

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, AUGUST 10th, 2021
CHAIRMAN 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, August 10th, 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, Michael Wright, Councilman-at-Large, Div. B

ABSENT: None

Councilman Torres led the Prayer. Councilman Madere led the Pledge.

Legal Counsel Keith Green, Jr. was present.

MOTION: Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin moved and Councilman Torres seconded the motion to recess to go back into the finance meeting. The motion passed with Councilman Arcuri absent.

MOTION: Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to go back into regular session. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Ms. Hooker and residents from Reserve, were present to comment on Ordinance 21-27. The residents of Belle Pointe Subdivision (Chad B. Baker) are concerned about the rezoning from the Residential District One (R-1) to the Residential District Three (R-3) in the area bounded by E. 30th Street and the surrounding area.

Emmanuel Brown-(Item A under Department/Engineer Reports), owns the property at 2321 Yorktowne, wanted to voice his opinion about the dredging of the canal with the machinery damaging a large portion of his fence, which is futile to repair with the machinery grabbing and pulling down the whole fence. He is concerned about the huge amount of mud along the pedestrian walkway, where youngsters walk and pedestrians have slowed down.

Kenneth Jackson, I'd like to say good evening to all the Councilmen. I just want to bring attention (I did talk to my Councilman Tonia), but I forgot to ask her about one thing. And what I'm asking, what I'm about to say may not mean too much. But, if the parish going to fix behind Yorktowne, I'm hoping that they take into account, how to build the dirt. Because when it rained last week, the dirt is stopping the water now, but I know if the Corp of Engineers are doing that, they would make sure that everything is said and done. The water is going to roll

into the canal. And the reason I'm saying this is because, there's a saying I got from my father-in-law, 'you can only spend a penny once'. Now if they do that, and everything when they leave, and if we got problems if it's not leveled right where will the water roll to go to the canal, it's going to be a problem and then money going to have to be spent again that keep the water out of our backyards. And I forgot to talk to my Councilman, and I didn't want to bother her I just wanted to make ya'll aware of that. Thank you so much.

Tyra Duhe-Griffin - Introduction - Ascension of Our Lord Leadership Team

Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin introduced Douglas Triche, Principal of Ascension of Our Lord, Ms. Eskabar and Ms. Melancon. The Council congratulated and thanked everyone for their roles.

CONSENT AGENDA:

ITEMS: Approval of Minutes - July 27th, 2021, Council Meeting

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Malik seconded the motion to approve consent agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes - July 27th, 2021, Council Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS:

President's Report:

Jaclyn Hotard - Monthly Financial Report (July 2021)

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "Thank you Chairman Becnel. This is confirmation that the monthly financial report has been submitted to the Council."

Tom Malik - Finance Committee Report

Councilman Malik stated, "Mr. Chairman, the Finance Committee met prior to this meeting and consisted of all nine (9) members of the Council. The Finance Committee approved the following Resolutions R21-107, R21-108, R21-109, R21-110, and R21-113."

PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION ON ORDINANCES/NEW BUSINESS:

21-25 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance amending Chapter 4, Section 4.1, of the St. John the Baptist Parish Code of Ordinances to make amendments to Loitering on Premises (R. Arcuri)

MOTION: Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 21-25. The motion passed unanimously.

21-27 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the rezoning of Lot 10, Square A, Belle Pointe Subdivision from the Residential District One (R-1) to the Residential District Three (R-3) zoning district located in the area generally bounded by E. 30th Street, Dupont Road, Chad B. Baker Street, and Highway 44, Reserve, as shown in Exhibit 1 attached (PZR-21-1221) (R. Pastorek)

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to

DENY Ordinance 21-27. The motion passed unanimously.

21-28 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving a conditional use permit for operation of a tattoo shop on Lot 1T, LaPlace Plantation, which has a municipal address of 1317 W. Airline Highway, LaPlace, as shown in Exhibit 1 Attached (PZR-21-1231) (R. Pastorek)

MOTION: Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 21-28. The motion passed with Councilman Madere absent.

21-29 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving a re-subdivision of ½ Lot 22 & ½ Lot 23, Cali Subdivision No. 1 Extension, into Lot 22A, Cali Subdivision No. 1 Extension, located in the area generally bounded by Eagle Street, Cardinal Street, and Dove Street, LaPlace, as shown in a survey prepared by Stephen P. Flynn, P.L.S. on May 28, 2021 (PZS-21-1276) (R. Pastorek)

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Malik seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 21-29. The motion passed with 7 Yeas, 1 against (Arcuri) and 1 absent (Madere).

Rene Pastorek - Resolution - R21-111 - A Resolution of support for the Pontchartrain Estuary Louisiana National Estuarine Research Reserve (LaNERR) proposal

MOTION: Councilman Malik moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R21-111. A Resolution of support for the Pontchartrain Estuary Louisiana National Estuarine Research Reserve (LaNERR) proposal. WHEREAS, the Pontchartrain Estuary LaNERR proposal site is a multi-component site which exhibits a high degree of habitat/species biodiversity; and WHEREAS, the proposal site contains a diverse set of geological characteristics and represents a complete geological continuum from the Pleistocene to the present; and WHEREAS, the history of scientific research in the proposed Pontchartrain LaNERR site extends back to the mid-20th Century and spans from Lake Maurepas in the northwest to the Chandeleur Islands in the southeast; and WHEREAS, the Pontchartrain LaNERR is a proposed multi-component reserve that will provide a wide array of education, outreach, research, training, and stewardship opportunities across a variety of habitats; and WHEREAS, three of the research field stations are located in Manchac, Louisiana and the proposed site includes the Maurepas and Manchac Swamps as well as the western part of Lake Pontchartrain, all of which are located in St. John the Baptist Parish. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, that the Parish hereby supports the Pontchartrain Estuary Louisiana National Estuarine Research Reserve (LaNERR) proposal. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard - Resolution - R21-112 - A Resolution giving preliminary approval to the issuance of not exceeding Fifteen Million Dollars (\$15,000,000) of Taxable Sales Tax Bonds (DEQ) of St. John the Baptist Parish Sales Tax District; providing certain terms of said bonds; making application to the State Bond Commission for approval of said Bonds; providing for the employment of professionals in connection with the Bonds; and providing for other matters in connection therewith

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Malik seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R21-112. A resolution giving preliminary approval to the

issuance of not exceeding Fifteen Million Dollars (\$15,000,000) of Taxable Sales Tax Bonds (DEQ) of St. John the Baptist Parish Sales Tax District; providing certain terms of said bonds; making application to the State Bond Commission for approval of said Bonds; providing for the employment of professionals in connection with the Bonds; and providing for other matters in connection therewith. WHEREAS, the St. John the Baptist Parish Sales Tax District (the "Issuer") now levies and collects a special one percent (1%) sales and use tax, pursuant to elections held in the Issuer on November 16, 1985, January 19, 2002 and November 2, 2010 (the "Tax"); and WHEREAS, the proceeds of the Tax received by the Issuer, after payment of all reasonable and necessary costs and expenses of collection and administration of the Tax (the "Net Revenues of the Tax") shall be available for appropriation and expenditure by the Issuer for the purposes designated in the propositions authorizing the Tax, which includes the payment of bonds authorized to be issued in accordance with Louisiana law; and WHEREAS, the Issuer now desires to issue its Taxable Sales Tax Bonds (DEQ) (the "Bonds"), to be payable solely from and secured by an irrevocable pledge and dedication of the avails or proceeds of the Tax, all in accordance Part II of Chapter 4 of Subtitle II of Title 39 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, and other constitutional and statutory authority (the "Act"), for the purpose of constructing, acquiring, extending, and improving sewers and sewage disposal facilities and acquiring equipment therefor, and paying the costs of issuance thereof; and WHEREAS, the Issuer has no outstanding bonds or other obligations of any kind or nature payable from or enjoying a lien on the revenues of the Tax herein pledged, except the outstanding (i) Public Improvement Bonds, Series ST-2012, (ii) Taxable Sales Tax Bonds (DEQ), Series ST-2018, and (iii) Public Improvement Refunding Bonds, Series ST-2020 (the "Outstanding Parity Bonds"); and WHEREAS, the Issuer desires to make formal application to the State Bond Commission for approval of the Bonds. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by St. John the Baptist Parish Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of the St. John the Baptist Parish Sales Tax District, that: SECTION 1. Preliminary Approval of Bonds. Pursuant to Part II of Chapter 4 of Subtitle II of Title 39 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, and other constitutional and statutory authority, preliminary approval is given to the issuance of not exceeding Fifteen Million Dollars (\$15,000,000) aggregate principal amount of Taxable Sales Tax Bonds (DEQ) (the "Bonds") of St. John the Baptist Parish Sales Tax District (the "Issuer"), for the purpose of constructing, acquiring, extending, and improving sewers and sewage disposal facilities and acquiring equipment therefor, and paying the costs of issuance thereof. The Bonds will be payable solely from and secured by an irrevocable pledge and dedication of the avails or proceeds of the special one percent (1%) sales and use tax now being levied and collected by the Issuer, pursuant to elections held in the Issuer on November 16, 1985, January 19, 2002, and November 2, 2010 (the "Tax"). The Bonds shall bear interest at a rate or rates not to exceed ninety-five hundredths of one percent (0.95%) per annum, to be determined by subsequent proceedings of this Governing Authority at the time of the sale of the Bonds, and will be issued in one or more series, each to mature over a period not exceeding twenty-two (22) years from the date thereof. The Bonds shall be issued in fully registered form and shall have such additional terms and provisions as may be determined by this Governing Authority at the time of sale thereof. SECTION 2. State Bond Commission. Application is hereby formally made to the State Bond Commission, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, for its consent and authority to issue and sell the aforesaid Bonds, and a certified copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the State Bond Commission on behalf of the Governing Authority, together with a

letter requesting the prompt consideration and approval of this application. By virtue of applicant/issuer=s application for, acceptance and utilization of the benefits of the Louisiana State Bond Commission=s approval(s) resolved and set forth herein, it resolves that it understands and agrees that such approval(s) are expressly conditioned upon, and it further resolves that it understands, agrees and binds itself, its successors and assigns to, full and continuing compliance with the "State Bond Commission Policy on Approval of Proposed Use of Swaps, or other forms of Derivative Products Hedges, Etc.," adopted by the Commission on July 20, 2006, as to the borrowing(s) and other matter(s) subject to the approval(s), including subsequent application and approval under said Policy of the implementation or use of any swap(s) or other product(s) or enhancement(s) covered thereby. SECTION 3. Employment of Bond Counsel. This Governing Authority finds and determines that a real necessity exists for the employment of special counsel in connection with the issuance of the Bonds, and accordingly, Foley & Judell, L.L.P., of New Orleans, Louisiana, as Bond Counsel, is hereby employed to do and perform work of a traditional legal nature as bond counsel with respect to the issuance and sale of said Bonds. Said Bond Counsel shall prepare and submit to this Governing Authority for adoption all of the proceeding's incidental to the authorization, issuance, sale, and delivery of such Bonds, shall counsel and advise this Governing Authority as to the issuance and sale thereof and shall furnish its opinions covering the legality of the issuance of the Bonds. The fee of Bond Counsel for each series of bonds shall be fixed at a sum not exceeding the fee allowed by the Attorney General=s fee guidelines for such bond counsel work in connection with the issuance of revenue bonds and based on the amount of said Bonds actually issued, sold, delivered, and paid for, plus Aout-of-pocket@ expenses, said fees to be contingent upon the issuance, sale, and delivery of said Bonds. The Parish President is hereby authorized and directed to execute, and this Governing Authority hereby agrees to and accepts the terms of, the engagement letter of Bond Counsel appended hereto. A certified copy of this resolution shall be submitted to the Attorney General of the State of Louisiana for his written approval of said employment and of the fees herein designated, and the Council Secretary is hereby empowered and directed to provide for payment of the work herein specified upon completion thereof and under the conditions herein enumerated without further approval of this Governing Authority. SECTION 4. Appointment of Municipal Advisor. The Issuer hereby retains Government Consultants, Inc., of Baton Rouge, Louisiana to act as its Municipal Advisor (AMA@) pursuant to the provisions of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act and the rules promulgated thereunder by the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Issuer hereby acknowledges that it is represented by the MA and will rely upon the advice of the MA with respect to the Bonds. The fee to be paid the MA shall be payable solely from the proceeds of the Bonds when and if issued, and the amount thereof shall be subject to the approval of the State Bond Commission. The Parish President is hereby authorized and directed, in [his/her] discretion, to execute any contract the MA may require with respect to the engagement. The motion passed with 8 Yeas, and 1 Abstaining (Schnyder).

DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS:

Tonia Schnyder - Update from administration on the spoils along the Vicknair Canal

Joseph Savoie, Consulting Engineer, commented that the spoils are being moved and hauled off on a daily basis, weather permitting and they do think they have most of the spoils removed at this point and the ones that aren't will be removed.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

21-30 An ordinance amending ordinance 21-15 relative to the annual operating budgets for St. John the Baptist Parish, for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2021 (J. Hotard)

21-31 An ordinance amending Chapter 2, Section 2-21 of the St. John the Baptist Parish Code of Ordinances to establish and define the St. John the Baptist Parish Precinct Boundaries, Merge Precincts, and Establish Precinct Polling Places (K. Becnel)

ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:03 PM, Councilman Malik moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

/s/Kurt P. Becnel
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
Council Secretary