

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, MAY 10TH, 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, May 8th, 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, Michael Wright, Councilman-at-Large, Div. B

ABSENT: Thomas Malik

Councilman Madere led the Prayer. 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 were no public comments at the time.

CONSENT AGENDA:

ITEMS: Approval of Minutes - April 26th, 2022, Council Meeting

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to approve consent agenda item - Approval of Minutes - April 26th, 2022, Council Meeting. The motion passed with Councilman Malik absent.

REPORTS

President's Report:

Councilman Malik arrived at 6:07 PM.

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

22-14(Public Hearing Held) (Tabled 04-26-2022) An ordinance establishing Code of Conduct for Council Members (T. Houston)

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Becnel seconded the motion to REMOVE Ordinance 22-14 from the TABLE. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to suspend the rules to remove Ordinance 22-14 from the agenda. The motion passed with 8 Yeas and 1 Nay (Torres).

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to remove Ordinance 22-14 from the agenda. The motion passed with 8 Yeas and 1 Nay (Torres).

22-16(Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the re-subdivision of Farm Lot B into Lots C-3 & R-1 with a perpetual utility access servitude, located in the area generally bounded by Lasseigne Street, Mattie Street, New Highway 51 and Main Street, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA, as shown in Exhibit 1 attached (PZS-22-1293) (J. Hotard & C. Crumbley)

MOTION: Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilwoman Schnyder seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 22-16. The motion passed unanimously.

22-17(Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the re-subdivision of the South Half of Lot 42 and Lot 43, Dinvaut Subdivision, Addendum Number One into Lot 43A, Dinvaut Subdivision, Addendum Number One located in the area generally bounded by Highway 18, Castle Drive, and Central Avenue, Edgard, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA as shown in Exhibit 1 attached (PZS-22-1305) (J. Hotard & C. Crumbley)

MOTION: Councilman Becnel moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 22-17. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R22-74 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to solicit bids for Membrane Filters and Reverse Osmosis Unit

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Malik seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R22-74. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to solicit bids for Membrane Filters and Reverse Osmosis Unit. **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 is an annual bid for replacement membranes for the LaPlace Water System; and, **WHEREAS**, orders will be placed on an as-needed basis; and, **WHEREAS**, orders will be funded through the Utilities Budget. **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 Membrane Filters and Reverse Osmosis Unit. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R22-75 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to solicit bids for Asphalt Roof Hurricane Ida Disaster Repairs

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Malik seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R22-75. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to solicit bids for Asphalt Roof Hurricane Ida Disaster 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 suffered extensive damage due to Hurricane Ida; and, **WHEREAS**, as a result, 15 buildings with asphalt shingle roofing throughout the Parish are in need of repairs; and, **WHEREAS**, the estimated

cost of these repairs is \$450,352 and 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 solicit bids for Asphalt Roof Hurricane Ida Disaster Repairs. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R22-76 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to solicit bids for Thermoplastic (TPO) or Modified Bitumen Roof Hurricane Ida Disaster Repairs

MOTION: Councilman Malik moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R22-76. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to solicit bids for Thermoplastic (TPO) or Modified Bitumen Roof Hurricane Ida Disaster 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 suffered extensive damage due to Hurricane Ida; and, **WHEREAS**, as a result, 6 buildings with TPO or Modified Bitumen Roofing throughout the Parish are in need of repairs; and, **WHEREAS**, the estimated cost of these repairs is \$600,000 and 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 solicit bids for Thermoplastic (TPO) or Modified Bitumen Roof Hurricane Ida Disaster Repairs. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R22-77 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to ratify awarding the bid for the St. John Sheriff's Office Hurricane Ida Disaster Repairs to Veterans Construction, LLC

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R22-77. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to ratify awarding the bid for the St. John Sheriff's Office Hurricane Disaster Repairs to Veterans Construction, 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**, Veterans Construction, LLC of LaPlace, LA submitted the lowest responsive and responsible bid in the amount of \$250,000; and, **WHEREAS**, as a result of damages sustained by Hurricane Ida, repairs are needed for the St. John Sheriff's Office; and, **WHEREAS**, 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, St. John the Baptist Parish is hereby authorized to ratify the bid award for the St. John Sheriff's Office Hurricane Ida Disaster Repairs to Veterans Construction, LLC. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R22-78 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to award the bid for the St. John Theatre Hurricane Ida Disaster Repairs to Veterans Construction, LLC

MOTION: Councilman Malik moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R22-78. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish

to award the bid for the St. John Theatre Hurricane Ida Disaster Repairs to Veterans Construction, 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**, Veterans Construction, LLC of LaPlace, LA submitted the lowest responsive and responsible bid in the amount of \$278,000; and, **WHEREAS**, the bid submitted was \$16,000 less than the Engineer's construction cost estimate; and, **WHEREAS**, as a result of damages sustained by Hurricane Ida, repairs are needed for the St. John Theatre; and, **WHEREAS**, 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, St. John the Baptist Parish is hereby authorized to award the bid for the St. John Theatre Hurricane Ida Disaster Repairs to Veterans Construction, LLC. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R22-79 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to extend the Professional Services Agreement with the University of New Orleans (UNO) for Professional Planning and Coastal Management Services

MOTION: Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilman Becnel seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R22-79. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to extend the Professional Services Agreement with the University of New Orleans (UNO) for Professional Planning and Coastal Management 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 graduate student from UNO provides effective management of Planning and Coastal Zone Management duties prompted by the adoption and operation of the Parish's Local Coastal Zone Management Program (LCMP); and, **WHEREAS**, this Extension will add one (1) year to the existing contract, effective July 31, 2022, and terminates July 30, 2023; and **WHEREAS**, the contract extension maintains the same pricing and is funded through the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Planning and Zoning Department. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, that St. John the Baptist Parish is hereby authorized to extend the Professional Services Agreement between St. John the Baptist Parish and UNO. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R22-80 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with Meyer Engineers, LTD for the Ezekial Jackson Airnasium Project

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Torres seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R22-80. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with Meyer Engineers, LTD for the Ezekial Jackson Airnasium 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 Ezekial Jackson Airnasium Project; and, **WHEREAS**, services for this project will include

replacing the existing concrete basketball court, goals, lighting and a new Airnasium at Ezekial Jackson Park in St. John the Baptist Parish; and, **WHEREAS**, the estimated cost of this Agreement is not to exceed \$34,360.19 and will be funded through the Recreation Department Budget. **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 unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R22-81 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to solicit bids for the construction of the Ezekial Jackson Airnasium Project

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Torres seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R22-81. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to solicit bids for the construction of the Ezekial Jackson Airnasium 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 Ezekial Jackson Park in St. John the Baptist Parish is in need of a new concrete basketball court, goals, lighting and a new Airnasium; and, **WHEREAS**, the estimated cost of the project is \$519,101 and will be funded through the Recreation Budget. **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 the construction of the Ezekial Jackson Airnasium Project. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R22-82 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist to settle and pay the October 27, 2021, Property Damage Claim to John Larriviere of 5504 Glenshee Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76135

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Torres seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R22-82. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to settle and pay the October 27, 2021, Property Damage Claim to John Larriviere of 5504 Glenshee Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76135. **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**, Riverlands Insurance Services, Inc. recommended, and Legal Counsel approved the settlement amount of \$2,456.29; and, **WHEREAS**, the settlement will be funded through the Claim/Litigation Settlement line item of the Wastewater 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 October 27, 2021, Property Damage Claim to John Larriviere of 5504 Glenshee Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76135. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Reed Alexander - Resolution - R22-83 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to amend the Professional Services Agreement with Principal Engineering, Inc. for the Lions Water Treatment Plant One Million Gallon Per Day (MGD) Filter, Sludge Return, and Existing Media Filter Replacement Project

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R22-83. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to amend the Professional Services Agreement with Principal Engineering, Inc. for the Lions Water Treatment Plant One Million Gallon Per Day (MGD) Filter, Sludge Return, and Existing Media Filter Replacement 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**, Principal Engineering, Inc. provides design services for this project; and, **WHEREAS**, Amendment No. 1 includes additional services that are required to more accurately determine existing underground utilities and process piping within the Lions Water Treatment Plant site and subsurface utility exploration utilizing a ground penetrating radar; and, **WHEREAS**, the estimated cost of Amendment No. 1 is \$2,750 and is funded through the Water Fund and the 2022 Bond Issue. **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 Professional Services Agreement between St. John the Baptist Parish and Principal Engineering, Inc. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Reed Alexander - Resolution - R22-84 - A Resolution authorizing the St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 2 with Foret Contracting Group, LLC for the Parish Generator Project - Phase II

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Torres seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R22-84. A Resolution authorizing the St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 2 with Foret Contracting Group, LLC for the Parish Generator Project - Phase II. **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. 2 increases the original contract dated May 3, 2021, by \$22,469.25 and adds an additional 114 calendar days **WHEREAS**, additional costs are due to Railroad requiring permitting, insurance, training, flagging and cable locating activities; and, **WHEREAS**, additional calendar days are due to lead time for generators that has varied drastically resulting in procurement delays that are beyond the Contractor's control; and, **WHEREAS**, the new estimated construction completion date is September 15, 2022; and, **WHEREAS**, the project is funded through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program and the 2010 Sewer Construction Bond Issue. **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. 2 between St. John the Baptist Parish and Foret Contracting Group, LLC. The motion passed with Councilwoman Schnyder abstaining.

Jaclyn Hotard/Reed Alexander - Resolution - R22-85 - A Resolution authorizing the St. John the Baptist Parish President to complete and submit those Documents and Agreements required in connection with the Community Water Enrichment Fund (CWEF) 2021-2022 Grant Application in the sum of \$150,000 to the State of Louisiana to complete Waterline Improvements on Cardinal Street in LaPlace and Carol Street in Pleasure Bend

MOTION: Councilman Becnel moved and Councilman Malik seconded the motion to

approve Resolution - R22-85. A Resolution authorizing the St. John the Baptist Parish President to complete and submit those Documents and Agreements required in connection with the Community Water Enrichment Fund (CWEF) 2021-2022 Grant Application in the sum of \$150,000 to the State of Louisiana to complete Waterline Improvements on Cardinal Street in LaPlace and Carol Street in Pleasure Bend. **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**, there is an aging segment of 2" water line on Cardinal Street in LaPlace prone to several leaks in the recent past and in need of replacement; and, **WHEREAS**, St. John residents along Carol Street in Pleasure Bend are on the St. James Water System and a transfer to the St. John Water System is necessary; and, **WHEREAS**, the purpose of CWEF is to assist local governments with grant funding, with no match or reimbursement required from the recipient or Parish, for rehabilitation, improvement, and construction projects for community water systems in the amount of \$150,000.00; and, **WHEREAS**, the grant will allow the Parish to use funds in the amount of \$150,000.00 to replace the 2" line with a new 6" PVC line and install fire hydrants on Cardinal Street and install a new 4" PVC line with service transfers on Carol Street. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, acting as Governing Authorizing of St. John the Baptist Parish **SECTION 1**. That the St. John the Baptist Parish Council does hereby authorize the Parish President to complete and submit those documents and agreements required in connection with the Community Water Enrichment Fund (CWEF) 2021-2022 grant application totaling \$150,000.00 to the State of Louisiana for the Waterline Improvements on Cardinal Street in LaPlace and Carol Street in Pleasure Bend. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard - Consideration of Request from Frank Tessier to Execute Tolling Agreement

MOTION: Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin moved and Councilman Arcuri seconded the motion to DENY the request from Frank Tessier to execute a Tolling Agreement with St. John the Baptist Parish. The motion passed unanimously.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

There were no ordinances to be introduced.

MOTION: Councilman Malik moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Demand Letter in the matter of Camille Oubre v. Judge Nghanna Lewis and St. John the Baptist Parish Council. The motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Demand Letter in the matter of Camille Oubre v. Judge Nghanna Lewis and St. John the Baptist Parish Council

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Malik seconded the motion to go back into Regular Session. The motion passed unanimously.

There was no action taken as a result of the Executive Session.

CORRESPONDENCE/COUNCIL BRIEFS:

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:07 PM, Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Malik seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with unanimously.

/s/Michael Wright
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
Council Secretary