

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, JUNE 22nd, 2021
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, June 22nd, 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

Councilwoman Houston led the Prayer. Councilman Malik led the Pledge.

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

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

There were no public comments.

Tonia Schnyder - Presentation - Bishop Antoine Jasmine - Community Activities available through Choice International Multipurpose Complex

A copy of the presentation is attached to the minutes.

CONSENT AGENDA:

ITEMS: Approval of Minutes - June 8th, 2021, Council Meeting; Councilman Malik - Re-appointment of Bryan Oubre to the Historic District Commission; Permit Approval - Rescheduling of the Annual Juneteenth Walk - Saturday, July 3rd, 2021 at 8:00 AM starting at Home Depot and ending at the St. John Government Complex

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to approve consent agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes - June 8th, 2021, Council Meeting; Councilman Malik - Re-appointment of Bryan Oubre to the Historic Commission; Permit Approval - Rescheduling of the Annual Juneteenth Walk - Saturday, July 3rd, 2021 at 8:00 AM starting at Home Depot and ending at the St. John Government Complex. The motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS:

President's Report:

Jaclyn Hotard - Monthly Financial Report (May 2021)

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "Thank you, thank you Chairman. This is confirmation that the monthly financial report has been sent to the Council."

Tom Malik - Finance Committee Report

Councilman Malik stated, "Mr. Chairman, the finance committee meeting was held prior to this meeting, with seven (7) of the eight (8) council members attendance. Excuse me, seven (7) of nine (9). The Finance Committee approved the following Resolutions R21-84, R21-85, R21-86, R21-87, R21-88 and R21-89."

PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION ON ORDINANCES/NEW BUSINESS:

21-16(Public Hearing Held)An ordinance amending ordinance 20-38 relative to the annual operating budgets for St. John the Baptist Parish General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, Enterprise Funds, and Capital Project Funds for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2020 and ending December 31, 2020 (J. Hotard)

MOTION: Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 21-16. The ordinance passed 8 Yeas and 1 Nay.

Kurt Becnel - Resolution - R21-83 - A Resolution of the St. John the Baptist Parish Council authorizing the St. John the Baptist Parish Library to advertise the project for the construction of the St. John the Baptist Parish Library, Reserve Branch Library, to be located on Highway 44 (River Road) between West 4th Street and West 5th Streets in Reserve, Louisiana for Bid

Andrea Tullos stated, "Good Evening Parish Councilmembers, it's nice to see all of you. I am here to answer any questions that you have but let me make a clarification that the Resolution is actually for the advertisement of the Construction Manager at Risk, it is not for the Construction of the Project, that is coming much later, much, much later. This is for the Construction Manager at Risk that has to be present during the design process, and the design process just kicked off when you guys approved the Architects 2 weeks ago. So, we have just started the design process."

Councilwoman Houston stated, "Yeah Mrs. Tullos, I'm glad you cleared that up. Cause when I did see that on the agenda, I did have a problem with that, if we had only just approved an architect, I didn't think that you were ready to actually bid on the project yet. So, I'm glad you did clear up that you gave some clarity to that, because I did have an issue what the way it read on the agenda. So, thank you."

Andrea Tullos stated, "Oh, you're more than welcome, and of course the advertisement to be legal we will have to advertise two times within 30 days and then do the panel of interviews. So, this is a process that then comes back to you so you will then have the opportunity to vote on the actual Construction Manager at Risk. So, this, this process still has a lil bit way to go. This is just the advertisement for the CMR."

Councilwoman Schnyder stated, "I think we need to amend that motion then. That resolution to read correctly, I'd like to make a motion to amend the resolution."

Councilman Becnel stated, "Okay, she made a motion to amend the resolution, can I get a second on that? Second by Mrs. Duhe-Griffin, let's vote."

Councilwoman Houston asked, "What's the motion?"

Councilman Becnel stated, "To make the correction."

Crosstalk between councilmembers.

Councilwoman Schnyder stated, "Haven't made the motion yet."

Councilwoman Houston asked, "But I mean, what is the motion?"

Councilwoman Schnyder stated, "To take out advertise for the project."

Councilman Becnel asked, "How do you want it to read?"

Councilwoman Schnyder stated, "I said a motion need to be made, I didn't say I was going to make it."

Jaclyn Hotard stated, "Chairman. I'm looking over [crosstalk] I'm thinking it just might be appropriate for the motion to read exactly what the action of the Council is actually taking. So, if the action that the council is wishing to take is to authorize the library to advertise for a construction manager at risk, and then I would think that the agenda item would be most appropriate to read exactly what the council is going to authorize the library to do. Maybe Keith can offer some...I'm just seeking to help, but I do believe Councilwoman Schnyder raises a good point, that the item on the agenda says...authorize to advertise the project for construction, but it's really a construction manager at risk. You're seeking a CMAR firm."

Councilwoman Houston stated, "I'll make it."

Councilman Becnel stated "Yes, Mr. Green."

Keith Green, Jr. stated, "I was actually trying to get recognized, Keith Green with the District Attorney's office. The Parish President is absolutely correct, the motion would just simply need to reflect exactly the verbiage or the wording that the Council would like for the resolution to state. And then of course, the library, Mrs. Tullos would actually amend the resolution for that purpose. And that would just provide some clarity for the future and of course make the record clear."

Councilwoman Houston stated, "I'd like to make the motion Councilman."

Councilman Becnel stated, "Okay, Ms. Houston, Councilwoman Houston."

Councilwoman Houston stated, "Yes, I'd like to amend the current motion, Resolution - 21-83, to include authorization to the St. John the Baptist Parish Library to advertise the project for a construction manager, the St. John the Baptist Parish Library, the Reserve Branch, to be located on Hwy. 44, between West 4th Street and West 5th Streets in Reserve, for Bid."

Councilman Malik stated, "Location of the...term to include?"

Councilwoman Houston stated, "Yes."

Councilman Malik stated, "You want to include in lieu of?"

Councilwoman Houston stated, "No, to include because it's only the Construction Manager, that we need to include."

Councilman Malik stated, "Construction Manager at Risk."

Councilwoman Houston stated, "Yes."

Donna Barber asked, "Construction Manager at Risk, Tammy?"

Councilwoman Houston stated, "Construction Manager at Risk."

Councilman Becnel stated, "Okay, we have it now okay."

Councilwoman Schnyder asked, "We're going to discuss or we're going to vote to approve the motion? We're voting to approve the amendment, correct?"

Donna Barber stated, "Correct."

Councilman Malik stated, "I've been requesting to speak since 1857..."

Councilman Becnel interrupting stated, "And you know what's happening, you know what's happening? It's not..."

Councilman Malik stated, "It voted YES for me and I'm not voting."

Councilman Becnel stated, "And it's not showing up on mines."

Councilman Malik stated, "Yeah, well my lights are flashing."

Councilman Becnel stated, "I don't know why! But every time I look up; I don't see your name on there."

Councilwoman Schnyder called Point of Order, "I just want to clarify, we are voting to approve the amendment, correct?"

Donna Barber stated, "That's correct. Why isn't it working? Oh no, that's not him. I don't know what's wrong with it. Okay, now it's correct. It passes 7 Yeas, 1 Abstaining...I'm sorry. 1 Absent and 1 No, no vote."

Councilman Malik stated, "My Nay voted. We're not going to vote, we don't have to vote again, because I'm voting YES. Let's move on."

Councilman Arcuri asked, "Can we just put it in the record that Mr. Malik voted YES?"

Keith Green, Jr. stated, "Mr. Chairman, you could actually call for a voice vote, and that would alleviate the necessity to have to do an electronic vote."

Councilman Becnel stated, "Okay, we'll do that then. I would like to call for a voice vote."

Keith Green, Jr. stated, "The secretary needs to call the results of the vote."
Donna Barber stated, "I'm sorry. That passes eight (8) with one (1) absent."

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin second the motion *Resolution - 21-83, to include authorization to the St. John the Baptist Parish Library to advertise the project for a construction manager, the St. John the Baptist Parish Library, the Reserve Branch, to be located on Hwy. 44, between West 4th Street and West 5th Streets in Reserve, for Bid. The motion passed with Councilman Torres absent.*

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Resolution R21-83 - A Resolution of the St. John the Baptist Parish Council authorizing the St. John the Baptist Parish Library to advertise the project for the construction of the St. John the Baptist Parish Library, Reserve Branch Library, to be located on Highway 44 (River Road) between West 4th and West 5th Streets in Reserve, Louisiana for Bid. The motion passed with Councilman Torres absent.

DEPARTMENT/ENGINEER REPORTS

Kurt Becnel - Madeline Jasmine Bourgeois/Gary Watson, Sr. - Discussion regarding the West Bank Pool

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

21-17 An ordinance approving the rezoning of Lot 18, Square A, LaPlace Heights from the Residential District One (R-1) to the Residential District Two(R-2) zoning district, located in the area generally bounded by Paula Drive, Comeaux Court, McReine Road, and Marcia Street, LaPlace, as shown in Exhibit 1 attached. (PZR-21-1224) (R. Pastorek)

21-18 An ordinance approving the rezoning of Lot 17, Square A, LaPlace Heights from the Residential District One[R-1]to the Residential District Two[R-2]zoning district, located in the area generally bounded by Paula Drive, Comeaux Court, McReine Road, and Marcia Street, LaPlace, as shown in Exhibit 1 attached. (PZR-21-1225) (R. Pastorek)

21-19 An ordinance approving the rezoning of Lot 19, Square A, LaPlace Heights from the Residential District One[R-1]to the Residential District Two[R-2]zoning district, located in the area generally bounded by Paula Drive, Comeaux Court, McReine Road, and Marcie Street, LaPlace, as shown in Exhibit 1 attached. (PZR-21-1226) (Rene Pastorek)

21-20 An ordinance approving the rezoning of Lot SJ-1A of Reine Subdivision from the Commercial District Three[C-3]/Industrial District One[I-1]to the Industrial District One[I-1]zoning district, located in the area generally bounded by Jaubert Lane, E. Airline Highway, and Interstate 10, LaPlace, as shown in Exhibit 1 attached. (PZR-21-1230) (R. Pastorek)

21-21 An ordinance approving a re-subdivision of the Shell Oil Co. Lot of The H. Hunter White Tract into Lots 1A and 2A of the H. Hunter White Tract, located in the area generally bounded by Highway 51, Interstate 10, and

Main Street, LaPlace, as shown in a survey prepared by Stephen P. Flynn, P.L.S. on February 19, 2021. (PZR-21-1272) (R. Pastorek)

21-22 An ordinance approving a re-subdivision of Lot 5A-1 & Lot 7A-1, Block 2-A, Reserve Industrial Park into Lot 5A-1A & Lot 7A-1A, Block 2-A, Reserve Industrial Park, located in the area generally bounded by W Airline Highway, W 10th Street, Power Boulevard, and Rosenwald Street, Reserve, as shown in a survey prepared by Stephen P. Flynn, P.L.S. on December 15, 2020. (PZS-21-1273) (R. Pastorek)

21-23 An ordinance approving the rezoning of Boobie's Inc. Lot, Section 13, T-12, R-19-E from the Commercial District One [C-1] to the Commercial District Three [C-3] zoning district, located in the area generally bounded by Highway 18, E 5th Street, E 6th Street, and Ebony Lane Edgard, as shown in Exhibit 1 attached. (PZR-21-1208) (R. Pastorek)

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:51 PM, Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

/s/Kurt P. Becnel
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
Council Secretary