

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS**  
**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL**  
**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26<sup>TH</sup>, 2021**  
**CHAIR KURT BECNEL**  
**VICE-CHAIR MICHAEL WRIGHT**

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, October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021, at 6:30 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, Tyra Duhe-Griffin, Councilwoman District IV, Robert Arcuri, Councilman District V, Tonia Schnyder, Councilwoman District VI, Thomas Malik, Councilman District VII

**ABSENT:** Michael Wright

Councilman Torres led the Prayer. Councilman Malik led the Pledge.

Legal Counsel Keith Green Jr. and Christopher Cortez were present.

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

There were no public comments.

**BOARD OF REVIEW:**

Jackie Landeche stated, *"For a period of fifteen (15) days, beginning August 16, 2021 and ending August 30, 2021, this board of review has been opened to receive any written or oral complaints from taxpayers who wish to protest their assessment as determined by the assessor. Complaining taxpayers must comply with Act 705 of 1976 in order for the board of review to consider any protest. The board of review to consider any protest. The board of review is now opened to consider any protest."*

Please be advised that on Tuesday, October 26th, 2020, the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, acting as Board of Review for St. John the Baptist Parish, opened the Public Hearing to receive any written or oral complaints from taxpayers who wished to protest their assessments as determined by the Assessor.

There being no complaints from the public, the Public Hearing was closed.

**Jaclyn Hotard/CrowderGulf, LLC - Presentation - Hurricane Ida Debris Collection Status**

Bryan Small, Regional Manager with CrowderGulf, LLC was present at the meeting to give a brief update on Hurricane Ida Debris Collection. He listed the DMS sites throughout the parish and provided information on how many cubic yards of debris were picked up, including hazardous hanging limbs. The Council thanked them for a job well done.

**Jaclyn Hotard/Daron Cooper/Peter Montz - Presentation - Preliminary Status Report of Facilities Damaged in Hurricane Ida**

Daron Cooper was present at the meeting to provide a preliminary status report of the facilities damaged in Hurricane Ida. Also present were Mark Johnson and Flo Dumas with Entergy, to provide information on the lighting repairs and upgrades in the parish and answer any questions the Council may have had. The Council thanked them for attending the meeting to provide the update.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**ITEMS:** Approval of Minutes - October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Council Meeting; Permit Approval - Manchac - Old Hwy. 51 Half Marathon, 10 Mile & 5K Run/Walk - Saturday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021 - beginning at 8:00 AM

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Consent Agenda consisting of Approval of Minutes - October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Council meeting; Permit Approval - Manchac - Old Hwy. 51 Half Marathon, 10 Mile & 5K Run/Walk - Saturday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021 beginning at 8:00 AM. The motion passed with Councilman Wright absent.

**REPORTS:**

**President's Report**

**Jaclyn Hotard - Monthly Financial Report (September 2021)**

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "Thank you Chairman Becnel. The monthly report has been submitted to the Council."

**Tom Malik - Finance Committee Report**

Councilman Malik stated, "Thank you Mr. Chairman. The Finance Committee met prior to this meeting; Items 1-10 were approved by seven of the Councilmen seated, 11 through 14 by all eight. The Finance Committee approved the following Resolutions R21-140, R21-141, R21-142, R21-143, R21-144, R21-145, R21-146, R21-147, R21-148, R21-149 and R21-150."

**PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION ON ORDINANCES/NEW BUSINESS:**

**Kurt Becnel - Resolution - R21-138 - A Resolution to appoint Tammy Houston and Robert Arcuri to the Regional Planning Commission (RPC)**

**MOTION:** Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Malik seconded the motion to approve Resolution-R21-138. A Resolution to A RESOLUTION TO APPOINT TAMMY HOUSTON AND ROBERT ARCURI TO THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (RPC). WHEREAS, on November 7, 2016, St. John the Baptist Parish Council passed ORDINANCE 16-52 to re-establish a Regional Planning Commission to include the Parishes of St. Charles and St. John the Baptist jointly with the Parishes of Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Tammany and Tangipahoa; and WHEREAS, the Regional Planning Commission is comprised of a board of local elected officials and citizen members, appointed to represent constituents on regional issues; and WHEREAS, the re-establishment of the Regional Planning Commission is in the best interest of the citizens of St. John the Baptist, increasing opportunities for

federal and state funding sources and making available to Parish staff increased levels of expertise; NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council that: Section 1: The following individuals are appointed to represent St. John the Baptist Parish on the Regional Planning Commission Board: Jaclyn Hotard, St. John the Baptist Parish President; and Tammy Houston, St. John the Baptist Parish Council; and Robert Arcuri, St. John the Baptist Parish Council; and Raj Pannu, Business Owner and President of the Belle Terre Civic Association; and Jonathan Perrett, Director of Project Delivery - RSD Program at CSRS Inc. The motion passed with 5 Yeas (Arcuri, Becnel, Houston, Madere, Malik), 1 Nay (Torres), 2 Abstaining (Duhe-Griffin, Schnyder) and 1 Absent (Wright).

**Jaclyn Hotard/Rene Pastorek - Resolution - R21-139 - A Resolution ratifying authorizing the Department of Planning and Zoning and the Planning Commission to conduct a study of the text of Chapter 113. - Zoning, specifically those provisions related to the replacement of previously approved mobile homes following natural disasters, and to provide for other related matters**

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Resolution-R21-139. A Resolution to ratifying authorizing the Department of Planning and Zoning and the Planning Commission to conduct a study of the text of Chapter 113. - Zoning, specifically those provisions related to the replacement of previously approved mobile homes following natural disasters, and to provide for other related matters. WHEREAS, Hurricane Ida made landfall of the coast of Southeast Louisiana on August 29, 2021 causing devastating flooding and wind damage throughout St. John the Baptist Parish; and WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Parish Council to study existing regulations and establish interim regulations to enable a speedy recovery process; and WHEREAS, existing regulations require mobile homes in any zoning district to be individually approved by the Planning Commission regardless of loss or destruction by natural disaster; and WHEREAS, many mobile homes were previously approved by the Planning Commission and have already been adequately vetted by the public; and THE ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST COUNCIL HEREBY RESOLVES: SECTION I. That the Department of Planning and Zoning and the Planning Commission are hereby authorized to conduct a study of the text of Chapter 113. - Zoning, specifically those provisions related to the replacement of previously approved mobile homes following natural disasters, as well as to provide for related matters. SECTION II. That interim zoning regulations below are hereby in effect that regulate the replacement of previously approved mobile homes. (a) Replacement of damaged mobile homes. a. Replacement of damaged mobile homes which were previously approved by the Planning Commission may be replaced subject to the following: i. Mobile home must be owner-occupied (before the storm) as evidenced by water bills, homestead exemptions, etc. ii. Mobile home replacement must have been built within the last 10 years. iii. All other regulations with respect to skirting, removal of wheels, foundation requirements remain in effect. The motion passed 6 Yeas (Arcuri, Becnel, Houston, Madere, Malik, Torres), 2 Abstaining (Duhe-Griffin, Schnyder) and 1 Absent (Wright).

**DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:**

**Tyra Duhe-Griffin - Update on temporary housing for residents affected by Hurricane Ida**

The above item was addressed in the President's Report.

**Tyra Duhe-Griffin - Update on grants available to residents affected by Hurricane Ida - Elevation of homes**

Myra Valentine stated, "Good Evening Council. Currently there are not any grant funds available for elevation currently. Typically, after a major devastation such as Hurricane Ida, the parish should receive disaster recover funds from the Office of Community Development, and from the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness. Historically, this type of funding is not distributed to the parishes that were affected until several months to a year after the disaster has taken place. That's coming from...us receiving funds from Hurricane Gustav, Ike, and Hurricane Isaac. Typically, that's the timeframe of it. So, right now there isn't any funding available to assist with elevation or reconstruction at this time."

**Tyra Duhe-Griffin - Update on water meters project, following Hurricane Ida**

The above item was addressed in the President's Report.

**Tyra Duhe-Griffin - Street light repairs status update for New Era Subdivision**

The above item was addressed during Daron Cooper's presentation.

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:**

**21-41** An ordinance authorizing the acceptance of improvements and granting final subdivision approval of Coles Place, Phase 2 & 3, Lots 63-A through 91-A, Lots V-2B and V-2C, as shown in a survey prepared by Stephen P. Flynn, P.L.S. on April 19, 2021 (PZS-21-1270) (J. Hotard)

**21-42** An ordinance introducing the annual operating budgets for the St. John the Baptist Parish General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, Enterprise Funds, Capital Projects Funds, and Debit Service Funds for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2022 and ending December 31, 2022 (See attached Amendments) (J. Hotard)

**CORRESPONDENCE/COUNCIL BRIEFS:**

Councilwoman Houston excused herself from the meeting at 8:49 PM.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

At 8:52 PM, Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin moved and Councilman Malik seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilwoman Houston and Councilman Wright absent.

/s/Kurt Becnel  
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche  
Council Secretary