

**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL**  
**TUESDAY, JANUARY 26<sup>TH</sup>, 2021**  
**VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING**  
**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, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 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 Arcuri led the Prayer. Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin led the Pledge.

Legal Counsel Christopher Cortez, and Legal Clerk Kennilyn Schmill were present via video conference.

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

There was no public comment.

**Jaclyn Hotard - Proclamation - February - Black History Month**

Jaclyn Hotard, Parish President, read the Proclamation - February - Black History Month.

**Jaclyn Hotard - Proclamation - February - Heart Health Month**

Jaclyn Hotard, Parish President, read the Proclamation - February - Heart Health Month.

**Kurt Becnel/Buddy Boe - Presentation - Louisiana's River Parishes Tourist Commission Strategic Plan**

The presentation can be viewed in its entirety at [www.sjbparish.com](http://www.sjbparish.com).

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**MOTION:** Councilman Malik moved and Councilwoman Schnyder seconded the motion to suspend the rules to REMOVE an item off the consent agenda - Appointment of Victoria Schnyder to the Library Board of Control from the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

**ITEMS:**

Approval of Minutes - January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Regular Meeting; ~~Councilman Malik - Appointment of Victoria Schnyder to the Library Board of Control~~

**MOTION:** Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Malik seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes - January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Regular Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

**REPORTS:**

**President's Report:**

The President's Report can be viewed in its entirety at [www.sjbparish.com](http://www.sjbparish.com).

**Jaclyn Hotard - Monthly Financial Report (December 2020)**

Jaclyn Hotard stated, *"Thank you, the monthly financial report has been submitted to the Council."*

**Tom Malik - Finance Committee Report**

Councilman Malik stated, *"Mr. Chairman, the finance committee meeting met prior to this meeting, it consisted of all council members."*

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**20-54** (Public Hearing Held) (Tabled 01-12-2021) An ordinance of the St. John the Baptist Parish Council Implementing a Parish Recognition Program for Renaming Public Streets and Public Property (T. Houston & K. Becnel)

Councilman Becnel stated, *"As co-author of this ordinance, after receiving numerous requests from some of my fellow council members, I would have no problem allowing this ordinance to remain TABLED."*

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Lennix Madere - Authorization to submit letter of commitment from the St. John Governing Authority to the Louisiana Secretary of State on behalf of the St. John the Baptist Parish Registrar of Voters Office**

**MOTION:** Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin seconded the motion to grant administration authorization to submit letter of commitment from the St. John Governing Authority to the Louisiana Secretary of State on behalf of the St. John the Baptist Parish Registrar of Voters Office. The motion passed unanimously.

**Jaclyn Hotard - Resolution - R21-04 - A Resolution adopting a Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire as a required part of St. John the Baptist Parish's annual financial and compliance audit**

**MOTION:** Councilman Malik moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R21-04. The motion passed unanimously.

**Jaclyn Hotard - Resolution - R21-05 - A Resolution authorizing and approving a**

grant agreement between St. John the Baptist Parish and the Louisiana Housing Corporation (LHC) for administration of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) for grant October 1, 2020 - June 30, 2022, and further authorizing the Parish President to execute all documents related thereto

**MOTION:** Councilman Malik moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R21-05. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard - Resolution - R21-06 - A Resolution authorizing a Building Resilient Infrastructures and Communities (BRIC) grant sub-application to the Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) for the channelization and improvements of eight major drainage canals on the East Bank of St. John the Baptist Parish

**MOTION:** Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R21-06. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard - Resolution - R21-07 - A Resolution authorizing the Parish President to execute the documents and agreements required in implementing all grant applications, amendments and supporting documents through the Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness as it relates to the Hazard Mitigation Assistance Programs and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Malik seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R21-07. The motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilwoman Schnyder seconded the motion to go into Executive Session to discuss GEICO v. Brandon Duhe, St. John the Baptist Parish et al., Docket No. 73140. The motion passed unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

*GEICO v. Brandon Duhe, St. John the Baptist Parish et al., Docket No. 73140*

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

**MOTION:** Councilman Wright moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to accept the recommendation from legal and authorize administration to settle the case of GEICO v. Brandon Duhe, St. John the Baptist Parish et al., Docket No. 73140. The motion passed 8 yeas and 1 against (Malik).

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:**

**21-01** An ordinance approving the re-subdivision of Lot 195 and Lot 196, Belle Terre Two, River Oaks Subdivision, Phase 4 into Lot 195A, Belle Terre Two, River Oaks Subdivision, Phase 4, including the revocation of a 10-foot sewer Servitude, located in the area generally bounded by Interstate 10, St. Andrews Boulevard, South Pass Drive, and Desoto Drive, LaPlace, as shown in a survey prepared by Stephen P. Flynn,

P.L.S. on November 25, 2020 (PZS-20-126) (R. Pastorek)

**21-02** An ordinance approving the re-subdivision of Lot 76A, Belle Terre Two, St. Andrews Estates Phase II and Lots 92 and 93, Belle Terre Two, St. Andrews Estates, Phase III into Lot 76A-1, Belle Terre Two, St. Andrews Estates, Phase II and Lot 92A, Belle Terre Two, St. Andrews Estates, Phase III, located in the area generally bounded by Belle Terre Boulevard, St. Andrews Boulevard, Country Club Drive, and Interstate 10, LaPlace, as shown in a survey prepared by Stephen P. Flynn, P.L.S. on November 30, 2020 (PZS-20-1266) (R. Pastorek)

**CORRESPONDENCE/COUNCIL BRIEFS:**

The correspondence/council briefs can be viewed in its entirety at [www.sjbparish.com](http://www.sjbparish.com).

**ADJOURNMENT:**

At 8:22 PM, Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Malik seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

/s/Kurt P. Becnel  
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche  
Council Secretary

The meeting can be viewed in its entirety at [www.sjbparish.com](http://www.sjbparish.com).