRIEFS:

ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:06 PM, Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilman Wright absent.

/s/Thomas Malik
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
Council Secretary