

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, APRIL 23rd, 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, April 23rd, 2024, at 6:00 PM.

CALL TO ORDER:

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

ABSENT: Lennix Madere and Tyra Duhe-Griffin

Councilwoman Johnson led the Prayer and Councilwoman Houston led the Pledge.

Legal Counsel Keith Green, Jr. was present.

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

Gerard Cox, Henry Cox and Elize Eugene commented on Ordinance 24-19.

Jaclyn Hotard - Proclamation - May as Mental Health Month

Jaclyn Hotard - Proclamation - April 28 - May 4, 2024 as National Small Business Week

Jaclyn Hotard - Proclamation - May 6 - 10, 2024 as National Economic Development Week

Jaclyn Hotard - Recognition - 12-year-old All Stars, AA Bidy Basketball National Champions

Jaclyn Hotard - Presentation - New Orleans Regional Planning Commission - Path to Zero Safety Action Plan

CONSENT AGENDA:

ITEMS: Approval of Minutes - April 9th, 2024, Council Meeting

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilwoman Johnson seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes - April 9th, 2024, Council Meeting. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin and Councilman Madere absent.

REPORTS:

President's Report

Jaclyn Hotard - Monthly Financial Report (March 2024)

OLD BUSINESS:

24-19 (Postponed 04-09-2024) An ordinance approving the rezoning of the remainder of the Voisin Tract of the Voisin Subdivision from the Residential District One (R-1) to the Residential District Three (R-3) located at 186-365 East 13th Street, Reserve, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZR-1556) (J. Hotard & T. Lambeth)

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 24-19. The motion passed with 6 yeas, 2 absent (Duhe-Griffin, Madere) and 1 against (Torres).

PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE (S):

24-20 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the installation of fiber optic cables along Power Boulevard and Rosenwald Street, Reserve, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 17540) (J. Hotard & T. Lambeth)

MOTION: Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 24-20. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin and Councilman Madere absent.

24-21 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the installation of fiber optic cables at the municipal address of 101 Gail Lane, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 17507) (J. Hotard & T. Lambeth)

MOTION: Councilwoman Johnson moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 24-21. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin and Councilman Madere absent.

24-22 (Public Hearing Held) 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 Councilwoman Johnson seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 24-22. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin and Councilman Madere absent.

NEW BUSINESS:

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R24-86 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to reject the bid received for the Animal Shelter Renovation Project

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Arcuri seconded the motion to approve Resolution - R24-86. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to reject the bid received for the Animal Shelter Renovation 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 only bid received by CDX Construction, LLC of Covington, LA is being rejected due to it being over the Engineer's opinion of probable construction cost; and, NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, that St. John the Baptist Parish is hereby authorized to reject the bid received for the Animal Shelter Renovation Project. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin and Councilman Madere absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R24-87 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to re-advertise and solicit bids for the Animal Shelter Renovation Project

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the motion to approve Resolution R24-87. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to re-advertise and solicit bids for the Animal Shelter Renovation 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 Animal Shelter is in need of an addition and renovations to bring it back into working condition, up to code and to an acceptable standard of care for the animals it houses; and, WHEREAS, the project will include a 1,270 Sq. Ft. addition to the existing facility that is made up of two (2) separate buildings; and, WHEREAS, the goal is to connect the two (2) existing facilities, re-organize and renovate existing spaces while adding new veterinary spaces; and, WHEREAS, the estimated cost this project is \$1,409,000 and will be funded through the Animal Shelter Budget. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, St. John the Baptist Parish is hereby authorized to re-advertise and solicit bids for the Animal Shelter Renovation Project. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin and Councilman Madere absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R24-88 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to award the bid for the REGALA Concession Stand/Storage Building Replacement Project to Lanco Construction, Inc.

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilwoman Johnosn seconded the motion to approve Resolution R24-88. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to award the bid for the REGALA Concession Stand/Storage Building Replacement Project to Lanco Construction, 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, Lanco Construction, Inc. of LaPlace, LA submitted the lowest responsive and responsible bid in the amount of \$821,000; and, WHEREAS, the REGALA Concession Stand/Storage Building was demolished due to damages sustained from Hurricane Ida and unsafe conditions; and, WHEREAS, services will include replacing the concession stand, restroom and storage building; and, WHEREAS, the estimated cost the Agreement 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 award the bid for the REGALA Concession Stand/Storage Building Replacement Project to Lanco Construction, Inc. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin and Councilman Madere absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R24-89 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 1 with Lanco Construction, Inc. for REGALA Concession Stand/Storage Building Replacement Project

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the motion to approve Resolution R24-89. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 1 with Lanco Construction, Inc. for REGALA Concession Stand/Storage Building 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, Change Order No. 1 decreases the original bid by \$41,650; and, WHEREAS, the decrease is due to removing the scope of work associated with cast iron pipe plumbing to plastic pipe plumbing and removing the pile load test requirements; and, WHEREAS, the project 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. 1 between St. John the Baptist Parish and Lanco Construction, Inc. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin and Councilman Madere absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R24-90 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to enter into a Professional Services Agreement for Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) Services with The Lemoine Company, LLC for the LaPlace Water Intake Pump Station and Pre-treatment Project

MOTION: Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to approve Resolution R24-90. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to enter into a Professional Services Agreement for Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) Services with The Lemoine Company, LLC for the LaPlace Water Intake Pump Station and Pre-treatment 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 Lemoine Company, LLC of Lafayette, LA ranked first out of four (4) RFQ's received and reviewed by the Source Selection Committee; and, WHEREAS, Full design and construction is needed of a new LaPlace Water Intake and Pre-treatment Facility on the MS River to change the source water for the LaPlace distribution system from Ruddock wells to the MS River WHEREAS, the change in source water will provide a sustainable and resilient facility that will be located within levee protection; and, WHEREAS, Construction Management at Risk Services for this project is needed due to the complexity and importance to provide reliable drinking water; and, WHEREAS, the estimated cost of these services is \$200,000 and will be funded through the 2022 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 sign and execute the Professional Services Agreement between St. John the Baptist Parish and The Lemoine Company, LLC. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin and Councilman Madere absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R24-91 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to enter into a Professional Services Agreement for Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) Services with BLD Services, LLC for the Water Treatment at Reverse Osmosis Unit Site on Woodland Drive Project

MOTION: Councilman Bailey moved and Councilman Arcuri seconded the motion to approve Resolution R24-91. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to enter into a Professional Services Agreement for Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) Services with BLD Services, LLC for the Water Treatment at Reverse Osmosis Unit Site on Woodland Drive 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, BLD Services, LLC of Kenner, LA ranked first out of two (2) RFQ's received and reviewed by the Source Selection Committee; and, WHEREAS, Full design and construction is needed of an Expansion to the Treatment Capacity at the Reverse Osmosis Unit Site on Woodland Drive to 5.3 million gallons per day in conjunction with changing the source water of the facility from the Ruddock wells to the MS River; and, WHEREAS, the change in source water will provide a sustainable and resilient facility that will be located within levee protection; and, WHEREAS, Construction Management at Risk Services for this project is needed due to the complexity and importance to provide reliable drinking water and increase capacity of water treatment; and, WHEREAS, the estimated cost of these services is \$130,000 and will be funded through the 2022 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 sign and execute the Professional Services Agreement between St. John the Baptist Parish and BLD Services, LLC. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin and Councilman Madere absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R24-92 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to enter into an Indemnity and Hold Harmless Agreement with the Pontchartrain Levee District for the Annual Independence Day Celebration

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to approve Resolution R24-92. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to enter into an Indemnity and Hold Harmless Agreement with the Pontchartrain Levee District for the Annual Independence Day Celebration. 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 Annual Independence Day Celebration Fireworks Show takes place from a barge on the Mississippi River, Wednesday, July 3, 2024 on the east and west banks of the river; and, WHEREAS, the Pontchartrain Levee District is the public body with authority to regulate activities on the levee system related to maintenance and integrity of the levee structure; and, WHEREAS, this Agreement is required by the Pontchartrain Levee District to host the Annual Independence Day Celebration Fireworks show; and, WHEREAS, St. John the Baptist Parish will agree to maintain an insurance policy for public liability and property damage, with the Pontchartrain Levee District as the named additional insured, in the amount of \$1,000,000. 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 Indemnity and Hold Harmless Agreement between St. John the Baptist Parish and the Pontchartrain Levee District. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin and Councilman Madere absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R24-93 - 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: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the motion to approve Resolution R24-93. 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, 2024 and terminates July 30, 2025; 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 with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin and Councilman Madere absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R24-94 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 2 with J. Caldarera & Company, Inc. for the St. John Hurricane Ida Damage Repairs to Sewer Lift Stations in LaPlace

MOTION: Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to approve Resolution R24-94. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 2 with J. Caldarera & Company, Inc. for the St. John Hurricane Ida Damage Repairs to Sewer Lift Stations in LaPlace. 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 Agreement by \$20,278.37 and an additional two (2) days; and, WHEREAS, this is a closeout Change Order and adjusts quantities used to complete the project; and, WHEREAS, Change Order No. 2 will be funded through the Wastewater 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 Council to execute Change Order No. 2 between St. John the Baptist Parish and J. Caldarera & Company, Inc. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin

and Councilman Madere absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R24-95 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute the Certificate of Substantial Completion with J. Caldarera & Company, Inc. for the St. John Hurricane Ida Damage Repairs to Sewer Lift Stations in LaPlace

MOTION: Councilwoman Johnson moved and Councilman Torres seconded the motion to approve Resolution R24-95. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute the Certificate of Substantial Completion with J. Caldarera & Company, Inc. for the St. John Hurricane Ida Damage Repairs to Sewer Lift Stations in LaPlace. 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 J. Caldarera & Company, Inc. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin and Councilman Madere absent.

Jaclyn Hotard - Resolution - R24-96 - A Resolution in support of declaring the week of May 5th through May 11th, 2024, "National Hurricane Preparedness Week"

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to approve Resolution R24-96. A Resolution in support of declaring the week of May 5th through May 11th, 2024, "National Hurricane Preparedness Week". 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, floods can happen anytime, anywhere, and without warning; and, WHEREAS, flooding has the potential to create significant emergencies for the citizens of St. John the Baptist Parish, including risks of imminent threat to life and property, and hundreds of millions of dollars in damage to homes, businesses and local government infrastructure; and, WHEREAS, the State of Louisiana has received thirty-two (32) Presidential Disaster Declarations for flooding since 2000, and is among the top ten (10) states with the most natural disasters; and, WHEREAS, flood damage is not typically covered under a standard homeowner's insurance policy and usually takes 30 days to activate, so residents are encouraged to review their flood risk and purchase flood insurance to protect and insure their property from flood and associated damages; and, WHEREAS, the National Weather Service has named the week of May 5th through May 11th, 2024 as the 2024 National Hurricane Preparedness Week; and, WHEREAS, the National Weather Service has declared June 1st as the start and November 30th as the end of the 2024 Hurricane Season; and, WHEREAS, the public is well informed of the dangers associated with flooding; and can make improvements to its preparedness to reduce the occurrence of death and injury as a result

of severe flooding. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: SECTION I. To declare the week of May 5th through May 11th, 2024, "National Hurricane Preparedness Week." SECTION II. To encourage citizens of St. John to purchase flood insurance. SECTION III. To stress the requirement to obtain building permits in advance of construction in the floodplain. SECTION VI. To emphasize the importance of making improvements to individual hurricane preparedness plans, all of which may better reduce the occurrence of death and injury as a result of severe flooding during the 2024 Hurricane Season. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin and Councilman Madere absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R24-97 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to settle and pay the April 3, 2023, Property Damage Claim to Dependable Storage Services of 131 Percy Hebert Drive, LaPlace, LA 70068

MOTION: Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the motion to approve Resolution R24-97. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to settle and pay the April 3, 2023, Property Damage Claim to Dependable Storage Services of 131 Percy Hebert Drive, LaPlace, LA 70068. 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, Louisiana Claims Administrators (LoCA) recommended, and Legal Counsel approved the settlement amount of \$3,745.89; and, WHEREAS, the settlement will be funded through the Settlement line item of the Public Works 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 April 3, 2024, Property Damage Claim to Dependable Storage Services. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin and Councilman Madere absent.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

24-23 An ordinance approving the rezoning of Lot 9 of the LaPlace Park Subdivision from the Residential District One (R-1) to the Residential District Two (R-2) located at 732 Magnolia Avenue, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZR-23-1562) (J. Hotard & T. Lambeth)

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:20 PM, Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin and Councilman Madere absent.

/s/Michael Wright
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
Council Secretary