

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, AUGUST 13th, 2024
CHAIRMAN MICHAEL WRIGHT
VICE-CHAIR LENNIX MADERE

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 13th, 2024, at 6:00 PM.

CALL TO ORDER:

ROLL CALL: Lennix Madere, Jr., Councilman-at-Large, Div. A, Michael Wright, Councilman-at-Large, Div. B, Virgie Johnson, Councilwoman District I, Tammy Houston, Councilwoman District III, Warren Torres, Councilman District II, Tyra Duhe-Griffin, Councilwoman District IV, Vernon Bailey, Sr., Councilman District VI, Robert Arcuri, Councilman District V, Dixie Ramirez, Councilwoman District VII

ABSENT: None

Councilman Arcuri led the Prayer and Councilman Madere led the Pledge.

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

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

Jean Stewart, Sheriff Mike Tregre and Kelly Joseph commented on Consent Agenda item: Permit Approval - Krewe of Agape Carnival Parade - Sunday, March 2, 2025 beginning at 11:00 AM - the parade will begin and end at the Civic Center on Hwy. 51. It will travel south on Hwy. 51 to US Hwy 61, upon reaching Hwy 61, the parade will travel westbound to Belle Terre Blvd. and travel to Fairway Drive where it will U-turn back southbound on Belle Terre Blvd. traveling back to Hwy 61, upon reaching Hwy 61 the parade will travel eastbound back to Hwy. 51 and end back at the Civic Center located on Hwy. 51

MOTION: Councilwoman Johnson moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to Suspend the Rules to remove Consent Agenda item: Permit Approval - Krewe of Agape Carnival Parade - Sunday, March 2, 2025 beginning at 11:00 AM - the parade will begin and end at the Civic Center on Hwy. 51. It will travel south on Hwy. 51 to US Hwy 61, upon reaching Hwy 61, the parade will travel westbound to Belle Terre Blvd. and travel to Fairway Drive where it will U-turn back southbound on Belle Terre Blvd. traveling back to Hwy 61, upon reaching Hwy 61 the parade will travel eastbound back to Hwy. 51 and end back at the Civic Center located on Hwy. 51 from the Council Agenda. The motion passed with 7 yeas, 1 against (Torres) and 1 abstaining (Ramirez).

Jaclyn Hotard - Proclamation - Blessing of the River

Jaclyn Hotard - Proclamation - August 14, 2024 - Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) Volunteer Day

CONSENT AGENDA:

ITEMS: Approval of Minutes - July 23rd, 2024, Council Meeting; Permit Approval - 49th Annual Andouille Festival Run/Walk - Sunday, October 20th, 2024, beginning at 8:30 AM on the festival grounds of the Thomas F. Daley memorial Park; Tyra Duhe-Griffin - Appointment of Erik Mender to the Animal Control Advisory Board; Parish President Jaclyn Hotard - Appointment of Hazel Oubre to the South Central Development Planning Commission

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes - July 23rd, 2024, Council Meeting; Permit Approval - 49th Annual Andouille Festival Run/Walk - Sunday, October 20th, 2024, beginning at 8:30 AM on the festival grounds of the Thomas F. Daley memorial Park; Tyra Duhe-Griffin - Appointment of Erik Mender to the Animal Control Advisory Board; Parish President Jaclyn Hotard - Appointment of Hazel Oubre to the South Central Development Planning Commission. The motion passed with 8 yeas and 1 against (Johnson).

REPORTS:

President's Report

PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION ON ORDINANCE (S)

24-31 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance to provide for an additional ad valorem tax exemption of two thousand five hundred dollars of the assessed valuation of property receiving the homestead exemption that is owned and occupied by a qualified first responder in accordance with Article 7, Section 21. (O) of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana (M. Wright)

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 24-31. The motion passed with 7 yeas, 1 against (Arcuri) and 1 abstaining (Torres).

24-32 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the installation of fiber optic cables along Deputy Barton Granier Drive, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 17766) (J. Hotard & T. Lambeth)

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilwoman Johnson seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 24-32. The motion passed unanimously.

24-33 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the installation of fiber optic cables along Highway 44 and West 23rd Street, Reserve, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 17911) (J. Hotard & T. Lambeth)

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 24-33. The motion passed unanimously.

24-34 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the installation of fiber optic cables along Windsor Street, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 17850) (J. Hotard & T. Lambeth)

MOTION: Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to

approve Ordinance 24-34. The motion passed unanimously.

24-35 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance amending Chapter 113 - Zoning, Article V - Supplementary Regulations, Sec. 113-474 - Use requirements, to add (h) *Mobile Homes and manufactured homes*. In all zoning districts, mobile homes and manufactured homes shall have and maintain foundation skirting on all sides (unbroken except for ventilation) (See attached exhibit) (J. Hotard & T. Lambeth)

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 24-35. The motion passed unanimously.

24-36 (Public Hearing Held) A millage ordinance - an ordinance providing for the levy and collection of ad valorem taxes in the Parish of St. John the Baptist, to be spread upon the 2024 Assessment Roll (J. Hotard)

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 24-36. The motion passed The motion passed with 8 yeas and 1 against (Torres).

NEW BUSINESS:

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R24-147 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to advertise and receive Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Parish's Group Health Insurance

MOTION: Councilwoman Johnson moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to approve Resolution R24-147. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to advertise and receive Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Parish's Group Health Insurance. 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 is requesting proposals for the Parish's Group Health Insurance which expires December 31, 2024. 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 receive proposals for the Parish's Group Health Insurance. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R24-148 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to award the Fire Department's Property and Casualty Insurance to Riverlands Insurance Services, Inc.

MOTION: Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilwoman Johnson seconded the motion to approve Resolution R24-148. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to award the Fire Department's Property and Casualty Insurance to Riverlands Insurance Services, Inc. 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. of LaPlace, LA submitted the only proposal received and reviewed by the Source Selection Committee; and, WHEREAS, policy is funded through the Office of Fire Services; and, NOW,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, that St. John the Baptist Parish is hereby authorized to award the Fire Department's Property and Casualty Insurance to Riverlands Insurance Services, Inc. The motion passed with 8 yeas and 1 against (Torres).

Jaclyn Hotard - Resolution - R24-149 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to renew the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) with the St. John Parish Sheriff's Office for the West Bank Public Safety Complex

MOTION: Councilwoman Johnson moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Resolution R24-149. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to renew the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) with the St. John Parish Sheriff's Office for the West Bank Public Safety Complex. 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, Renewal No. 2 is for four (4) additional years for the on-going operations to provide public safety to the citizens and visitors of the West Bank; and, NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, that St. John the Baptist Parish is hereby authorized to renew the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between St. John the Baptist Parish and St. John Parish Sheriff's Office. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R24-150 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to extend the Professional Services Agreement with Compliance EnviroSystems, LLC for Storm Drain and Sanitary Sewer System Debris Assessment and Rehabilitation Services

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to approve Resolution R24-150. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to extend the Professional Services Agreement with Compliance EnviroSystems, LLC for Storm Drain and Sanitary Sewer System Debris Assessment and Rehabilitation 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, this extension will add two (2) year to the original Agreement dated November 9, 2021 while maintaining the same pricing; and, WHEREAS, services include the assessment and rehabilitation of existing storm and sanitary sewer mains, television inspection and dyewater flooding, smoke testing, cleaning and physical inspection of catch basins, manholes and wet wells damaged by Hurricane Ida; and, WHEREAS, Extension No. 1 is funded through the Public Works Department and 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 Parish Council to execute Extension No. 1 of the Professional Services Agreement between St. John the Baptist Parish and Compliance EnviroSystems, LLC. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R24-151 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 3 with All

Star Electric, Inc. for the Lions Water Treatment Plant Electrical Control Building Project

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to approve Resolution R24-151. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 3 with All Star Electric, Inc. for the Lions Water Treatment Plant Electrical Control Building 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. 3 increases the original Agreement by \$83,273; and, WHEREAS, the increase is to remove and replace the existing metal wall panels on the 2nd floor, install fluid applied air/vapor barrier and install new signage; and, WHEREAS, increase will also include concrete slab installed over the abandoned existing filters; and, WHEREAS, Change Order No. 3 is funded through St. John the Baptist Parish Bond Funds and the LDH Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund. 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. 3 between St. John the Baptist Parish and All Star Electric, Inc. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R24-152 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 14 with Command Construction Industries, LLC for the St. John the Baptist Parish Airline and Main Complete Streets Project

MOTION: Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin moved and Councilman Arcuri seconded the motion to approve Resolution R24-152. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 14 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. 14 decreases the original Agreement amount by \$25,909.35; and, WHEREAS, this is a close-out Change order and the decrease is due to the adjustment of quantities used to complete the project; and, WHEREAS, the project 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. 14 between St. John the Baptist Parish and Command Construction Industries, LLC. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R24-153 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute the Certificate of Substantial Completion with Command Construction Industries, LLC for the St. John the Baptist Parish Airline and Main Complete Streets Project

MOTION: Councilwoman Duhe-Griffan moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the

motion to approve Resolution R24-153. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute the Certificate of Substantial Completion 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, this project has been deemed substantially complete by the Project Engineer; and, WHEREAS, all punch list items were identified and are near completion. 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 the Certificate of Substantial Completion between St. John the Baptist Parish and Command Construction Industries, LLC. The motion passed unanimously.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

24-37 An ordinance amending Chapter 14 - Fees and Charges, Sec. 14-105 Buildings and building regulations, to remove items 4b, 4c, and 4d (See attached exhibit) (J. Hotard & T. Lambeth)

24-38 An ordinance to create and establish a Mardi Gras Parade Route, in the City of LaPlace, Parish of St. John the Baptist, commencing the Sunday before Mardi Gras (R. Arcuri)

24-39 An ordinance amending Chapter 14 - Fees and Charges, Sec. 14-26 - Nuisances, to edit the administrative fee and add additional Grass charges per square foot (see attached exhibit) (J. Hotard & T. Lambeth)

ADJOURNMENT:

At 6:53 PM, Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned unanimously.

/s/Michael Wright
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
Council Secretary