

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN AT A REGULAR MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1988

The Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, met in REGULAR SESSION in the Council Chambers of the Percy D. Hebert Building, LaPlace, Louisiana, on Thursday, October 13, 1988, at 6:30 PM

ROLL CALL

There were present at Roll Call: Councilmen: William Terry, Richard Wolfe, Haston Lewis, Richard Wolfe, Peter Ned Dube, Clinton Perrilloux, Joel McTopy, Steve Lee, Harold Haydel, Ranney Wilson

There was absent: None

Legal Counsels, Tom Daley and Charles Lorio were present.

CORRESPONDENCE

A request from St. John Promotion and Development for a permit to exceed the legal noise levels as stated in Ordinance 88-66, for the Andouille Festival, to accommodate the large quantities of people anticipated, was addressed to the Council. Mr. Terry moved and Mr. Haydel seconded the motion to authorize the issuance of the Noise Permit with the stipulation that a time limit be set on the permit. The vote in favor of the motion was unanimously approved with no absences.

A request from St. Charles High School to hold a Homecoming Parade on 10/19/88, was addressed to the Council. Mr. Lee moved and Mr. Dube seconded the motion to grant the permit for the parade. The vote in favor of the motion was unanimously approved with no absences.

A request from Riverside Academy to hold a Homecoming Parade on 10/20/88, was addressed to the Council. Mr. Wolfe moved and Mr. Dube seconded the motion to grant the permit for the parade. The vote in favor of the motion was unanimously approved with no absences.

A request from the St. John Sheriff's Department for a time change for the 10-K foot race from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM, was addressed to the Council. Mr. Perrilloux moved and Mr. Terry seconded the motion to approve the requested time change. The vote in favor of the motion was unanimously approved with no absences.

A letter from Percy Vicknair of the St. John Aviation Board with a recommendation that the Board membership be reduced to 5 with the Parish President and Council Chairman as Ex-Officio members. It has become a burden to convene a quorum of the members to conduct business.

Councilman Wolfe recommended that Mr. Vicknair come before the Council with a report on absenteeism of the Aviation Board Members. Councilman Lee recommended that the Board remain as it and meet once a month and that a work or Task Force be formed and meet at their convenience with the Parish President's Office assisting the Work Force.

As a result of the discussion, a meeting with the Aviation Board, Parish President and Council Chairman was recommended for either Monday or Wednesday of next week.

A letter from Bruce Boudin regarding Teenage Suicide was addressed to the Council stating that a meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 18, 1988 at 7:00 PM in the Road Division Headquarters behind the K-Mart Building, for concerned parents and leaders of our community.

A proclamation from Governor Buddy Roemer was addressed whereby the Governor proclaimed the week of October 9 -15, 1988 as "Metric Week" in the State of Louisiana. The Ombus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988 designates the metric system of measurement as the preferred systems of weights and measures for United States trade and commerce.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Haydel addressed the issue regarding a garbage rate increase for the residents of the parish. He stated that the contract with Troclair's calls for a consumer price index increase. Last year the parish absorbed the rate increase. Mr. Troclair requested a 19 cents per month increase for garbage collection retroactive to September 1, 1988. Mr. Haydel moved and Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion to increase the cost of garbage collection by 4 % (19 cents) more per household effective with the next billing and that the parish absorb the retroactive amount - September 1, 1988. The vote in favor of the motion was unanimously approved with no absences.

Councilman Perrilloux requested a Roads & Bridges Committee meeting be scheduled for Thursday, October 20, 1988 at 6:00 PM. The purpose of that meeting will be to get a status report regarding that department's activities and work schedules. With no opposition from the Council, the meeting was scheduled.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Haydel moved and Mr. Lee seconded the motion to approve the minutes of September 22, 1988 Finance/Regular Meeting. The vote in favor of the motion was unanimously approved with no absences.

Mr. Perrilloux moved and Mr. Lee seconded the motion to approve the minutes of September 27, 1988 Special Meeting. The vote in favor of the motion was unanimously approved with no absences.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Chairman McTopy spoke of the parish's Civil Service program stating that he is prepared to introduce an ordinance at meeting's end to re-organize the Civil Service Board. The parish received negative comments from the State Civil Service Board and the ordinance to be introduced is a model ordinance from the State.

Chairman McTopy addressed the issue regarding the Economic Development Criteria. He stated that the Council should begin thinking about formulating the criteria or formulas to be used in determining who and how much financial assistance a company will be given from the Economic Development Tax proceeds. He suggested they meet with any experts in the area to create such criteria. This, he said is necessitated by the need to be able to give direction to the Parish President and our International Consultant, Bill Morris, regarding the parameter of incentives that they can offer when negotiating with businesses and industries in an attempt to have them locate within the

Parish. Chairman McTopy requested the Council to instruct President Millet to schedule a workshop with Bill Morris and the Council to begin developing these criteria. President Millet agreed and will set up such a work shop soon as possible.

Chairman McTopy informed the Council that he would be presenting information to them regarding the re-organization of the existing Economic Development Committee. He expressed concern that the Committee had no charter as its areas of responsibility -- had questionable accountability, and had no qualifications for membership. He suggested that membership should represent those areas of the parish that normally interface with business and industry such as the Banking Industry, Real Estate Industry, St. John Parish Bar Association, Chemical Manufacturers Association or Plant Managers, etc.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Upon recommendation by Farrel Weber, Director of Utilities, Mr. Wolfe moved and Mr. Perrilloux seconded the motion to award the lowest bid received to Norwell, in the amount of \$745.13 per month for 60 months including tax for a Loader/Backhoe. The vote in favor of the motion was unanimously approved with no absences.

Mr. Lewis moved and Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion to authorize the advertising for 2 dump trucks (one for east bank; one for west bank) for picking up trash and debris in the parish. The vote in favor of the motion was unanimously approved with no absences.

Upon recommendation by Leroy Acosta, Chief Administrator, Mr. Lewis moved and Mr. Haydel seconded the motion to award the lowest bid received for the construction of the Lucy Firehouse, to Steib Construction Company, in the amount of \$24,496.00. The vote in favor of the motion was unanimously approved with no absences.

Hugh Martin, Bond Counsel presented the Council with a report on Parishwide Sewerage Phase I and II stating that the total needed to complete the 2 phases is \$37,400,000.00. A memo was presented to the Council showing all the figures. This report was requested to attempt to reduce the front foot assessments down from the \$10.00 projected figure. It was stated in discussion that keeping the \$10 front foot assessment would guarantee that the streets affected in the construction of the sewer lines would be overlaid into A-1 condition, rather than patch jobs.

Mr. Haydel moved and Mr. Terry seconded the motion to request Hugh Martin, Bond Counsel to prepare the necessary ordinances regarding front foot assessments. The vote in favor of the motion was unanimously approved with no absences.

Councilman Lewis requested that he would like an update on the sewerage project from beginning to present. Councilman Wolfe requested a workshop be scheduled to review the sewerage project. This workshop is scheduled for Thursday, October 20, 1988, after the Roads and Bridges Committee Meeting adjourns.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion regarding the Maintenance Contract (tabled from previous meeting) was held at this time. In discussion it was again pointed out by Administration that there were some discrepancies with one of the

Parish. 2. Item 6 of the bid specs was not in conformance with spec requirements. Furthermore, bid tabulations showed Port Maintenance to be the low bidder. With these considerations, Administration recommended that the bid be awarded to the low bidder - Port maintenance.

Mr. Lee moved and Mr. Duhe seconded the motion to accept Administration's recommendation and award the bid to the low bidder - Port Maintenance. At 8:35 PM, after some discussion regarding who was really the low bidder, Mr. Wolfe moved and Mr. Perrilloux seconded the motion to recess for 10 minutes to allow Legal Counsel and Administration to review the bid tabulation of the bids received for the Maintenance Contract.

At 8:45 PM, the meeting reconvened and the Council proceeded with the agenda until a ruling from Legal Counsel was reached regarding the bid tabulation .

Discussion regarding the collection of Sales Taxes and Occupational License Taxes was taken up (postponed from previous meeting). Kent Broussard, Finance Director presented the Council with figures regarding: 1. the fee charged by the School Board to collect the Sales Taxes and 2. the Occupational License Tax collection fee for the Parish. It was learned that it would be unfeasible costwise for the Parish to collect its own sales taxes, that the 50/50 split in expenses with the School Board would be the better route to take. In regard to Occupational License Taxes, it too, would be better to continue to allow the Sheriff to assume this activity.

Mr. Terry moved and Mr. Wilson seconded the motion to continue the practice of letting the School Board collect the Sales Taxes for the Parish. The vote in favor of the motion was unanimously approved with no absences.

Mr. Wolfe moved and Mr. Terry seconded the motion to continue the practice of letting the Sheriff's Department collect Occupational Licenses Taxes for the Parish. The vote in favor of the motion was unanimously approved with no absences.

Upon request by President Millet, Mr. Wilson moved and Mr. Haydel seconded the motion to authorize the Parish President to enter into a contract with the School Board to collect the Sales Taxes for the Parish, subject to the approval of the contract by the Council and Legal Counsel. The vote in favor of the motion was unanimously approved with no absences.

Discussion regarding the Maintenance Contract resumed at this time. Legal Counsel Tom Daley addressed the Council stating that the bids were reviewed and it was discovered that some numbers had been transposed, that there were still some questions regarding the mileage amounts versus hourly amounts (as per item 6 of the specs), and that with these considerations it could be possible that the low bidder could be Pearl rather than Port Maintenance.

President Millet recommended that the Council reject all bids and find an alternate course.

Chairman McTopy reminded the Council that there was already a motion on the floor to award the contract to the low bidder, Port Maintenance.

Mr. Lee stated that he wished to withdraw his previous motion regarding contract award and Mr. Duhe likewise withdrew his second.

Mr. Wolfe then moved and Mr. Lewis seconded the motion to reject all bids received for the Maintenance Contract. The vote in favor of the motion was unanimously approved with no absences.

NEW BUSINESS

88-82 (Public hearing held) (AMENDMENT) That the sewer rates for sewer charges in the Parish of St. John be amended to those set forth in the attached chart: \$475 per month for the first 4,000 gallons; \$6.55 per month for the next 2,000/6,000 gallons; \$10.15 per month for the next 4,000/10,000 gallons; \$19.15 per month for the next 10,000/20,000 gallons; \$28.15 per month for the next 10,000/30,000 gallons; \$46.15 per month for the next 20,000/50,000 gallons; \$181.15 per month for the next 150,000/200,000 gallons.

Mr. McTopy moved and Mr. Wilson seconded the motion to amend Ord. 88-82, by adding the following verbage to the ordinance: "Any revenues generated by the implementation of this sewer rate schedule that are over and above the amount presently generated by our present fee schedule shall be dedicated to a Capital Improvement line item in the Sewerage Budget and be used only for Capital Improvements". He stated that the purpose of his amendment was to insure that the new schedule would be "Revenue Neutral". The vote in favor of the motion was unanimously approved with no absences.

88-82, (AS AMENDED) Mr. Terry moved and Mr. Haydel seconded the motion to adopt 88-82 as amended. The vote on the motion passed favorably with 8 YEAS, (Terry, Wolfe, Duhe, Perrilloux, McTopy, Lee, Haydel, Wilson), 1 NAY, (Lewis) and no absences.

Councilman Terry requested that his agenda item be taken up at this time. He turned the floor over to Paul Cory, Legislation In Support Of Animals. Mr. Cory requested funding from the Council to upgrade St. John's Dog Pound. He stated that approximately \$6,000 would bring the pound into better condition and that for approximately \$25,000, a new pound could be constructed.

President Millet stated that improvements are presently being made to the pound. The Parish doesn't have any funds to deal with the problems of the dog pound, but will do all we can to improve the situation. Definitely, there are no funds for a new pound.

88-84, (Public hearing held) To amend the St. John the Baptist Parish Mass Meeting Ordinance by adding the following: The bond requirement of \$100,000.000 shall be waived for all bonafide Council approved fairs and festivals in lieu of proof of or receipt of a \$1,000,000.00 insurance certificate naming the Parish of St. John the Baptist as an additional insured. Said Council approved fairs and festivals must meet all Parish licensing and health and safety requirements in addition to State requirements. Mr. Perrilloux moved and Mr. Lee seconded the motion to adopt 88-84. The vote in favor of the motion was unanimously approved with no absences.

88-85, (Public hearing held) Retailers of goods at Council approved fairs and festivals must purchase a special three day permit from the parish for a fee of \$10.00. The Sheriff of St. John the Baptist Parish shall

festival by the governing authority of the parish and the approval of the promoter of said event. Mr. Terry moved and Mr. Haydel seconded the motion to adopt 88-85. The vote in favor of the motion was unanimously approved with no absences.

Chairman McTopy discussed drainage in Riverlands (Cambridge - District 6). He identified the problems, discussed the required solutions and stated that Administration is aware of the situation that the problems are being addressed - the solutions are being implemented and that residents should realize some relief in the near future.

Chairman McTopy discussed the old Cambridge Sewer Treatment Plant stating that he spoke with Administration and it is recommended that hopefully within 30 days the plant be disassembled and reassembled elsewhere as a pre-treatment plant by an existing trucking company to serve that company and possibly another company so that he can continue his efforts to "trade-up" the parcel of land for a larger parcel that can then be used for a park or recreation purposes in the area.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

88-83 (re-introduced) An ordinance amending Ordinance 87-88 relative to the operating budget of revenues and expenditures for LaPlace Volunteer Fire Department of the Parish of St. John the Baptist for fiscal year ending December 31, 1988 and Reserve Volunteer Fire Department of the Parish of St. John the Baptist for fiscal year ending December 31, 1988, was introduced by Mr. Wilson.

88-86, The resubdivision of a portion of The Glade Subdivision into Parcels N-1 and N-2, was introduced by Mr. Terry.

88-87, The President of St. John the Baptist Parish is hereby authorized to enter into and execute, on behalf of the Parish, an agreement leasing the LaPlace Lions Club Community Center for the purpose of a polling place beginning December 1, 1988, for a rental price as fixed by law, and on any other conditions that he may deem necessary and expedient, was introduced by Mr. Terry.

88-88, An ordinance to amend Ordinance 86-24 which established visible features for precinct boundaries in conformity with the plan submitted by the Registrar of Voters to the designees of the Secretary of State and the Clerk of the House, State of Louisiana, was introduced by Mr. Haydel.

88-89, There shall be a Classified Civil Service System for the Parish of St. John the Baptist based upon merit, efficiency and fitness, barring discrimination or disciplinary action except for cause and barring discrimination or disciplinary action for political, religious or racial reasons and providing for a right of appeal from such actions, was introduced by Mr. McTopy.

88-90, An ordinance to amend that portion of Ordinance 88-50 relative to the Capital Outlay Budget for the Consolidated Waterworks District No. 1 of the Parish of St. John the Baptist for fiscal year ending June 30, 1989, was introduced by Mr. Wilson.

88-91, An ordinance amending the Water Rate Charges in the Parish of St. John the Baptist, was introduced by Mr. Wilson.

88-92, An ordinance to amend Ordinance 88-71 which amends the operating budget of revenues and expenditures for the Roads and Bridges Department of the Parish of St. John the Baptist for the fiscal year ending December 31, 1988, was introduced by Mr. Wilson.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:10 PM, Mr. Lewis moved and Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion to adjourn. The vote in favor of the motion was unanimously approved with no absences.


CHAIRMAN


SECRETARY