

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS**  
**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL**  
**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24<sup>th</sup>, 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, September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 6:00 PM.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

**ROLL CALL:** Lennix Madere, Jr., Councilman-at-Large, Div. A, Micheal Wright, Councilman-at-Large, Div. B, 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:** Virgie Johnson

Councilman Torres 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)**

There was no public comment at this time.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**ITEMS:** Approval of Minutes - September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Council Meeting; Councilman Madere - Appointment of Ursula Keller to the Animal Control Board; Permit Approval - ESJ High School Annual Homecoming Parade - Friday, 10-4-24, 11:00 AM until 1:00 PM - The parade will start at ESJ High School to E. Airline Hwy, through Belle Pointe along Belle Pointe Blvd. then to Ory Dr. to ESJ Prep and ending at the Joe Keller Stadium parking lot; Permit Approval - WSJ High School Annual Homecoming Parade - Friday, 10-4-24, 11:00 AM until 1:00 PM - The parade will start turning right onto LA-18 out of the Juan Anthony Joseph Park - stopping in front of Central Ave., Castle Dr., West St. John Elementary and the St. John Parish Courthouse - turn right onto Hwy. 640 - then turn left onto Hwy. 3127 - returning and ending at WSJ Highschool; Permit Approval - D.A.G.E. Parade - Sunday, 03-02-25 beginning at 11:00 AM - Lineup will begin at the St. John Civic Center, proceed to Airline Hwy, turn left on Airline Hwy, then turning right on Main St, it will proceed along Main St. to W. 5<sup>th</sup> St. where it will turn right on Hemlock St., proceed across Airline Hwy onto Carrollwood Dr., turn left at Madewood Dr., then left at Fairway Dr. and Belle Terre Blvd - Per Ord. 24-38; Permit Approval - Krewe of Agape Parade - Sunday, 03-02-25 immediately following the 11:00 AM parade - Lineup will begin at the St. John Civic Center, proceed to Airline Hwy, turn left on Airline Hwy, then turning right on Main St, it will proceed along Main St. to W. 5<sup>th</sup> St. where it will turn right on Hemlock St., proceed across Airline Hwy onto Carrollwood Dr., turn

right at Greenwood Dr., then left at Madewood Dr., then left at Fairway Dr. and Belle Terre Blvd - Per Ord. 24-38.

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes - September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Council Meeting; Councilman Madere - Appointment of Ursula Keller to the Animal Control Board; Permit Approval - ESJ High School Annual Homecoming Parade - Friday, 10-4-24, 11:00 AM until 1:00 PM - The parade will start at ESJ High School to E. Airline Hwy, through Belle Pointe along Belle Pointe Blvd. then to Ory Dr. to ESJ Prep and ending at the Joe Keller Stadium parking lot; Permit Approval - WSJ High School Annual Homecoming Parade - Friday, 10-4-24, 11:00 AM until 1:00 PM - The parade will start turning right onto LA-18 out of the Juan Anthony Joseph Park - stopping in front of Central Ave., Castle Dr., West St. John Elementary and the St. John Parish Courthouse - turn right onto Hwy. 640 - then turn left onto Hwy. 3127 - returning and ending at WSJ Highschool; Permit Approval - D.A.G.E. Parade - Sunday, 03-02-25 beginning at 11:00 AM - Lineup will begin at the St. John Civic Center, proceed to Airline Hwy, turn left on Airline Hwy, then turning right on Main St, it will proceed along Main St. to W. 5<sup>th</sup> St. where it will turn right on Hemlock St., proceed across Airline Hwy onto Carrollwood Dr., turn right at Greenwood Dr., then left at Madewood Dr., then left at Fairway Dr. and Belle Terre Blvd - Per Ord. 24-38; Permit Approval - Krewe of Agape Parade - Sunday, 03-02-25 immediately following the 11:00 AM parade - Lineup will begin at the St. John Civic Center, proceed to Airline Hwy, turn left on Airline Hwy, then turning right on Main St, it will proceed along Main St. to W. 5<sup>th</sup> St. where it will turn right on Hemlock St., proceed across Airline Hwy onto Carrollwood Dr., turn right at Greenwood Dr., then left at Madewood Dr., then left at Fairway Dr. and Belle Terre Blvd - Per Ord. 24-38. The motion passed with Councilwoman Johnson absent.

The executive session will be moved until the end of the meeting, waiting on legal counsel.

**REPORTS:**

**President's Report**

**Jaclyn Hotard - Monthly Financial Report (August 2024)**

**PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION ON ORDINANCE(S)**

**24-51** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance to rescind Ordinance 24-22, which reads: Ord. 24-22 - An ordinance approving the addition of a structure within the design review corridor of the Reserve Historical District as per St. John the Baptist Parish Code of Ordinances Section 114-38, at Lot C, Country Place Subdivision, which has a municipal address of 123 Redemption Way, Reserve, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (HD-1048) (J. Hotard & T. Lambeth)

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 24-51. The motion passed with Councilwoman Johnson absent.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Michael Wright - Meeting time change of Tuesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024 to 12:00 PM Noon due to the Night Out Against Crime**

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the motion to change the meeting time of the Tuesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024 to 12:00 PM Noon due to the Night Out Against Crime. The motion passed with Councilwoman Johnson absent.

**Jaclyn Hotard/Stacey Cador - Resolution - R24-175 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to renew the Parish's Retiree Health Insurance for Medicare Parts A&B - Eligible Retirees with Humana**

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Resolution R24-175. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to renew the Parish's Retiree Health Insurance for Medicare Parts A&B - Eligible Retirees with Humana. 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 Renewal with Humana through Tatje Insurance and Financial Products reflects an increase over the expiring premium of \$7.50 per month per member; and, WHEREAS, premiums are funded from various Funds. 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 Parish's Retiree Health Insurance for Medicare Parts A&B-Eligible Retirees with Humana. The motion passed with Councilwoman Johnson absent.

**Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R24-176 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 1 with Bips & Sons Services, LLC for the St. John Parish Water Distribution and Treatment Maintenance/Emergency Repairs Project**

**MOTION:** Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to approve Resolution R24-176. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 1 with Bips & Sons Services, LLC for the St. John Parish Water Distribution and Treatment Maintenance/Emergency Repairs 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. 1 increases the original Agreement by \$500,000 to ensure necessary emergency and maintenance water system repairs; and, WHEREAS, this increase is due to the amount of water repair work required that exceeded the initial contract amount; and, WHEREAS, costs will be funded through the Utilities Department 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. 1 between St. John the Baptist Parish and Bip & Sons Services, LLC. The motion passed with Councilwoman Johnson absent.

**Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R24-177 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 3 with**

**Pittsburgh Tank & Tower Co. for the Elevated Water Tower and Storage Tank Rehabilitation Project**

**MOTION:** Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to approve Resolution R24-177. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 3 with Pittsburgh Tank & Tower Co. for the Elevated Water Tower and Storage Tank Rehabilitation 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 amount by \$7,440 and an additional one hundred thirty (130) days; and, WHEREAS, the increase is to remove and replaced damaged safety cables at the Lucy Tower and Walnut Tower and replacement of the interior ladder at the Ruddock Ground Storage Tank; and, WHEREAS, the additional days is to account for downtime during peak hurricane season and scheduled delays since tanks must remain in service during hurricane season; and, WHEREAS, costs will be funded through the Utilities 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 execute Change Order No.3 between St. John the Baptist Parish and Pittsburgh Tank & Tower Co. The motion passed with Councilwoman Johnson absent.

**Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R24-178 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute change Order No. 2 with TBT Contracting, Inc. for the St. John the Baptist Parish Street Light Warehouse Project**

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to approve Resolution R24-178. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute change Order No. 2 with TBT Contracting, Inc. for the St. John the Baptist Parish Street Light Warehouse 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. 2 is a close-out change order which increases the original Agreement by \$785 and an additional four (4) days; and, WHEREAS, the increase is for additional painting of the ceiling in the storage room; and, WHEREAS, costs 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 Parish President, Jaclyn Hotard is hereby duly authorized and empowered on behalf of the St. John the Baptist Council to execute Change Order No. 2 between St. John the Baptist Parish and TBT Contracting, Inc. The motion passed with Councilwoman Johnson absent.

**Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R24-179 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute the Certificate of Substantial Completion with TBT Contracting, Inc. for the St. John the Baptist Parish Street Light Warehouse Project**

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to approve Resolution R24-179. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute the Certificate of Substantial Completion with TBT Contracting, Inc. for the St. John the Baptist Parish Street Light Warehouse 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 TBT Contracting, Inc. The motion passed with Councilwoman Johnson absent.

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:**

**24-52** An ordinance approving the resubdivision of Lots 1 and 2 of the Al Eugene Tract, located between Woodland Drive and Interstate 10, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZS-1396)  
(J. Hotard & T. Lambeth)

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Arcuri seconded the motion to go into Executive Session to discuss *Bridget A. Dinvaut, in her official capacity as District Attorney v. St. John the Baptist Parish Governing Authority and St. John the Baptist Parish Council*, 40<sup>th</sup> JDC Docket No. 77055. The motion passed with Councilwoman Johnson absent.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

*Bridget A. Dinvaut, in her official capacity as District Attorney v. St. John the Baptist Parish Governing Authority and St. John the Baptist Parish Council*, 40<sup>th</sup> JDC Docket No. 77055

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin seconded the motion to go back into Regular Session. The motion passed with Councilwoman Johnson absent.

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

**ADJOURNMENT:**

At 6:59 PM, Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilwoman Johnson absent.

/s/Michael Wright  
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche  
Council Secretary