

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH, 2020
CHAIRMAN LENNIX MADERE
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, September 8th, 2020, 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

Councilwoman Schnyder led the Prayer. Councilman Wright led the Pledge.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT - AGENDA ITEMS ONLY (90 seconds per citizen)

There was no public comment at this time.

Tyra Duhe-Griffin - Introduction - Dr. Lynett Hoofkin, Superintendent, St. John School Board

The introduction can be viewed in its entirety at www.sjbparish.com.

Tammy Houston/Tyra Duhe-Griffin - Recognition - Dayna James Outstanding Community Service

The recognition can be viewed in its entirety at www.sjbparish.com.

Lucien Gauff, Assessor - Presentation regarding Tax Reassessments

The presentation can be viewed in its entirety at www.sjbparish.com.

CONSENT AGENDA:

ITEMS: Approval of Minutes - August 28th, 2020, Regular Meeting; Re-appointment of Richard Drexel to the St. John Civil Service Board (Civil Service League appointment)

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes - August 28th, 2020, Regular Meeting; Re-appointment of Richard Drexel to the St.

John Civil Service Board (Civil Service League appointment). The motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS:

President's Report:

The President's Report can be viewed in its entirety at www.sjbparish.com.

Finance Committee Report:

Councilman Madere stated, "The finance committee report has been received by the Council."

NEW BUSINESS:

Tyra Duhe-Griffin - Update from the Administration on the progress of the hiring of a new Recreation Director

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "I had a conversation with Miss Griffin last week, and at this time the process is still open and ongoing."

Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin stated, "Yes, she did. I did call Parish President Hotard, and I asked her who was right now taking the calls for the Recreation Department, and her Administration is helping and assisting the Recreation Department while she's in the process of hiring a new Recreation Director, and that's all I have. Thank you."

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "Yes ma'am. Any calls as it relates to Recreation, can come to 652-9569 or they can call the Recreation Department, I don't have their phone number memorized on the top of my head, but even early on...and I've said this before you all, my Chief Administrative Officer and my Community Affairs Officer, have just really stepped in to assist with my vision of some non-traditional recreation activities, as you see with what we have with cheer, and dance, and yoga and everything. So, feel free, anyone who wants to contact them or contact the Recreation Department, please feel free to do that."

Councilwoman Schnyder stated, "Ms. Hotard kind of said what I was going to say. I know we're short we don't have a Director at this time. But again, I want to commend the individuals, administration that did step up to the plate, we haven't skipped a beat as far as recreation goes, especially with this pandemic and you're/they're doing a pretty good job, although we don't have a director but we do have an Assistant Director I believe in place right now."

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "We do. And we have several departments that don't have Directors now and we're aware of that, and for the most part we don't miss a beat in any of the departments. My Administration, we band together we're a team, right! And so, even when I came from the private sector I tell people that I was a Sales Manager at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside, and sometimes you would be called upon to clean rooms, and it was just something you didn't think about and you knew how to fold tuck linens and turn the toilet paper the Hilton way, and our slogan was you know about 'Having Pride Inside' and I mean we would just do whatever it took to be part of a winning team, and that's just what we're continuing to do here for our residents and for all nine (9) of you here. So,

thank you."

Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin stated, "I would like to say one more thing. I am very pleased with the schedule of events that you do have in place for the children in our community. You guys have been very creative in putting activities in place with; since we are in the middle of a pandemic, and they have been full. You know it warms my heart to see that the parents are bringing the children out, so they can have some type of activity to do. School is starting tomorrow, and well, they're coming, the traditional students are coming in tomorrow, and you have given the activities that you have prepared and your administration have prepared for the students have taken away a lot of anxiety. I have been going to the Art Camps (the Art Workshops), and the parents were so grateful that you had the events scheduled and in place for the children to do something, and they were very happy about that. So, happy residents, happy me, you know happy councilperson, so thank you for that."

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "Thank you."

Tonia Schnyder - Update from the Administration on the progress of the Water Meter Project

Robert Figuero stated, "Thank you Councilman. So, the project is moving along quite nicely, as of last week we started the installations of the Data Collection Units, which are the units that go on top of the water towers to collect the information. The contractor training started last week as well, will continue through the...I think through tomorrow, and then the St. John Parish employees start training tomorrow as well, through the end of the week. The intention as of now the way the schedule looks, hopefully in about 2-3 weeks we will start installing meters in the ground. So, the project is starting to move along."

Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin asked, "Robert, do you have a list of the areas that you're going to start with first?"

Robert Figuero stated, "We do, we do, and I can provide that information to you. I can tell you that the first area that we're going to cover is going to be our largest area our largest cycle, which is the Cambridge area. Which we refer to as Cycle 7, so if you ever have a 07 on your water bill your Customer ID, that's the area we will be starting with first, and the reason being is because that is the largest of our cycles."

Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin asked, "So you're breaking it down by subdivisions and not by district..."

Robert Figuero interrupting stated, "Actually by cycles...by cycles."

Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin stated, "By cycles, okay."

Robert Figuero stated, "We have six (6) cycles, water district cycles that we bill out at a time, so the intention is to complete one (1) prior to moving to the next one."

Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin stated, "Okay."

Councilwoman Schnyder stated, "I was...Tyra kind of asked the same question. I

know Cambridge was scheduled to go first. You know of an ETA on that Cambridge start time?"

Robert Figuero stated, "Again, we were looking at 2-3 weeks, hopefully starting to install the meters. Again, the crews are training right now, they started last week, they're finishing up this week and I say the crews, the contractor the contractor crews that are going to be doing the installation. So..."

Councilwoman Schnyder stated, "Okay."

Robert Figuero stated, "So the intention is 2-3 weeks, we'll start to see meters in the ground."

Councilwoman Schnyder stated, "Okay, thank you for coming out tonight and explaining as well."

Robert Figuero stated, "Yes ma'am."

Councilwoman Houston stated, "I think when you first explained the meter project, I think you did say it would be in cycles and I think you did and maybe you did give us that map, a map of that cycles..."

Robert Figuero interrupting stated, "Yes ma'am."

Councilwoman Houston stated, "Yeah, would you send it back to me?"

Robert Figuero stated, "I can resent it out."

Councilwoman Houston stated, "Thank you, thank you."

Robert Figuero stated, "I mean obviously we're getting closer to ins and outs kind a on everybody's radar. So, but yes ma'am I'll send it out."

Councilwoman Houston stated, "Thank you."

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

20-24 An ordinance approving the re-subdivision of Lot 24 and the North half of Lot 25, Block 1, Lakeshore Estates into Lot 24A, Block 1, Lakeshore Estates, located in the area generally bounded by the Rue St. Martin, Rue St. Charles, and Highway 643, Vacherie, as shown in a survey prepared by Stephen P. Flynn, P.L.S. on June 18, 2020 (PZS-20-1247) (J. Hotard)

20-25 An ordinance approving the re-subdivision of Parcel E of the Antoine Picou Tract into Lots E-1, E-2, E-3, E-4 of the Antoine Picou Tract, located in the area generally bounded by the Y&MV Railroad, W. 2nd Street, Persimmon Street and Pine Street, LaPlace, as shown in a survey prepared by Stephen P. Flynn, P.L.S. on June 26, 2020 (PZS-20-1250) (J. Hotard)

20-26 An ordinance approving the re-zoning of a portion of Lot 2-JE of the John Esparros Tract, located in the area generally bounded by the Mississippi River, the Y&MV Railroad, McReine

Road, and Miya Lane, LaPlace from the Residential District Four (R-4) to the Commercial District Two (C-2) with the following stipulations: (1) Future development plans for the site must include a vegetative buffer with a minimum height of eight (8) feet along both sides of the development which fully screens the site from view of the adjacent residences as shown in Exhibit 1 attached (PZR-20-1250) (J. Hotard)

20-27 An ordinance approving the re-subdivision of the Frank Miano Lot, the Victor Miano Lot and portions of the Guissepina and Antonia Miano Tract of Farm Lot 18 of Hope Plantation located in the area generally bounded by Garyville Northern, Esperance Street, Highway 44 and Historic Main Street, Garyville, as shown in a survey prepared by Stephen P. Flynn, P.L.S. on May 15, 2020. (PZS-20-1246) (J. Hotard)

20-28 An ordinance approving the extension of Conditional Subdivision Approval for an additional twelve (12) months for Praise Place Subdivision, Lots 27 through 83 and parcels V-1, V-2 and V-3, on East 22nd Street, situated in Section 46 and 47, T-11-S, R-7-E, Reserve, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana; which was originally approved on November 8, 2005 (J. Hotard)

CORRESPONDENCE/COUNCIL BRIEFS:

The Correspondence/Council Briefs can be viewed in its entirety at www.sjbparish.com.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:17 PM, Councilwoman Schnyder moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

/s/Lennix Madere, Jr.
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
Council Secretary

The meeting can be viewed in its entirety at www.sjbparish.com.