

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, APRIL 26TH, 2022
CHAIRMAN MICHAEL WRIGHT
VICE-CHAIR LENNIX MADERE

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, April 26th, 2022, at 6:00 PM.

CALL TO ORDER:

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

ABSENT: Tyra Duhe-Griffin

Councilman Madere led the Prayer. Councilman Malik led the Pledge.

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

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

There were no public comments.

Tammy Houston - Introduction - (Carry Over 04-12-2022) St. John the Baptist Parish Education Foundation

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Malik seconded the motion to remove the item St. John the Baptist Parish Education Foundation from the agenda. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin absent.

CONSENT AGENDA:

ITEMS: Approval of Minutes - April 12th, 2022, Council Meeting

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Becnel seconded the motion to approve consent agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes - April 12th, 2022, Council Meeting. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin absent.

REPORTS

President's Report:

Jaclyn Hotard - Monthly Financial Report (March 2022)

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

22-13(Public Hearing Held) An ordinance to amend Ordinance 20-54 of the St. John the Baptist Parish Council implementing a Parish Recognition Program for Renaming

Public Streets, Public Property and Nomenclatures (T. Schnyder)

MOTION: Councilwoman Schnyder moved and Councilman Torres seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 22-13. The motion FAILED with 2 Yeas (Schnyder, Torres), 5 Nays (Becnel, Houston, Madere, Malik, Wright), 1 Abstaining (Arcuri) and 1 Absent (Duhe-Griffin).

22-14(Public Hearing Held) An ordinance establishing Code of Conduct for Council Members (T. Houston)

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Arcuri seconded the motion to TABLE Ordinance 22-14 until the May 10th, 2022, meeting. The motion passed 7 Yeas (Arcuri, Becnel, Houston, Madere, Malik, Schnyder, Wright), 1 Against (Torres) and 1 Absent (Duhe-Griffin).

22-15(Public Hearing Held) An ordinance amending Ordinance 21-42 relative to the Annual Operating Budgets for St. John the Baptist Parish for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2022, and ending December 31, 2022 (J. Hotard)

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Malik seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 22-15. The motion passed 7 Yeas (Arcuri, Becnel, Houston, Madere, Malik, Torres, Wright), 1 Nay (Schnyder) and 1 Absent (Duhe-Griffin).

Jaclyn Hotard/Jason Akers - Resolution - R22-65 - A Resolution ordering and calling a special election to be held in the Parish of St. John the Baptist Parish, State of Louisiana, to authorize the renewal of special taxes therein, making application to the State Bond Commission and providing for other matters in connection therewith

MOTION: Councilman Malik moved and Councilman Becnel seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R22-65. A Resolution ordering and calling a special election to be held in the Parish of St. John the Baptist Parish, State of Louisiana, to authorize the renewal of special taxes therein, making application to the State Bond Commission 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 "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), that: SECTION 1. Election Call. Subject to the approval of the State Bond Commission, and under the authority conferred by the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974, including Article VI, Section 32 thereof, the applicable provisions of the Louisiana Election Code, and other constitutional and statutory authority, a special election is hereby called and ordered to be held in the Parish on **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2022**, between the hours of six o'clock (6:00) a.m. and eight o'clock (8:00) p.m., in accordance with the provisions of La. R.S. 18:541, and at the said election there shall be submitted to all registered voters qualified and entitled to vote at the said election under the Constitution and laws of this State and the Constitution of the United States, the following propositions, to-wit: PROPOSITION NO. 1 OF 2 (MILLAGE RENEWAL) Shall the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), continue to levy a one (1) mill tax on all property subject to taxation within the Parish (an estimated \$772,900 expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year), for a period of ten (10) years, beginning with the year 2023 and ending with the year 2032, for the purpose of maintaining and operating public buildings used to house developmentally disabled persons (including payment of salaries and

cost for conducting training programs for developmentally disabled persons)?

PROPOSITION NO. 2 OF 2 (MILLAGE RENEWAL) Shall the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), continue to levy a one (1) mill tax on all the property subject to taxation within said Parish (an estimated \$772,900 expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year), for a period of ten (10) years, beginning with the year 2024 and ending with the year 2033, to acquire, construct, maintain and operate Parish Senior Citizens' Centers and to provide funding for other Parish Senior Citizens' Programs, operated by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council on Aging, Inc.?

SECTION 2. Publication of Notice of Election. A Notice of Special Election shall be published in the official journal of the Parish once a week for four consecutive weeks, with the first publication to be made not less than forty-five (45) days nor more than ninety (90) days prior to the date of the election, which Notice shall be substantially in the form attached hereto as "Exhibit A" and incorporated herein by reference the same as if it were set forth herein in full. Notwithstanding the foregoing, prior to the publication of the Notice of Election, the Chairman is authorized and directed to make any amendments to the foregoing propositions that may be required to comply with any state or federal regulatory agencies.

SECTION 3. Canvass. This Governing Authority shall meet at its regular meeting place, the St. John the Baptist Parish Government Complex Chambers, 1811 W. Airline Hwy., LaPlace, Louisiana, on **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2022, at SIX O'CLOCK (6:00) P.M.**, and shall then and there in open and public session proceed to examine and canvass the returns and declare the result of the said special election.

SECTION 4. Polling Places. The polling places for the precincts in the Parish are hereby designated as the polling places at which to hold the said election, and the Commissioners-in-Charge and Commissioners, respectively, will be the same persons as those designated in accordance with law.

SECTION 5. Election Commissioners; Voting Machines. The officers designated to serve as Commissioners-in-Charge and Commissioners pursuant to Section 4 hereof, or such substitutes therefor as may be selected and designated in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1287, shall hold the said special election as herein provided, and shall make due returns of said election for the meeting of the Governing Authority to be held as provided in Section 3 hereof. All registered voters in the Parish will be entitled to vote at the special election and voting machines shall be used.

SECTION 6. Authorization of Officers. The Council Secretary of the Governing Authority is hereby empowered, authorized and directed to arrange for and to furnish to said election officers in ample time for the holding of said election, the necessary equipment, forms and other paraphernalia essential to the proper holding of said election and the Chairman and/or Council Secretary of the Governing Authority are further authorized, empowered and directed to take any and all further action required by State and/or Federal law to arrange for the election.

SECTION 7. Furnishing Election Call to Election Officials. Certified copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Secretary of State, the Clerk of Court and *Ex-Officio* Parish Custodian of Voting Machines of St. John the Baptist Parish and the Registrar of Voters of St. John the Baptist Parish, as notification of the special election, in order that each may prepare for said election and perform their respective functions as required by law.

SECTION 8. Application to State Bond Commission. Application is made to the State Bond Commission for consent and authority to hold the special election as herein provided, and in the event said election carries for further consent and authority to continue to levy and collect the special taxes provided for therein. A certified copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the State Bond Commission on behalf of this Governing Authority, together with a letter requesting the prompt consideration and approval of this application. The motion

passed with Councilwomen Duhe-Griffin and Schnyder absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R22-66 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to solicit bids for the Central Avenue Lift Station Rehabilitation Project

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Torres seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R22-66. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to solicit bids for the Central Avenue Lift Station Rehabilitation 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**, the Central Avenue Lift Station needs to be rehabilitated to continue to provide reliable wastewater collection in the Reserve area; and, **WHEREAS**, rehabilitation will consist of removing and replacing pumps, motors, piping, valves, electrical and controls as well as cleaning and lining the existing wet wall; and, **WHEREAS**, the estimated cost of this project is \$510,000 and will be funded through the LDEQ Clean Water State Revolving Loan. **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 the Central Avenue Lift Station Rehabilitation Project. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R22-67 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to solicit bids for the River Road, Garyville, Tigerville, Central and Wallace Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Repairs Project

MOTION: Councilman Becnel moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R22-67. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to solicit bids for the River Road, Garyville, Tigerville, Central and Wallace Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Repairs 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**, WWTP repairs are needed for safety and maintenance at the River Road, Garyville, Tigerville, Central and Wallace WWTPs; and, **WHEREAS**, the estimated cost of repairs is \$550,000 and will be funded through the LDEQ Clean Water State Revolving Loan. **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 the River Road, Garyville, Tigerville, Central and Wallace Wastewater Treatment Plant Repairs Project. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R22-68 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to solicit bids for Emergency Fencing Repairs

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Malik seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R22-68. **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 suffered extensive damage due to Hurricane Ida; and, **WHEREAS**, as a result, security chain link fencing at various water and wastewater facilities are in need of repair throughout the Parish. **WHEREAS**, repairs will be funded through the Hurricane Ida Fund with FEMA reimbursement. **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 Emergency Fending Repairs. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin and Councilman Becnel absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R22-69 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to amend the contract with Blackboard, Inc. for services related to the Mass Notification System

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Malik seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R22-69. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to amend the contract with Blackboard, Inc. for services related to the Mass Notification System. **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**, this Amendment between St. John the Baptist Parish Council and Blackboard, Inc. is for an increase of \$2,375; and, **WHEREAS**, Blackboard, Inc. allows for dissemination of emergency and non-emergency information Parish wide; and, **WHEREAS**, Amendment No. 1 is funded through allocations from various departments. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, that St. John the Baptist Parish is hereby authorized to amend the contract with Blackboard, Inc. for services related to the Mass Notification System. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin and Councilman Becnel absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R22-70 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) with the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) for Program Management Services for the Hurricane Ida Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

MOTION: Councilman Malik moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R22-70. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) with the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) for Program Management Services for the Hurricane Ida Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). **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**, GOHSEP will assist the Parish by providing Program Management assistance and services in order to pursue funding through the FEMA HMGP allocations received from the State; and, **WHEREAS**, the engagement for Program Management Services has been expanded to include disasters from Hurricane Ida and any potentially future events; and, **WHEREAS**, the CEA will be funded through FEMA. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, that Parish President Jaclyn Hotard is hereby duly authorized and empowered on behalf of the St. John the Baptist Parish Council to sign and execute the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between St. John the Baptist Parish and GOHSEP. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin and Councilman

Madere absent.

Jaclyn Hotard - Resolution - R22-71 - A Resolution authorizing the Parish President to execute a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) with the State of Louisiana, Department of Treasury required in connection with a line-item appropriation in Act 119 of the 2021 Regular Legislative Session of the Louisiana Legislature for West 19th Street Road Rehabilitation

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Malik seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R22-71. A Resolution authorizing the Parish President to execute a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) with the State of Louisiana, Department of Treasury required in connection with a line-item appropriation in Act 119 of the 2021 Regular Legislative Session of the Louisiana Legislature for West 19th Street Road Rehabilitation. **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 received a line-item appropriation of \$350,000 in Act 119 of the 2021 Regular Legislative Session of the Louisiana Legislature for infrastructure improvements which is applied to the West 19th Street Road Rehabilitation; and, **WHEREAS**, the CEA will allow the Parish to be reimbursed by the State Treasury for funds expended on this project. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, that Parish President Jaclyn Hotard is hereby duly authorized and empowered on behalf of the St. John the Baptist Parish Council to sign and execute the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between St. John the Baptist Parish and the State of Louisiana, Department of Treasury. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin and Councilman Wright absent.

Jaclyn Hotard - Resolution - R22-72 - A Resolution authorizing the Parish President to execute a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) with the State of Louisiana, Department of Treasury required in connection with a line-item appropriation in Act 120 of the 2021 Regular Legislative Session of the Louisiana Legislature for Belle Pointe Sewer Re-route

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Arcuri seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R22-72. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) with the State of Louisiana, Department of Treasury required in connection with a line-item appropriation in Act 120 of the 2021 Regular Legislative Session of the Louisiana Legislature for Belle Pointe Sewer Re-Route. **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 received a line-item appropriation of \$190,000 in Act 120 of the 2021 Regular Legislative Session of the Louisiana Legislature for infrastructure and repairs which is applied to the Belle Pointe Sewer Re-route; and, **WHEREAS**, the CEA will allow the Parish to be reimbursed by the State Treasury for funds expended on this project. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, that Parish President Jaclyn Hotard is hereby duly authorized and empowered on behalf of the St. John the Baptist Parish Council to sign and execute the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between St. John the Baptist Parish and the State of Louisiana, Department of Treasury. The motion passed with

Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin absent.

Jaclyn Hotard - Resolution - R22-73 - A Resolution in support of: (1) declaring the week of May 1st through May 7th, 2022, "National Hurricane Preparedness Week"; (2) encouraging citizens of St. John to purchase flood insurance; (3) stressing the requirement to obtain building permits in advance of construction in the floodplain; and (4) emphasizing the importance of making improvements to individual Hurricane Preparedness Plans: all of which may better reduce the occurrence of death and injury as a result of severe flooding during the 2022 Hurricane Season

MOTION: Councilman Malik moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R22-73. A Resolution in support of: (1) declaring the week of May 1st through May 7th, 2022, "National Hurricane Preparedness Week"; (2) encouraging citizens of St. John to purchase flood insurance; (3) stressing the requirement to obtain building permits in advance of construction in the floodplain; and (4) emphasizing the importance of making improvements to individual Hurricane Preparedness Plans: all of which may better reduce the occurrence of death and injury as a result of severe flooding during the 2022 Hurricane Season. **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**, floods can happen anytime, anywhere, and without warning; and, **WHEREAS**, flooding has the potential to create significant emergencies for the citizens of St. John the Baptist Parish, including risks of imminent threat to life and property, and hundreds of millions of dollars in damage to homes, businesses and local government infrastructure; and, **WHEREAS**, the State of Louisiana has received thirty-two (32) Presidential Disaster Declarations for flooding since 2000, and is among the top ten (10) states with the most natural disasters; and, **WHEREAS**, flood damage is not typically covered under a standard homeowner's insurance policy and usually takes 30 days to activate, so residents are encouraged to review their flood risk and purchase flood insurance to protect and insure their property from flood and associated damages; and, **WHEREAS**, the National Weather Service has named the week of, May 1st through 7th, as the 2022 National Hurricane Preparedness Week; and, **WHEREAS**, the National Weather Service has declared June 1st as the start and November 30th as the end of the 2022 Hurricane Season; and, **WHEREAS**, the public is well informed of the dangers associated with flooding; and can make improvements to its preparedness to reduce the occurrence of death and injury as a result of severe flooding. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: SECTION I.** To declare the week of May 1st through 7th, 2022, "Hurricane Preparedness Week." **SECTION II.** To encourage citizens of St. John to purchase flood insurance. **SECTION III.** To stress the requirement to obtain building permits in advance of construction in the floodplain. **SECTION VI.** To emphasize the importance of making improvements to individual hurricane preparedness plans, all of which may better reduce the occurrence of death and injury as a result of severe flooding during the 2022 Hurricane Season. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin absent.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

22-16 An ordinance approving the re-subdivision of Farm Lot B into Lots, C-3 & R-1 with a perpetual utility access servitude, located in the area generally bounded by Lasseigne Street, Mattie Street, New Highway 51, and Main

Street, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA, as shown in Exhibit 1 Attached (PZS-22-1293) (J. Hotard & C. Crumbley)

22-17 An ordinance approving the re-subdivision of the South Half of Lot 42 and Lot 43, Dinvaut Subdivision, Addendum Number One into Lot 43A, Dinvaut Subdivision, Addendum Number One located in the area generally bounded by Highway 18, Castle Drive, and Central Avenue, Edgard, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA as shown in Exhibit 1 attached (PZS-22-1305) (J. Hotard & C. Crumbley)

CORRESPONDENCE/COUNCIL BRIEFS:

Councilwoman Schnyder left the meeting at 7:54 PM.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:03 PM, Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Malik seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin and Schnyder absent.

/s/Michael Wright
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
Council Secretary