

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24TH, 2023
CHAIRMAN MICHAEL WRIGHT
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, October 24th, 2023, at 6:00 PM.

CALL TO ORDER:

ROLL CALL: Lennix Madere, Jr., Councilman-at-Large, Div. A, Michael Wright, Councilman-at-Large, Div. B, Kurt Becnel, Councilman District I, Warren Torres, Councilman District II, Tammy Houston, Councilwoman District III, Tyra Duhe-Griffin, Councilwoman District IV, Robert Arcuri, Councilman District V, Tanya Faucheux, Councilwoman District VII

ABSENT: Tonia Schnyder

Councilwoman Houston led the Prayer and Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin led the Pledge.

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

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

There was no public comment at this time.

CONSENT AGENDA:

ITEMS: Approval of Minutes - October 10th, 2023, Council Meeting; Permit Approval - Woman Like Me and the Girl Like Me - 5K Turkey Run/Trot/Walk - Saturday, November 11th - registration begins at 8:00 AM at New Wine Christian Fellowship Parking Lot with the Trot ending at Tom Daley Memorial Park

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin seconded the motion to approve the amended consent agenda items - Approval of Minutes - October 10th, 2023, Council Meeting; Permit Approval - Woman Like Me and the Girl Like Me - 5K Turkey Run/Trot/Walk - Saturday, November 11th - registration begins at 8:00 AM at New Wine Christian Fellowship Parking Lot with the Trot ending at Tom Daley Memorial Park. The motion passed unanimously with Councilwoman Schnyder absent.

REPORTS:

President's Report

Jaclyn Hotard - Monthly Financial Report (September 2023)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

23-49 (Postponed 10-10-23) (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the conditional approval of Dool Double O-O's Subdivision for the creation of the

Kirk & Karen Scott Lot, the Jack & Lamouth Jr. & Alicia Lot, Lots PB-1, 1, 2, 1W - 31W, & 1E, commencing at the intersection of Dool Drive and Highway 18, Wallace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZS-23-1369) (J. Hotard & T. Lambeth)

MOTION: Councilman Becnel moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 23-49. The motion passed unanimously with Councilwoman Schnyder absent.

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

23-54 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the rezoning of Property No. 3, Block 5, Industrial Park South, in the area generally bounded by West Airline Highway, West 19th Street, and Transport Road, Reserve, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA from Industrial District Two (I-2) to the Industrial District Three (I-3) (PZR-23-1465) (J. Hotard & T. Lambeth)

Miles Granderson, Sherman Strategies of New Orleans, spoke on Ordinance 23-54.

Councilman Torres wanted to clarify that the re-zoning only involves 10 acres of land and that we did receive an additional map for clarity of that.

MOTION: Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 23-54. The motion passed unanimously with Councilwoman Schnyder absent.

23-55 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the resubdivision of Property No. 3, Block 5, Industrial Park South, in the area generally bounded by West Airline Highway, West 19th Street, and Transport Road, Reserve, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZS-23-1373) (J. Hotard & T. Lambeth)

MOTION: Councilman Torres moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 23-55. The motion passed unanimously with Councilwoman Schnyder absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Reed Alexander - Resolution - R23-206 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to amend the agreement with Hartman Engineering, Inc. for the Garyville Pump Station and Force Main Project

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Torres seconded the motion to approve Resolution R23-206. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to amend the agreement with Hartman Engineering, Inc. for the Garyville Pump Station and Force Main 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, Amendment No. 1 includes the adjustment of fees for basic services and resident inspection services based on the Parish Fee Curve from Ordinance 05-16 and the actual bid price received; and, WHEREAS, also includes permitting fees and materials testing based on a revised project scope that changes the planned Force Main route; and, WHEREAS, the estimated cost of this Amendment is \$406,359.14 and will be funded through the Wastewater Fund and reimbursement from 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 amend the Agreement

between St. John the Baptist Parish and Hartman Engineering, Inc. The motion passed unanimously with Councilwoman Schnyder absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R23-207 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to solicit bids for Chlorine & Sulfur Dioxide

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Arcuri seconded the motion to approve Resolution R23-207. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to solicit bids for Chlorine & Sulfur Dioxide. 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 Parish is requesting bids for Chlorine and Sulfur Dioxide that are purchased on an as-needed basis; and, WHEREAS, this is an annual bid and purchases will be funded through the Utilities and Wastewater Department Funds. 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 Chlorine and Sulfur Dioxide. The motion passed unanimously with Councilwoman Schnyder absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R23-208 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to solicit bids for Fuel Requirements

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to approve Resolution R23-208. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to solicit bids for Fuel Requirements. 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 existing Agreement expires December 31, 2023; and, WHEREAS, purchases will be on an as-needed basis and will be funded through 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 solicit bids for Fuel Requirements. The motion passed unanimously with Councilwoman Schnyder absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R23-209 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to solicit bids for Concrete Mix

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Arcuri the motion to approve Resolution R23-209. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to solicit bids for Concrete Mix. 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, various departments require concrete mix to complete regular maintenance operations; and, WHEREAS, purchases will be on an as-needed basis and will be funded through various Department Funds. 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 Concrete Mix. The motion passed unanimously with Councilwoman Schnyder absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R23-210 - A Resolution authorizing St.

John the Baptist Parish to solicit bids for Plastic and Corrugated Metal Culverts

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Torres seconded the motion to approve Resolution R23-210. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to solicit bids for Plastic and Corrugated Metal Culverts. 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 existing Agreement expires December 31, 2023; and, WHEREAS, purchases will be on an as-needed basis and will be funded through the Public Works Department. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, that St. John the Baptist Parish is hereby authorized to advertise and solicit bids for Plastic and Corrugated Metal Culverts. The motion passed unanimously with Councilwoman Schnyder absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R23-211 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to solicit bids for Granular Chlorine

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Arcuri seconded the motion to approve Resolution R23-211. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to solicit bids for Granular Chlorine. 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 existing Agreement expires December 31, 2023; and, WHEREAS, purchases will be on an as-needed basis and will be funded through the Utilities Department. 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 Granular Chlorine. The motion passed unanimously with Councilwoman Schnyder absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R23-212 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to solicit bids for Structural Firefighter Bunker Gear

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin seconded the motion to approve Resolution R23-212. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to solicit bids for Structural Firefighter Bunker Gear. 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 existing Agreement expires December 31, 2023; and, WHEREAS, purchases will be on an as-needed basis and will be funded through the Office of Fire Services. 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 Structural Firefighter Bunker Gear. The motion passed unanimously with Councilwoman Schnyder absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R23-213 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to solicit bids for Water Meters

MOTION: Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin moved and Councilman Torres seconded the motion to approve Resolution R23-213. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist

Parish to solicit bids for Water Meters. 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 existing Agreement expires December 31, 2023; and, WHEREAS, purchases will be on an as-needed basis and will be funded through the Utilities Department. 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 Water Meters. The motion passed unanimously with Councilwoman Schnyder absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R23-214 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to solicit bids for Water and Sewage Fittings

MOTION: Councilman Becnel moved and Councilman Arcuri seconded the motion to approve Resolution R23-214. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to solicit bids for Water and Sewage Fittings. 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 existing Agreement expires December 31, 2023; and, WHEREAS, purchases will be on an as-needed basis and will be funded through the Utilities Department and Wastewater Fund. 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 Water & Sewage Fittings. The motion passed unanimously with Councilwoman Schnyder absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R23-215 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to solicit Request for Proposals (RFP) for Grounds Maintenance and Landscaping Services

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Arcuri seconded the motion to approve Resolution R23-215. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist parish to solicit Request for Proposals (RFP) for Grounds Maintenance and Landscaping 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, the Parish is requesting proposals for Grounds Maintenance and Landscaping Services for areas throughout the Parish; and, WHEREAS, services will be funded through 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 solicit Request for Proposals (RFP) for Grounds Maintenance and Landscaping Services. The motion passed unanimously with Councilwoman Schnyder absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R23-216 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to advertise Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Construction Manager at Risk Services on the Reserve Wastewater Treatment Pond Capacity Expansion Project

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Torres seconded the motion to approve Resolution R23-216. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to advertise Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Construction Manager at Risk

Services on the Reserve Wastewater Treatment Pond Capacity Expansion 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 Reserve Wastewater Treatment Pond needs to be expanded to accept re-directed wastewater flow to continue to provide reliable and environmentally compliant wastewater treatment for the Parish; and, WHEREAS, re-directed wastewater flow from existing wastewater treatment facilities planned for decommission include the River Road WWTP and the Garyville WWTP; and, WHEREAS, this project is very complex since it will expand an existing facility that has to remain in operation during the expansion; and, WHEREAS, services will be funded through the American Rescue Plan Act Funds and 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 Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Construction Manager at Risk Services on the Reserve Wastewater Treatment Pond Capacity Expansion Project. The motion passed unanimously with Councilwoman Schnyder absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R23-217 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 1 with FCA Construction, LLC for the St. John Hurricane Ida Edard Courthouse Building Repairs Project

MOTION: Councilman Becnel moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Resolution R23-217. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 1 with FCA Construction, LLC for the St. John Hurricane Ida Edard Courthouse Building 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, Change Order No. 1 increases the original Agreement by \$23,178.74 and an additional seven (7) days; and, WHEREAS, this increase is for the installation of recessed light fixtures, goof rings, exit sign and emergency light fixtures; and, WHEREAS, Change Order No. 1 is funded through the Hurricane Ida Fund with FEMA Reimbursement. 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 Council to execute Change Order No. 1 between St. John the Baptist Parish and FCA Construction, LLC. The motion passed unanimously with Councilwoman Schnyder absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R23-218 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 12 with Command Construction Industries, LLC for the St. John the Baptist Parish Airline and Main Complete Streets Project

MOTION: Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to approve Resolution R23-218. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 12 with Command Construction Industries, LLC for the St. John the Baptist Parish Airline and Main Complete Streets 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. 12 increases the original Agreement amount by \$212,590.10; and, WHEREAS, the increase is for a Lane Separator System for additional safety for the bike path and sidewalk; and, WHEREAS, this Change Order also adjusts quantities used to complete the project; and, WHEREAS, Change Order No. 12 is funded through \$6M the Parish received from the Louisiana Office of Community Development. 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 execute Change Order No. 12 between St. John the Baptist Parish and Command Construction Industries, LLC. The motion passed unanimously with Councilwoman Schnyder absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R23-219 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 13 with Command Construction Industries, LLC for the St. John the Baptist Parish Airline and Main Complete Streets Project

MOTION: Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin seconded the motion to approve Resolution R23-219. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 13 with Command Construction Industries, LLC for the St. John the Baptist Parish Airline and Main Complete Streets 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. 13 increases the original Agreement amount by \$41,489.50 and an additional three (3) days; and, WHEREAS, the increase is for raising five (5) fire hydrants that are lower than the sidewalk and multi-use path, drainage modifications on Airline Hwy and adjusts quantities used to complete the project; and, WHEREAS, Change Order No. 13 is funded through \$6M the Parish received from the Louisiana Office of Community Development. 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 execute Change Order No. 13 between St. John the Baptist Parish and Command Construction Industries, LLC. The motion passed unanimously with Councilwoman Schnyder absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R23-220 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to enter into a Lease Agreement with AT&T

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Arcuri seconded the motion to approve Resolution R23-220. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to enter into a Lease Agreement with AT&T. 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 Lease Agreement will allow AT&T the right to install, maintain and operate the radio communications equipment, antennas and appurtenances at the Belle Terre Water Tower; and, WHEREAS, this Lease Agreement also allows AT&T the non-exclusive right of way and associated easements over a portion of the real property located at the Belle Terre Water Tower; and, WHEREAS, the Land Lease payments will be a total annual rental of \$36,000. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the St. John

the Baptist Parish Council, that St. John the Baptist Parish is hereby authorized to enter into a Lease Agreement between St. John the Baptist Parish and AT&T. The motion passed unanimously with Councilwoman Schnyder absent.

Kurt Becnel - Resolution - R23-221 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to adjust the salary of the Parish President

MOTION: Councilman Becnel moved and Councilman Arcuri seconded the motion to approve Resolution R23-221. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to adjust the salary of the Parish President. WHEREAS, Article III, Section B (2) of the St. John the Baptist Parish Home Rule Charter permits the Parish Council to increase the salary of the Parish President; and, WHEREAS, the salary of the St. John the Baptist Parish President has fallen below the regional average; and, WHEREAS, CPI increases are given annually to all employees; however, a CPI increase has not been given to the position of the Parish President; and, WHEREAS, the St. John the Baptist Parish Council authorizes an annual increase equal to the amount of the CPI increase over four (4) years, or 12%, or \$17,208, to establish a salary comparable to the regional average; and, WHEREAS, this shall become effective January 1, 2024. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, that an adjustment to the salary of the Parish President, as described above, is authorized. The motion passed with 6 yeas, 2 against (Duhe-Griffin, Torres) and 1 absent (Schnyder).

Jaclyn Hotard - Resolution - R23-222 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with XP Synergy, LLC to provide the Parish with marketing, community engagement, program development and program management services for the St. John the Baptist Parish Opioid Response and Outreach Program, in accordance with the agreed upon terms, conditions, expectations and requirements of the "Louisiana State - Local Government Opioid Litigation Memorandum of Understanding"

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Becnel seconded the motion to approve Resolution R23-222. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with XP Synergy, LLC to provide the Parish with marketing, community engagement, program development and program management services for the *St. John the Baptist Parish Opioid Response and Outreach Program*, in accordance with the agreed upon terms, conditions, expectations and requirements of the "Louisiana State - Local Government Opioid Litigation Memorandum of Understanding". WHEREAS, Article VI, Section 44(2) of the Constitution defines political subdivision as "a parish, municipality, and any other unit of local government, including a special district, authorized by law to perform governmental functions"; and WHEREAS, Article VI, Section 44(2) of the Constitution, as amended, provides that "For a public purpose, the state and its political subdivisions... may engage in cooperative endeavors with each other, with the United States or its agencies, or with any public or private association, corporation, or individual"; and WHEREAS, the St. John the Baptist Parish is a political subdivision of the State of Louisiana that is organized and existing pursuant to the St. John the Baptist Parish Home Rule Charter; and WHEREAS, XP Synergy, L.L.C. is a domestic Limited Liability Company organized in the State of Louisiana and existing pursuant to Title 12 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes; and WHEREAS, on May 8, 2018, the Parish passed Resolution No. R18-17, which authorized the St. John the Baptist Parish District Attorney to approve and

direct the employment of certain law firms to represent the Parish in potential litigation against contributors of the opioid addiction crisis; and WHEREAS, on June 22, 2018, the District Attorney executed an "Engagement to Represent" with the law firm of Baron & Budd, P.C. to represent the Parish in potential litigation against contributors of the opioid addiction crisis; and WHEREAS, on November 17, 2021, the District Attorney caused the opioid litigation matter to be placed on the Council's November 23, 2021, meeting agenda wherein the Council was given a full status of the litigation and legal recommendations to move forward during executive session; and WHEREAS, on November 23, 2021, the Parish passed Resolution No. R21-155, which authorized the Parish to join with the State of Louisiana and other local government units as a participant in the *LOUISIANA STATE-LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPIOID LITIGATION MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING* ("MOU"); and WHEREAS, Resolution No. R21-155 authorized the District Attorney to execute any formal agreements implementing a unified plan for the allocation and use of opioid settlement proceeds that is not substantially inconsistent with the MOU; and WHEREAS, Resolution No. R21-155 expressly authorized Attorney J. Burton LeBlanc, of the law firm of Baron & Budd, P.C., to execute the MOU; and WHEREAS, on December 7, 2021, the District Attorney executed the requisite *Settlement Participation Forms*; and WHEREAS, on December 13, 2021, Attorney J. Burton LeBlanc executed the MOU, attached hereto as Exhibit "D"; and WHEREAS, on August 3, 2022, a consent judgment against seventeen contributors of the opioid addiction crises was executed by Judge Wilson E. Fields of the 19th Judicial District Court; and WHEREAS, the allocation and distribution of settlement proceeds to the Parish has commenced; and WHEREAS, the citizens of St. John the Baptist Parish have been harmed by misfeasance, nonfeasance and malfeasance committed by certain entities within the Pharmaceutical Supply Chain; and WHEREAS, St. John the Baptist Parish, through its District Attorney, engaged in litigation seeking to hold the Pharmaceutical Supply Chain Participants accountable for the damage caused by their misfeasance, nonfeasance and malfeasance; and WHEREAS, the St. John the Baptist Parish government entities share a common desire to abate and alleviate the impacts of that misfeasance, nonfeasance and malfeasance; and WHEREAS, the MOU provides for the allocation and use of the settlement proceeds; and WHEREAS, the MOU contemplates that settlement proceeds will be funded to the Parish over a period of ten (10) to eighteen (18) years; and WHEREAS, the District Attorney provided legal advice, guidance and recommendations to Parish Administration relative to full compliance with the requirements of the MOU; and WHEREAS, the District Attorney and Parish Administration identified the opioid abatement strategies and approved purposes the Parish will implement for the *St. John the Baptist Parish Opioid Response and Outreach Program*; and WHEREAS, XP Synergy, LLC seeks to provide a comprehensive scope of services for the *St. John the Baptist Parish Opioid Response and Outreach Program*, which shall include but are not limited to outreach, public education, documentation services, program development coordination and participant case management; and WHEREAS, the aim of the *St. John the Baptist Parish Opioid Response and Outreach Program* is to engage, educate and connect citizens to local resources positioned to help break the cycle of addiction, rebuild and strengthen families and bring hope to our local community. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, that Parish President Jaclyn Hotard is hereby 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 XP Synergy, LLC in furtherance of the St. John the Baptist Parish Opioid Response and Outreach Program. The motion passed unanimously with Councilwoman Schnyder absent.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

- 23-56** An ordinance approving the resubdivision of Lot 7, Lot 7A, the Y & MV Railroad right of way east of Lot 7, the 50' road between Lot 7 and Lot 7A, and the batture from the west right of way of LA Highway 628 located on Highway 628, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZS-23-1365) (J. Hotard & T. Lambeth)
- 23-57** An ordinance approving the resubdivision of Lots 216 and 217 of Lac Des Allemands Cove Subdivision located at 235 Rue St. John, Vacherie, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZS-23-1374) (J. Hotard & T. Lambeth)
- 23-58** An ordinance approving the resubdivision of portions of tracts 23, 24, 25, and 26 of Cornland Plantation located at 3550 West Airline Highway, Reserve, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZS-23-1376) (J. Hotard & T. Lambeth)
- 23-59** An ordinance approving the closure of a public street and the creation of a private street within a gated townhouse community beginning approximately 70 feet from the intersection of the Southwest right of way of Highway 628 and Sugar Pine Street, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZR-23-1480) (J. Hotard & T. Lambeth)
- 23-60** 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, 2024 and ending December 31, 2024. (See attached amendments) (J. Hotard)

ADJOURNMENT:

At 6:44 PM, Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned unanimously with Councilwoman Schnyder absent.

/s/Michael Wright
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
Council Secretary