

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, JULY 12TH, 2022
CHAIRMAN MICHAEL WRIGHT
VICE-CHAIR LENNIX MADERE

The Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session in the Rudolph Sorapuru Chambers, Edgard, Louisiana on Tuesday, July 12th, 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, 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: None

Councilman Madere led the Prayer. Councilman Becnel led the Pledge.

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

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

Public comments on Ordinance 22-22 were given by the following residents: Edmond Ganucheau, 119 Somerset Road LaPlace, LA; Brian Jackson, 400 Sparrow Lane, LaPlace, LA; Michael Madere, 111 Matthew Drive, LaPlace, LA; Shondrell Perrilloux, 1118 Main Street, LaPlace, LA; Christie Montegut, 51 Holly Drive, LaPlace, LA; Frank Kinsley, 18035 West Augusta, Baton Rouge, LA; Eric Wolverton, 103 Gail Drive, LaPlace, LA; Dwayne Templet, 350 Devon Road, LaPlace, LA; Jan Sutton, 161 Broadway, New Orleans, LA; Yvonne Pollet, 134 Devon Road, LaPlace, LA; Lillian Perrin, 1544 Harmony, New Orleans, LA

CONSENT AGENDA:

ITEMS: Approval of Minutes - June 28th, 2022, Council Meeting

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to approve consent agenda item - Approval of Minutes - June 28th, 2022, Council Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS:

President's Report:

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

22-22 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the rezoning of Lot C, Elvina Plantation, located in the area generally bounded by E. Airline Highway, Interstate 10, U.S. Highway 51, and Windsor Blvd, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist

Parish, LA from the Residential District One (R-1) to the Rural Zoning District, as shown in Exhibit 1 attached (PZR-22-1295) (J. Hotard & T. Lambeth)

MOTION: Councilwoman Schnyder moved and Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 22-22. The motion was DENIED with 2 Yeas (Duhe-Griffin, Schnyder), 6 Nays (Madere, Becnel, Malik, Torres, Becnel, Wright) and 1 Abstaining (Arcuri).

22-23 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the rezoning of Lot 14, Square 2, Melius Subdivision located in the area generally bounded by E. 25th Street, E. 26th Street, and Highway 44, Reserve, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA from the Residential District One (R-1) and Commercial District One (C-1) to the Residential District One (R-1) zoning district, as shown in Exhibit 1 attached (PZR-22-1308) (J. Hotard & T. Lambeth)

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 22-23. The motion passed unanimously.

22-24 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the rezoning of Lot 1, Scarlet Oaks Subdivision, located in the area generally bounded by W. Airline Highway, Central Avenue, and Steven Drive, Reserve, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA from the Commercial District Three (C-3) to the Residential District One (R-1), as shown in Exhibit 1 attached (PZR- 22-1312) (J. Hotard & T. Lambeth)

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Arcuri seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 22-24. The motion passed unanimously.

22-25 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the re-subdivision of Lots 118 & 119 into Lot 118-A of Lakeshore Estates, Inc. Subdivision, located in the area generally bounded by Rue St. James, Rue St. Charles, Highway 643, and Des Allemands Boulevard, Vacherie, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA, as shown in Exhibit 1 attached (PZS-22-1309) (J. Hotard & T. Lambeth)

MOTION: Councilman Becnel moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 22-25. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R22-116 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to ratify the advertisement and solicitation of bids for Hurricane Ida Building Repairs

MOTION: Councilman Malik moved and Councilwoman Schnyder seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R22-116. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to ratify the advertisement and solicitation of bids for Hurricane Ida Building Repairs. **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 sustained extensive damage due to Hurricane Ida on August 29, 2021; and, **WHEREAS**, as a result, Parish owned buildings throughout St. John are in need of repairs. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, that St. John the Baptist Parish is hereby authorized to ratify the advertisement and solicitation of bids for Hurricane Ida Building Repairs. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R22-117 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to award the bid for the Carrollwood Drive Rehabilitation Project to Kass Bros, Inc.

MOTION: Councilman Malik moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R22-117. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to ratify the advertisement and solicitation of bids for Hurricane Ida Building Repairs. **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**, Kass Bros, Inc. of Westwego, LA submitted the lowest responsive and responsible bid in the amount of \$2,243,080.20; and, **WHEREAS**, the Carrollwood Drive Rehabilitation Project will include replacing deteriorated roadway paving within the project limits; and, **WHEREAS**, the project 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 Carrollwood Drive Rehabilitation Project to Kass Bros, Inc. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R22-118 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to award the bid for Metal Roof Hurricane Ida Disaster Repairs to Roofing Solutions, LLC

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R22-118. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to bid for Metal Roof Hurricane Ida Disaster Repairs to Roofing Solutions, 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**, Roofing Solutions, LLC of Prairieville, LA submitted the lowest responsive and responsible bid in the amount of \$581,800; and, **WHEREAS**, as a result of damages sustained by Hurricane Ida, Parish facilities with metal roofing are in need of repairs and/or replacement; and, **WHEREAS**, costs of 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 award the bid for Metal Roof Hurricane Ida Disaster Repairs to Roofing Solutions, LLC. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R22-119 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to settle and pay the August 29, 2021, Property Damage Claim to John Guillot of 162 Nolan Drive, LaPlace, LA 70068

MOTION: Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R22-119. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to settle and pay the August 29, 2021, Property Damage Claim to John Guillot of 162 Nolan Drive, LaPlace, LA 70068. **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**, Louisiana Claims Administrators (LoCA) recommended, and Legal Counsel approved the

settlement amount of \$1,500; and, **WHEREAS**, the settlement will be funded through the Claim/Litigation Settlement line item of 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 settle and pay the August 29, 2021, Property Damage Claim to John Guillot of 162 Nolan Drive, LaPlace, LA 70068. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Reed Alexander - Resolution - R22-121 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to enter into a Professional Service Agreement with Meyer Engineers, Ltd. for the Water Transmission Main (Mississippi River to Woodland Treatment Facility) Project

MOTION: Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilman Malik seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R22-121. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to enter into a Professional Service Agreement with Meyer Engineers, Ltd. for the Water Transmission Main (Mississippi River to Woodland Treatment Facility) 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**, Meyer Engineers, LTD of Metairie, LA has been selected as the Engineer for the Water Transmission Main (Mississippi River to Woodland Treatment Facility) Project; and, **WHEREAS**, services included is the first of three components in the transition of the source of raw water for LaPlace from the Ruddock wells to the Mississippi River; and, **WHEREAS**, under the St. John Water Improvement Program, approximately 21,000 ft of a new water transmission main is proposed to carry pre-treated Mississippi River water from the proposed new Raw Water Intake and Pre-Treatment Facility located on the Mississippi River to the Woodland Reverse Osmosis Treatment Facility; and, **WHEREAS**, the estimated cost of the Agreement is \$1,201,649 and will be funded through the St. John the Baptist Parish Water Bond Fund. **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 Professional Services Agreement between St. John the Baptist Parish and Meyer Engineers, LTD. The motion passed with 8 Yeas and 1 Nay (Torres).

Jaclyn Hotard/Reed Alexander - Resolution - R22-122 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with Hartman Engineering, Inc. for the 1 million gallons per Day (MGD) Wastewater Treatment Pond Project (Westbank)

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Malik seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R22-122. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with Hartman Engineering, Inc. for the 1 million gallons per Day (MGD) Wastewater Treatment Pond Project (Westbank). **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**, Hartman Engineering, Inc. of Prairieville, LA has been selected as the Engineer for the 1 MGD Wastewater Treatment Pond Project on the Westbank; and, **WHEREAS**, in order to consolidate three (3) existing Regional Wastewater Treatment Plants on the Westbank, the Parish proposes to

construct a new 1 MGD Wastewater Treatment Pond and effluent line to the Mississippi River; and, **WHEREAS**, the proposed project includes an earthen pond capable of handling a maximum flow of 1 MGD, headworks structure, aeration basin, chlorination facility, effluent pump station and approximately 4,000 ft of force main with levee crossing; and, **WHEREAS**, the estimated cost of the Agreement is \$931,459.88 will be funded through the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality Clean Water State Revolving Loan. **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 Professional Services Agreement between St. John the Baptist Parish and Hartman Engineering, Inc. The motion passed with 8 Yeas and 1 Abstaining (Becnel).

Jaclyn Hotard/Tara Lambeth - Resolution - R22-124 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) with the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources for the Local Coastal Program Implementation

MOTION: Councilman Malik moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R22-124. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) with the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources for the Local Coastal Program Implementation. **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 CEA with the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources is to receive funding to continue implementation of the Parish's Local Coastal Program which includes managing the coastal zone, processing coastal zone permits, conducting field investigations and submitting reports to the State; and, **WHEREAS**, the program was previously adopted by Council and implementation serves to protect, develop and restore resources within the Parish's Coastal Zone. **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 Louisiana Department of Natural Resources. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Tara Lambeth - Resolution - R22-125 - A Resolution to accept the Planning Commission's recommendation to deny application number PZR-22-1311 to rezone Lot A, New Era Plantation from the Residential District One (R-1) to the Rural Zoning District

MOTION: Councilman Becnel moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R22-125. A Resolution to accept the Planning Commission's recommendation to DENY application number PZR-22-1311 to rezone Lot A, New Era Plantation from the Residential District One (R-1) to the Rural Zoning District. **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 Request was unanimously recommended for denial by the Planning Commission on March 21, 2022; and, **WHEREAS**, Section 113-

79(c) of the Code of Ordinances states that if the Planning Commission recommends denial of a re-zoning and the Parish Council concurs, the matter need not to be introduced for a Public Hearing; and, **WHEREAS**, if this Resolutions fails adoption, the matter will be introduced as an Ordinance for consideration at the next available Parish Council meeting. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, that St. John the Baptist Parish hereby accepts the Planning Commission's recommendation to deny application number PZR-22-1311 to rezone Lot A, New Era Plantation from the Residential District One [R-1] to the Rural Zoning District. The motion passed 8 Yeas and 1 Abstaining (Torres).

Tonia Schnyder/Tyra Duhe-Griffin - Resolution - R22-126 - A Resolution requesting an Investigative Audit from the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's Office on the legality of a deviation memo, deviating from a General Travel Regulations Parish Policy, received from Parish Administration and the Council Chairman and a Policy Interpretation

MOTION: Councilwoman Schnyder moved and Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R22-126. A Resolution requesting an Investigative Audit from the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's Office on the legality of a deviation memo, deviating from a General Travel Regulations Parish Policy, received from Parish Administration and the Council Chairman and a Policy Interpretation. **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, that an Investigative Audit from the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's Office on the legality of a deviation memo, deviating from a General Travel Regulations Parish Policy, received from the Parish Administration and the Council Chairman and a Policy Interpretation be requested. The motion FAILED with 6 Nays (Madere, Becnel, Houston, Arcuri, Malik, Wright) and 3 Yeas (Duhe-Griffin, Schnyder, Torres).

Tonia Schnyder/Tyra Duhe-Griffin - Resolution - R22-127 - A Resolution requesting the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year 2021

MOTION: Councilwoman Schnyder moved and Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R22-127. A Resolution requesting the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year 2021. **WHEREAS**, the Home Rule Charter states specifically "An independent audit of all accounts and financial transactions of the Parish shall be completed within ninety (90) days after each fiscal year". **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, that the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year 2021 be submitted to the Council. The motion FAILED with 6 Nays (Madere, Becnel, Houston, Arcuri, Malik, Wright) and 3 Yeas (Duhe-Griffin, Schnyder, Torres).

Tonia Schnyder/Tyra Duhe-Griffin - Resolution - R22-128 - A Resolution to implement a Council "rule", to direct the Council Staff to type complete, "detailed" minutes of the Council Meetings and have those approved minutes posted on the Parish Website for public consumption

MOTION: Councilwoman Schnyder moved and Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R22-128. A Resolution to implement a Council "Rule" to direct the Council Staff to type complete, "detailed" minutes of the Council meetings and have those approved minutes posted on the Parish Website for public consumption. **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, that a Council 'rule" be implemented directing the Council Staff to type complete, "detailed" minutes of the Council Meetings and have those approved

minutes posted on the Parish Website for public consumption. The motion FAILED with 5 Nays (Madere, Becnel, Houston, Arcuri, Wright) and 4 Yeas (Duhe-Griffin, Malik, Schnyder, Torres).

Tonia Schnyder/Tyra Duhe-Griffin - Resolution - R22-129 - A Resolution directing the Council Chairman to allow Parish related discussion topics under Department/Engineer Reports from Council Members

MOTION: Councilwoman Schnyder moved and Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R22-129. A Resolution directing the Council Chairman to allow Parish related discussion topics under Department/Engineer Reports from Council Members. **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, to direct the Council Chairman to allow Parish related discussion topics under Department/Engineer Reports from Council Members. The motion FAILED with 5 Nays (Becnel, Houston, Arcuri, Malik, Wright) and 4 Yeas (Duhe-Griffin, Schnyder, Torres, Madere).

Tonia Schnyder/Tyra Duhe-Griffin - Resolution - R22-130 - A Resolution directing the Administration to give Council Members access to the Purchase Order System, for informational purposes only

MOTION: Councilwoman Schnyder moved and Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R22-130. A Resolution directing the Administration to give Council Members access to the Purchase Order System. **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, to direct the Administration to give Council Members access to the Purchase Order System, for informational purposes only. The motion FAILED with 5 Nays (Becnel, Houston, Arcuri, Malik, Wright), 1 Absent (Madere), and 3 Yeas (Duhe-Griffin, Schnyder, Torres).

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

22-26 An ordinance of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, recognizing the final form and execution of the Bond Purchase Agreement in connection with the issuance and sale of its General Obligation Bonds, Series 2022, and providing for other matters in connection thereto (J. Hotard)

22-27 An ordinance granting to Entergy Louisiana, LLC, its successors and assigns, the franchise, right and privilege, for a period of Fifty (50) years from the date of the adoption hereof, to supply, in such manner as it deems best, electric power and energy throughout the Parish of St. John the Baptist, Louisiana, and to the inhabitants thereof, or to any person, firm, or corporation, and the right to acquire, construct, operate, and maintain such plants, structures, transmission lines, distribution systems, and equipment as may be useful or necessary for the generation, production, transportation, distribution, and/or sale of electric power and energy throughout the Parish of St. John the Baptist, Louisiana, and the right to erect, operate, and maintain poles, masts, supports, wires, cables, transmission lines, conduits, conductors, substations distribution systems, and any and all other appliances useful or necessary for the transportation and/or distribution and/or sale of electric power

and energy on, over, under, along, upon, and across all of the present and/or future streets, roads, highways, alleys, and public places of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, Louisiana, not within the limits of any incorporated city, town or village, and the right to repair, replace, or remove same, or any portion thereof, and the right to connect any such transmission line or distribution system to any other transmission line or distribution system for the purpose of transporting electric power and energy into, through, or beyond the boundaries of the Parish. (J. Hotard)

MOTION: Councilman Malik moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Camille Oubre v. Judge Nghanna Lewis and St. John the Baptist Parish Council, Case # 22-CV-01789-NJB-DND. The motion passed with Councilman Becnel absent.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Camille Oubre v. Judge Nghanna Lewis and St. John the Baptist Parish Council, Case # 22-CV-01789-NJB-DND

There was no action as a result of Executive Session.

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to go back into Regular Session. The motion passed with Councilman Malik absent.

CORRESPONDENCE/COUNCIL BRIEFS:

ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:18 PM, Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilwoman Schnyder seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

/s/Michael Wright
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
Council Secretary