

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28TH, 2023
CHAIRMAN MICHAEL WRIGHT
VICE-CHAIR KURT BECNEL

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, November 28th, 2023, at 6:00 PM.

CALL TO ORDER:

ROLL CALL: Lennix Madere, Jr., Councilman-at-Large, Div. A, Michael Wright, Councilman-at-Large, Div. B, Kurt Becnel, Councilman District I, Warren Torres, Councilman District II, Tammy Houston, Councilwoman District III, Tyra Duhe-Griffin, Councilwoman District IV, Robert Arcuri, Councilman District V, Tonia Schnyder, Councilwoman District VI

ABSENT: Tanya Faucheux

Councilwoman Houston led the Prayer and Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin led the Pledge.

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

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

Joy Banner, Shondrell Perrilloux, and Mrs. Crystal commented on item Jaclyn Hotard - Authorization to retain Legal Service with the Law Firm, R. Gray Sexton, as Special Counsel, to perform services related to Ethics Laws subject to the restrictions imposed by the State of Louisiana regarding Ethics Procedures and at the rate in accordance with the Attorney General Guidelines per statute.

CONSENT AGENDA:

ITEMS: Approval of Minutes - November 14th, 2023, Council Meeting; Permit Approval - Power Showcase Trail Ride - Saturday, December 2nd, 2023 from Noon until 7:00 PM - 1851 Hwy. 18 Edgard

MOTION: Councilman Becnel moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda items - Approval of Minutes - November 14th, 2023, Council Meeting; Permit Approval - Power Showcase Trail Ride - Saturday, December 2nd, 2023 from Noon until 7:00 PM - 1851 Hwy. 18 Edgard. The motion passed with Councilwoman Faucheux absent.

MOTION: Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilman Becnel seconded the motion to go into executive session to discuss: *Java August vs. Atlantic Specialist Insurance, St. John the Baptist Parish and Alvin Narcisse*, Docket No. 77106 Div. B and The Descendants Project vs. St. John the Baptist Parish and St. John the Baptist Parish Council. The motion passed with Councilwoman Faucheux absent.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Java August vs. Atlantic Specialist Insurance, St. John the Baptist Parish and Alvin Narcisse, Docket No. 77106 Div. B

The Descendants Project vs. St. John the Baptist Parish and St. John the Baptist Parish Council

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

MOTION: Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to accept legal counsel recommendation to offer a settlement for Java August vs. Atlantic Specialist Insurance, St. John the Baptist Parish Docket No. 77106 Div. B. The motion passed with Councilwoman Faucheux absent.

REPORTS:

President's Report

Jaclyn Hotard - Monthly Financial Report (October 2023)

PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION ON ORDINANCE(S)/NEW BUSINESS:

23-61 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the resubdivision of Lot 8, Square 3, of Cornland Plantation Subdivision, located at 123 Beech Grove Drive and 120 NW 1st Street, Reserve, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZS-23-1380) (J. Hotard & T. Lambeth)

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 23-61. The motion passed with Councilwoman Faucheux absent.

23-62 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the resubdivision of Lot 2 and Lot 3 of the Marion Satterlee Tract located on Miya Lane, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZS-23-1378) (J. Hotard & T. Lambeth)

MOTION: Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilman Torres seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 23-62. The motion passed with Councilwoman Faucheux absent.

23-63 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the rezoning of Lot 22 of LaPlace Plantation Subdivision, located at 346 West 2nd Street, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA from the Residential District One (R-1) to the Commercial District Two (C-2) (PZR-23-1485) (J. Hotard & T. Lambeth)

MOTION: Councilman Becnel moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 23-63. The motion passed with Councilwoman Faucheux absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Stacey Cador - Resolution - R23-232 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to advertise and receive Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Office of Fire Services Group Health Insurance

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Arcuri seconded the motion to approve Resolution R23-232. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist

Parish to advertise and receive Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Office of Fire Services 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 Office of Fire Services Group Health Insurance which expires February 29, 2024; and, 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 Office of Fire Services Group Health Insurance. The motion passed with Councilwoman Fauchaux absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Stacey Cador - Resolution - R23-233 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to advertise and receive Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Office of Fire Services Group Dental Insurance

MOTION: Councilman Becnel moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to approve Resolution R23-233. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to advertise and receive Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Office of Fire Services Group Dental 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 Office of Fire Services Group Dental Insurance which expires February 29, 2024; and, 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 Office of Fire Services Group Dental Insurance. The motion passed with Councilwoman Fauchaux absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Stacey Cador - Resolution - R23-234 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to advertise and receive Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Office of Fire Services Group Life Insurance

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Arcuri seconded the motion to approve Resolution R23-234. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to advertise and receive Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Office of Fire Services Group Life 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 Office of Fire Services Group Life Insurance which expires February 29, 2024; and, 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 Office of Fire Services Group Life Insurance. The motion passed with Councilwoman Fauchaux absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R23-235 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to complete and submit those documents and agreements required in connection with the Community Water Enrichment Fund

(CWEF) 2023-2024 Grant Application in the sum of \$140,000 to the Office of Community Development (OCD) to replace Water Sampler Units

MOTION: Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilman Torres the motion to approve Resolution R23-235. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to complete and submit those documents and agreements required in connection with the Community Water Enrichment Fund (CWEF) 2023-2024 Grant Application in the sum of \$140,000 to the Office of Community Development (OCD) to replace Water Sampler Units. 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 Governor's Office of Community Development Community Water Enrichment Fund Program provides funding to aid local government solely for the purpose of rehabilitation, improvement, and construction projects for community water systems to provide safe and clean drinking water; and, WHEREAS, the grant will allow the Parish to use funding in the amount of \$140,000.00 for the replacement of water sampler units to stainless steel units throughout the Parish; and, WHEREAS, the Office of Community Development (OCD) requires an authorizing resolution as part of its application process. NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. John the Baptist Parish Council does hereby authorize the Parish President to execute all documents in connection with the Community Water Enrichment Fund (CWEF) 2023-2024 grant application totaling \$140,000.00 to the Office of Community Development to replace water sampler units. The motion passed with Councilwoman Faucheux absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R23-236 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to complete and submit those documents and agreements required in connection with the Local Government Assistance Program (LGAP) 2023-2024 Grant Application in the sum of \$100,000 to the Office of Community Development (OCD) for Cross Streets Road Striping

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin seconded the motion to approve Resolution R23-236. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to complete and submit those documents and agreements required in connection with the Local Government Assistance Program (LGAP) 2023-2024 Grant Application in the sum of \$100,000 to the Office of Community Development (OCD) for Cross Streets Road Striping. 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 Governor's Office of Community Development Local Government Assistance Program provides funds to local governments for needed infrastructures and long-term capital improvements in rural areas; and, WEREAS, the purpose of the Cross Streets Road Striping is to highlight the boundaries of vehicular travel lanes and provide illumination of the roadway for nighttime driving; and, WHEREAS, the Office of Community Development (OCD) requires an authorizing resolution as part of its application process. NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. John the Baptist Parish Council does hereby authorize the Parish President to complete and submit those documents and agreements required in connection with the Local Government Assistance Program (LGAP) 2023-2024 grant application totaling \$100,000.00 to the Office of Community

Development for Cross Streets Road Striping. The motion passed with Councilwoman Faucheux absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R23-237 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to complete and submit those documents and agreements required for the State of Louisiana, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Hurricane Ida Recovery Funding for the Hometown Revitalization Program (HRP) and Resilient Communities Infrastructure Programs (RCIP)

MOTION: Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin moved and Councilman Torres seconded the motion to approve Resolution R23-237. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to complete and submit those documents and agreements required for the State of Louisiana, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Hurricane Ida Recovery Funding for the Hometown Revitalization Program (HRP) and Resilient Communities Infrastructure Programs (RCIP). 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 has received an allocation of \$6,887,921 million in Disaster Recovery Funding from the State of Louisiana, CDBG Hurricane Ida HRP and RCIP to address the unmet needs associated with the impact of Hurricane Ida; and, WHEREAS, St. John the Baptist Parish is required to submit a Hurricane Ida CDBG Parish Recovery Proposal to the State of Louisiana Office of Community Development Disaster Recovery Unit (OCD/DRU) to receive assistance; and, WHEREAS, there has been extensive public input on Hurricane Ida recovery needs through the Citizen's participation meetings held on the East and West Bank of St. John the Baptist Parish on the development of the Hurricane Ida CDBG Parish Recovery Proposal; and, WHEREAS, the actions of the St. John the Baptist Parish will meet the national objective of Low-moderate Income and will result in a public benefit to provide resiliency and recovery efforts through infrastructure and economic revitalization in areas impacted by disasters; and, Whereas, the following represents an analysis of proposed projects for eligibility and adherence to program requirements as defined by the LA OCD in line with the CDBG-DR allocation. Proposed projects consist of the following: Dredging of the canals throughout the Parish- Moll Canal - \$400,000; Dugas Canal - \$875,000; Company Canal - \$1,100,000; Culvert Capacity River Road to South - \$600,000; Culvert Capacity Hwy 3127- \$500,000; Union Pacific R/R - \$750,000; Potable Water Infrastructure - \$1,920,000; Sidewalk Restoration and Replacement - \$1,686,000 and Street Lighting Replacement - \$1,020,000- Total Project Cost estimated to be \$8,851,000. NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the St. John the Baptist Parish Council does hereby authorize the Parish President to execute, complete and submit all documents required for the State of Louisiana, CDBG Hurricane Ida Recover Funding for the HRP and RCIP. The motion passed with Councilwoman Faucheux absent.

Jaclyn Hotard - Authorization to retain Legal Service with the Law Firm, R. Gray Sexton, as Special Counsel, to perform services related to Ethics Laws subject to the restrictions imposed by the State of Louisiana regarding Ethics Procedures and at the rate in accordance with the Attorney General Guidelines per statute

MOTION: Councilman Becnel moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to retain Legal Service with the Law Firm, R. Gray Sexton, as Special Counsel, to perform services related to Ethics Laws subject to the restrictions imposed by the State of Louisiana regarding Ethics Procedures and at the rate in accordance with the Attorney General Guidelines per statute. The motion passed with 5 yeas (Becnel, Madere, Houston, Wright, Arcuri), 3 against (Duhe-Griffin, Schnyder, Torres) and 1 absent (Faucheux).

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

23-64 An ordinance amending ordinance 22-53 relative to the annual operating budgets for St. John the Baptist Parish for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2023 and ending December 31, 2023 (J. Hotard)

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:49 PM, the meeting was adjourned with Councilwoman Faucheux absent.

/s/Michael Wright
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
Council Secretary