

**ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL
ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6th, 2021
OLD CITY MARKET, 131 W. BELLEVUE ST.
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA**

ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

**Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, Council Members are using
Zoom Conference Calling System to participate in the meeting**

1. Chairman Wayne Ardoin called the Administrative/Finance Committee of the St. Landry Parish Council to order.
2. Roll Call:
Conference Call: Nancy Carriere, Gil Savoy, Dexter Brown and Timmy Lejeune.
Ex-Officio Coby Clavier. **ABSENT:** Alvin Stelly.
3. Person to address the Committee:
There was no one to address the Administrative Finance Committee.
4. Parish President & Finance Report:
 - a. **Contact between Christ Church and the SLPG for the Delta usage:**
Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "This is the Church that rents the Delta every Sunday. This contract comes up every year and everything stays the same. They are asking that we renew the contract for \$800.00 per month for another year." Councilman Timmy Lejeune questioned, "Does that rent include utilities?" Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "They don't pay any utilities, everything is on the Parish." Councilman Timmy Lejeune questioned, "Does that facility have a separate meter base?" Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Yes it does." Councilman Timmy Lejeune questioned, "Is there any way you can let us know how much that Electric Bill was for the Usufruct of that facility and how many hours on Sunday do they actually use it every weekend?" Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "This past year, they did not use it as much due to COVID, they had to do the services outside, but we can get the hours of operation for you."
A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Carriere to forward the approval of the yearly contract between Christ Church and the St. Landry Parish Government to the next Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, January 20th, 2021**. The Parish President must present the council with the cost of the Electric Bill for the usufruct of the building and the hours of operation. On roll call vote: YEAS: Nancy Carriere, Gil Savoy, Dexter Brown and Timmy Lejeune. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Alvin Stelly. ABSTAINED: None.
Motion forwarded.
 - b. **Professional Services Contract with Lloyd Ardoin.**
Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "This contract is for professional services with Mr. Ardoin related to our Airport operations. Instead of hiring an Airport Manager, we are only going to contact Mr. Ardoin in the need of some services. We have budgeted \$28,000.00 this year in that account for that reason." Chairman Coby Clavier questioned if there is a possibility of a conflict of interest since this company already has a business at the Airport. Did we check with the State Program Manager regarding this Contract? Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "A Government Official can have a conflict of interest but, Mr. Lloyd Ardoin is not a Government Official, he can't have a conflict of interest. We don't have an Airport Director now. It would be very useful to our Parish Airport to have Mr. Lloyd Ardoin as our Consultant. It is a very useful contract. He would not have a conflict of interest. A Government Official can have a conflict of interest. It is a good contract and I have reviewed it." Chairman Coby Clavier stated, "I don't have any problems with Mr. Ardoin getting this contract. My only concern is his decisions that he may have to make with his consulting services could possibly affect the business that he runs on the airport." Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "There is no question that it can affect his business on the ground. That is not a conflict of interest. That is an incentive for him to give good consulting services." Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated to Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain,

“You are an Attorney, I respect your guidance, I respect the way you are handling this, have you checked with anyone else in reference to this so it don’t come back and hit us in the face.” Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, “No, I have not. I can look into it some more if you want.” Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “Mr. Clavier raised a good question. Mr. Ardoin, which is no relation to me, has done a good job for the Airport. He has been there taking care a lot of these pilots. A lot of them are still here because of Mr. Ardoin. Chairman Coby Clavier stated, “Could I possibly request that Mr. Garrett check with the State Program Manager regarding that situation?” Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, “Yes, I can check on that. The one thing the Parish Government, Parish Airport cannot do is assist or financially benefit a private interest above all others. In this case that is not what is happening. What Mr. Lloyd Ardoin is doing is consulting with Parish Government, however I can check as Mr. Clavier said.” Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I want to make something clear. The only thing that Lloyd will be doing is making recommendations that we request. The final decision will rest with Parish Government. He will not be able to make any decisions as it relates to the Airport. He just will be notified if we have any questions concerning the airport that we cannot get the answer to or get some guidance on.” Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, “That is correct, it will be consultation only.”

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Carriere to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, January 20th, 2021** authorizing Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain to contact the State Program Manager regarding a contract of interest between the St. Landry Parish Airport and the Profession Service Contract with Lloyd Ardoin and present the findings to the council.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Nancy Carriere, Gil Savoy, Dexter Brown and Timmy Lejeune.

NAYS: None. ABSENT: Alvin Stelly. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion forwarded.

c. November Budget to Actual Financials.

Administrative Finance Director, Amanda Cain e-mailed the council a copy of the November Budget to Actual Financials. She stated. “As of November 30, 2020 the **General Fund: Revenue:** \$5,389,845.05 Million, **Expenditures:** \$5,013,373.80, **Net income:** \$376,471.25. We do have some accruals coming from the General Fund. We are in the process of our financial close out for the audit. Some accruals that will happen between December, 2020, January, 2021 and February, 2021 are State Revenue Sharing, Severance Packets, In mate fees, Royalty, OEP Grant Reimbursement and Racino. That is why the revenue is still a little short but we still anticipate it will come close to budget.

Road and Bridge: Revenue: \$1,661,414.39, **Expenditures:** \$1,561,603.25, **Net Income:** \$99,811.14. Accruals are: Racino and Parish Transportation.

Health Unit: Revenue: \$1,661,414.39, **Expenditures:** \$1,561,603.25, **Net Income:** \$99,811.14. Accruals are: State Revenue Sharing and Wick Reimbursement.

Jail: Revenue: \$651,172.99, **Expenditures:** \$435,109.19, **Net Income:** \$216,063.80
Accruals are: State Revenue Sharing

Expenditures may have some reserve that will move into 2021 due to the Jail Elevator. The Elevator was budgeted to be done in 2020 and the majority to be shifted to 2021.

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin questioned the status of the Jail Elevator. Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “The repairs to the elevator was placed on hold in December due to COVID. They started back in January and they will be completed by February. They had to re-do some fire alarm system work as well.” Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin asked Parish President Jessie Bellard if we are housing any prisoners at the city jail due to COVID. Parish President Jessie Ballard stated, “Yes, right now we have about 15 female inmates that were moved over there. That helped us to clear up one of the blocks in the jail to allow us to house 39 male inmates. It gave us a quarantine unit and it gave us a section of another dorm in 2-A. They can be housed there temporarily until their test come back, then at that time they can be moved to the proper cell.” Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin questioned if that will take the burden off the cost. President Jessie Bellard stated, “No, actually it is costing us a little bit more, but we are in the process of moving them back as soon as we are allowed to do so.” Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin questioned the cost for the female prisoners at the city jail. Parish President

Jessie Bellard stated, "Right now we are having to pay security over there for 24 hours. It is running about eight to nine thousand dollars per week."

Airport: Revenue: \$673,706.59, Expenditures: \$670,916.24, Net Income: \$2,790.35.
Accruals are: Fence and Grant Project.

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "I have another item that I would like to discuss. The Medicaid Plan that the council approved last month, we are looking at Phase 2. We are going to form a committee with the Director of Finance of our Parish and Evangeline Parish and members from the hospitals, LHC, Oceans, Acadian Regional and the Ville Platte Hospital. That committee will draft up a Tax Rate. That tax rate will be recommended to the Council and the Police Jury of Evangeline Parish. The seconded Ordinance that we discussed in December, we are going to bring it up to you all to check the tax rate for procedures and corrections. That is forthcoming."

Councilman Harold Taylor questioned how many state prisoners are we housing locally. Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Right now we have an average of 26. The state is not transporting inmates from jail to jail. Whenever an inmate comes from parish to state they stay here unless they have COVID. If they have COVID, they can be shipped to a state facility for medical attention. As soon as they are finished they come back to our jail until the state opens up again."

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Mr. Bellard, in reference to your tax for Evangeline and St. Landry with the Hospital. Do you need a motion on that item?" Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "No Sir, I was just informing you all."

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "I will bring up Country Ridge. The one you wanted to discuss in Public Works. I am going to ask that this item, and wheels of government turn slowly, they are just getting you the bill, I am going to ask that it be Tabled until the next Administrative Finance Committee Meeting in the month of February with all of the paper work that is with it so that everybody will be abreast of it." Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Mr. Ardoin, I have all the paper work ready for that request. I have the minutes of the meeting." Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "You have the minutes of the meeting? Does any of the council members have the minutes of the meeting? That is what I am getting at. We don't have any minutes. This is the deal, we are supposed to bring everything in by the Thursday before the meeting. We don't have that, so I don't want any questions from any council members asking if you are going to have it at the next full council meeting. What is the total amount that Road District No. 1 of 11-A will have to pay?" Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "The total amount is \$21,497.50." Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "That will come out of Road District No. 1 of 11-A which is Fund 42, correct?" Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "That is correct." Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Do you need a motion to that?" Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "I need a motion so we can pay it. The problem with that is, it came in on Monday and there was an agreement between our previous Public Works Director and their board. We just need the council to be aware that an agreement has to come from the council. That is why I brought it here so we can pay that bill." Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "I am in agreement to pay the bill. I am going to make a motion, but I would also like to get it clarified. I heard him mention earlier about three fees, I know that the road district was paying one part of it and we are paying one part. Our part is \$21,000.00 not \$16,000.00?" Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "That is correct." Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "The Drainage District will pay part and the Road District will pay the other part. Are you offering that as a motion?" Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "Yes, I am offering that as a motion that we go ahead and pay it." Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "I am kind of a bit confused. How did we get involved in having to pay for any of this?" Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "O.K. Mr. Lejeune, let me start you from scratch." Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "I would like to table this until February until we get all the information in our hand. We got to have real clarity on this. It looks like, and it feels like, and I don't want it to look or feel like you said Mr. Ardoin, I want to make sure that we have all of our "I"s' dotted and our "T"s' crossed before we make a decision on this thing because it never came before the council. It was like it was pre approve before it was ever done." Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Well it was done by our previous Public Works Director. I

was at the drainage meeting, which I attend the drainage meeting. It was agreed on. First it was \$16,000.00 bill which was to split. Each one had to pay \$16,000.00, but they had a change order. This is a \$300,000.00 drainage project which was done by Prairie Basse and Ward 1 South Gravity Drainage District Mr. Lejeune. So there is nothing....What I am try to say the \$300,000.00.....That little bit of money that we spent on having to put another culvert and fix another driveway so that it could properly drain, it was not in the first phase of it. It came up later because they had imposed on another man's property so we would not have to go to court. What I am try to say to you is, I am like you and it needs to be brought were everybody have to have their receipts. This has been two months ago now that this project has been done. They can wait a little while. I want to clarify it with you, this is a \$300,000.00 project and I don't think anyone in St. Landry Parish Government had a project that big. Ms. Nancy and I share those areas right there and we have to come up with that money in both of those drainage districts. So the little 16 and the \$21,000.00, that is peanuts besides that \$300,000.00 project." Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "I get that Mr. Ardoin, I just want to make sure that the legality of this is correct. It is not about the \$300,000.00 in my opinion, I just want to make sure that we did and followed the proper protocol in getting the 16 or 21 thousand in which we are going to have to agree to or deny to pay. The fact of the matter is, was this all legally done. I would like to see the minutes to this." Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "The minutes should be there. Ms. Nancy has offered a motion to go ahead and pay it." Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "I am supporting your motion and your request that you opened up with to move it to February." Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "I asked for it and Mr. Bellard asked that it be done right away. Ms. Nancy, You still going to go along with your motion? I will ask, do you have a second?" Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "I will ask Mr. Bellard to share the information with any council member that needs to see it and he can further discuss it. He has all the legal papers. Garrett can chime in on the legality. I understand Mr. Lejeune, It was not brought in front of the council. Russell did make that decision and Mr. Bellard, who is now the Parish President is aware of it. He has all the legal paper work and I understand that you need to see them." Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Ms. Nancy, I am in total agreement of paying the bill, but let's have everything out in the open so that everybody will be on the same page. Do you want to withdraw your motion?" Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, I will withdraw it because I think Mr. Lejeune needs to be satisfied in seeing the paperwork and I wanted Mr. Bellard to chime in because he was ready to pay the bill because I think that they needed their money." Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Do I have a seconded for Mr. Timmy Lejeune motion that this item be brought up with all of the paper work at the February Public Works Meeting. Councilman Dexter Brown seconded.

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Dexter Brown to forward to the next committee meeting held on **Wednesday, February 3rd, 2021** the further discussion of the Country Ridge Estates and present the council with copies of all the proper documentation.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Nancy Carriere, Gil Savoy, Dexter Brown and Timmy Lejeune.
NAYS: None. ABSENT: Alvin Stelly. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion carried.

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Mr. Ardoin, regarding Ward 1 South Gravity Drainage Board, there is some work that is on schedule to be done and it has not been approved yet. On Dr. Charlie Drive, that board will pay \$200,000.00 towards it the Sewer District will pay \$30,000.00. One of Russell's deal is that we will pay \$40,000.00. I was instructed that the paperwork will be brought to the full council for you all approval before anything can be done on that project." Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Again Mr. Bellard, this is sort of like Country Ridge. We are looking at a \$300,000.00 project. You are leaning on a Drainage Board, which thank God they are collecting money and they have money available. So it is going to do with the Sewer District, which they are almost broke. They are not collecting enough money on this Sewer District on their fees. Then you have the Parish Government, which Russell was at the meeting and I was at the meeting and he agreed to pay \$40,000.00 and the Drainage District will pay \$200,000.00. What it is, they have to put another Culvert under Dr. Charlie Drive so they don't lose a Sewer Plant Pump that furnish these people with some sewer. The Drainage Board will pay the \$200,000.00 plus \$40,000.00 from the Parish and \$30,000.00 from the Sewer District. I am well aware of it. Let's get the paper work on it." Parish President Jessie Bellard stated he will gather all the paperwork and present it to the council. Councilman Dexter Brown questioned Parish President Jessie

Bellard, He stated, "Mr. Bellard, are you aware of any more agreements or meetings that our former Public Works Director was involved in and made some type of arrangement, agreements, deals or whatever that may be out there?" Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "I am not aware of anything other than these two items right here that we are addressing tonight. We are making a statement and I will get with Garrett tomorrow to get an official statement just in case there is anything out there in the community or the Parish. The Parish needs to know about it sooner than later so we can plan for 2021 and we can go from there." Councilman Dexter Brown suggested mailing a letter to the Drainage Boards asking them to let us know of any projects that the former Public Works Director may have agreed upon." Parish President Jessie Bellard stated they will draft a letter. Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Mr. Bellard, in Mr. Brown's District, did you take care of that culvert on Montgomery Road? Did Mr. Russell agree on some money there?" Councilman Dexter Brown stated, "Mr. Chairman, I brought some paperwork to Mr. Bellard and Ms. Cain on that agreement of the Culvert. That is Bellevue and Coulee Crouche Gravity Drainage District No. 20. The Secretary there is Mr. Joann Sibille. I brought some paperwork to them for them to pay \$2,001.00." Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "The Road District paid it but that agreement was brought out ahead of time. I had brought that to the council a couple of months back." Councilman Jerry Red Jr. stated to Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "First we said we owe \$21,000.00, then he came back and said we owe another \$40,000.00. My understanding is, you were there also when Russell was there making those decisions. A question was just asked to Jessie if Jessie knows of anything else and Jessie does not have no understanding of it. I will ask you, since you were there, do you know if there is anything else that the Parish....Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "No, nothing that deals with my area. No I was there at both of these meeting. The one on Country Ridge and the one with the Sewer District. I was at both of those meetings. Russell had to come up with something which is way less than what the other entities are paying." Chairman Jerry Red Jr. stated, "Still in all, the Parish has to come out. I am saying this because we run a tight budget. Regardless if it is Public Works or whom ever, they don't make any decisions without it coming before the council."

A motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy Carriere, seconded by Councilman Dexter Brown to accept the Parish President and Finance Report.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Nancy Carriere, Gil Savoy, Dexter Brown and Timmy Lejeune. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Alvin Stelly. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion carried.

5. Discuss and forward to full council the Land Lease Agreement at the St. Landry Parish Airport for Far Horizon and All Bid Inc.

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated that is for the old hanger spaces on the property.

A motion was made by Councilman Dexter Brown, seconded by Councilman Gil Savoy to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, January 20th, 2021** authorizing the Parish President Jessie Bellard to sign the Lease and Operating Agreement between the St. Landry Parish Government/Airport and Far Horizon and All Bid Inc.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Nancy Carriere, Gil Savoy, Dexter Brown and Timmy Lejeune. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Alvin Stelly. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion forwarded.

6. Discuss and forward to full council the Land Lease for Acadian Aircraft Interiors LLC. to reflect the updated lot location.

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "The previous Airport Manager had this company a spot in the front. We will have to move it towards the back by Public Works yards because of the way her building is set up. It needs to be along the Taxi Way and away from the front area. Whenever someone goes to her location, they can drive up to her front door. The location that was given to her in the beginning was not a proper place."

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere questioned if she is responsible to pay to move her building the correct way. Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "No, we are responsible because we gave her the location to put her building there." Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin questioned the amount to move the building. Parish President Jessie Bellard state, "\$4,500.00." Councilwoman Nancy Carriere questioned why are we responsible to move the building when she got the movers to place the building in that area. Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "The problem is not her location. It is the vehicles that cannot park in that area to do business because there is not enough room the way it is set up. The tenants were complaining. Before she is able to get anything started

there, we are asking to we move it to another location.” Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “If I got this right, they pay five cents per square foot for a lot which comes out to how much per year? About \$265.00 per year, and we are going to pay \$4,500.00 to move this building.” Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “It will keep peace in the valley Mr. Taylor. If we leave it where it is, we will have issues with other tenants.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated she should pay part of this bill. Councilman Dexter Brown questioned additional prices to move the building. Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “We did get prices from other people and this price was the cheapest price. Mr. Ardoin is correct, another problem we had was the sewer, however with this new location, she will provide her own sewer. The only thing we are doing is moving her location.

A motion was made by Councilman Dexter Brown to allow the Parish to pay the \$4,500.00 to move the Acadian Aircraft Interiors, LLC building to a new location on the Airport lot.

Motion FAILED due to a lack of a second.

7. Discuss and forward to full council Preliminary and Final Approval of the Gardner Farms Estates-Phase II.

This items was moved to the Public Works Committee for discussion.

8. Discuss and forward to full council the renewal of the Nutritionist Service Contract.

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated this is the yearly renewal contract for a Nutritionist for the St. Landry Parish Government WIC Clinics in Sunset, Eunice and Melville.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy Carriere, seconded by Councilman Gil Savoy to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, January 20th, 2021** authorizing the Parish President to sign the Contract for Nutritionist Services between “Karen Zeringue” and the St. Landry Parish Government.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Nancy Carriere, Gil Savoy, Dexter Brown and Timmy Lejeune. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Alvin Stelly. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion forwarded.

9. Forward to full council to appoint Luke Leger to Constable Justice of the Peace District 11 (Precinct 5-3) (Precinct 5-5) (Precinct 5-6) and (Precinct 5-8) from January until Election Day March 20, 2021. (Councilwoman Mildred Thierry).

Councilwoman Mildred Thierry stated, “Mr. Luke Leger is presently serving and his time expire on the 31st. In order for him to continue serving until election, he would need to be re-appointed by the council. He was filling in for Mr. Eve Malveaux.

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Gil Savoy to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, January 20th, 2021** to re-appoint Mr. Luke Leger to Constable Justice of the Peace District 11 (Precinct 5-3) (Precinct 5-5) (Precinct 5-6) and (Precinct 5-8) from January until Election Day March 20, 2021.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Nancy Carriere, Gil Savoy, Dexter Brown and Timmy Lejeune. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Alvin Stelly. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion forwarded.

10. Discuss any nominations for Constable Justice of the Peace District 9 (Precinct 4-4) (Precinct 4-6) and (Precinct 4-11).

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “Mr. Chairman, this is in my district. We had no one to qualify. We have had an interested party that spoke to me and Ms. Sherell. His name is Wayne Pitcher, a Military Guy from the Marines. He works in Palmetto and he would like to be appointed in the interim and he intends on running for the seat.

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated he will need to submit his application before the full council meeting.

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Carriere to forward to regular meeting held on **Wednesday, January 20th, 2021** to appoint Mr. Wayne Pitcher for the Constable Justice of the Peace, District 9, (Precinct 4-4), (Precinct 4-6) and (Precinct 4-11).

On roll call vote: YEAS: Nancy Carriere, Gil Savoy, Dexter Brown and Timmy Lejeune. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Alvin Stelly. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion forwarded.

11. Discuss any nominations for Constable Justice of the Peace District 13 (Precinct 5-2). Councilwoman Mildred Thierry stated, "That is my district. At this time I don't have anyone. I have tried several persons whom I thought may have been interested, but they were not interested. So I don't know where to go from here." Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "There is a qualifying period coming up so people can qualify to run for that position, hopefully they will. What we do in the interim, this time we don't have a Justice of the Peace so, until we can find a volunteer, we probably should not appoint anyone." Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "I see it is in the area of Luke Leger. Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "The only think is there is a Justice of the Peace in that area for that district, perhaps we could contact him and get his opinion on who would like to move forward to be a Constable until we elect one." Councilwoman Mildred Thierry stated, "I had already spoken to the person who is serving now. He won't be able to continue because of his age. He did mention a person to me, but that person was not interested, but I can ask him again." Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin questioned if Luke Leger can represent that area. Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "I would say, officially, specifically and technically he cannot cover for another district. He was not elected or appointed or appointed to that district. If something comes up where there is an emergency, he can help out." Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin question about a deputy sheriff. Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "That would be the way to go." Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "I think the Attorney General's Office authorizes another member to assist. To me, I have heard that already, I think we have had that issue. We could ask Sherell to get in touch with the Attorney General's Office to find out." Councilwoman Mildred Thierry stated, "I think Mr. Lejeune that is what they had said, if we can't find anyone, they could appoint someone. Council Clerk Sherell Jordan stated, "That is correct, I did speak to the Attorney General's Office already and they did confirm. They would appoint someone if we cannot find anyone." Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "She needs to touch base with the Attorney General's Office to get their opinion on it. I think qualifying time is coming up very soon. We can probably make it to qualifying time before we have move on it." Councilwoman Mildred Thierry stated qualifying time is January 20-22, 2021. Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "At this time we will allow the Council Clerk, Sherell Jordan to contact the Attorney General's office regarding this Item No. 11 and report the findings back to the council at the next Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, January 20th, 2021.**
No action taken.

12. Resolution to be introduced:

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Dexter Brown to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday January 20th, 2021** approving **Resolution No. 001-2021.**

On roll call vote: YEAS: Nancy Carriere, Gil Savoy, Dexter Brown and Timmy Lejeune. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Alvin Stelly. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion forwarded.

RESOLUTION NO. 001 OF 2021.

A resolution providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the special election held in the Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana, on Saturday, December 5, 2020, to authorize the levy of a special tax therein.

BEIT RESOLVED by the Parish Council of the Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of the Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), that:

SECTION 1. Canvass. This Governing Authority does now proceed in open and public session to examine the official tabulations of votes cast at the special election held in the Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana, on SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2020 (the "Election"), to authorize the levy of a special tax therein pursuant to the following proposition (the "Proposition"):

PROPOSITION
(MILLAGE RENEWAL)

Shall the Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), be authorized to continue to levy a special tax of one (1) mill on all property subject to taxation in the Parish (an estimated \$671,400 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year), for a period of ten (10) years, beginning with the year 2021 and ending with the year 2030, for the purpose of operating and maintaining a jail facility in the Parish? This Governing Authority does further proceed to examine and canvass the returns of the Election thereof.

SECTION 2. Election Results. According to the official certified tabulation of votes cast at said Election, there was a total of **2,933** votes cast **IN FAVOR OF** the Proposition and a total of **2,450** votes cast **AGAINST** the Proposition, resulting in a majority of **483** votes cast **IN FAVOR OF** the Proposition. The Proposition was therefore duly **CARRIED** by a majority of the votes cast by the qualified electors voting at the Election.

SECTION 3. Promulgation of Election Result. The results of said election shall be promulgated by publication in the manner provided by law, after receipt from the Secretary of State's office of the actual costs of the election, as required by Act 205 of the Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana for the year 2019.

SECTION 4. Declaration. The foregoing results of the Election are hereby declared by this Governing Authority and shall be published as required by law.

SECTION 5. Procès Verbal. A Procès Verbal of the canvass of the returns of the Election shall be made and a certified copy thereof shall be forwarded to the Secretary of State, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, who shall record the same in his office; another certified copy thereof shall be forwarded to the Clerk of Court and Ex-Officio Recorder of Mortgages in and for the Parish of St. Landry, who shall record the same in the Mortgage Records of said Parish; and another copy thereof shall be retained in the archives of this Governing Authority.

13. Resolution to be introduced:

A motion was made by Councilman Dexter Brown, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday January 20th, 2021** Approving **Resolution No. 002-2021**.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Nancy Carriere, Gil Savoy, Dexter Brown and Timmy Lejeune. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Alvin Stelly. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion forwarded.

RESOLUTION NO. 002 of 2021

Rural Broadband Resolution

A RESOLUTION OF THE ST. LANDRY PARISH, LOUISIANA COUNCIL TO THE LOUISIANA SENATE AND THE LOUISIANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WHEREAS, the ST. LANDRY Parish Council strives to enhance the quality of life of its residents, both personally and economically, and

WHEREAS, high-speed internet service has become a necessary component to participating in the modern economy, healthcare and education, but this service is unavailable or of an inadequate quality for many residents, and

WHEREAS residents of ST. LANDRY Parish deserve the same educational, medical and economic opportunities as citizens in parishes served by high speed internet,

WHEREAS, neighboring states of our region have invested in the development of broadband infrastructure at varying levels, while Louisiana has made no financial investment thus far,

WHEREAS, legislation has been passed over the past year to allow opportunities for installation by private providers using the infrastructure of the Rural Electric Cooperative

and the Cooperatives themselves have been given permission to expand into broadband from the Public Service Commission recently,

WHEREAS, legislation has been passed this year to establish a Louisiana Office of Broadband that will allow a designated state office to seek funds and distribute in order to promote broadband installation in Louisiana,

WHEREAS, various departments of the Federal Government have made funds available for expansion of broadband targeted to rural areas. These funds provide an initial step toward bridging the digital divide,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL urges the Louisiana Legislature to pass legislation which will invest in the installation of high speed internet for rural Louisiana.

14. Discuss any other business properly brought before this committee.

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Mr. Chairman, Item No. 6 where you all tabled due to a lack of a second that was a lack of a second for what?" Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "That was on the Acadian Aircraft Interiors LLC. That was the \$4,500.00 fee that the St. Landry Parish Government would have to pay." Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Mr. Ardoin, I was not asking the council to approve the payment, I was asking the council to approve the relocation of that building." Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Mr. Bellard, Ms. Nancy had asked a question about how much it would cost. Are we going to pay for it or is she going to pay for it?" Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "We are going to pay the \$4,500.00. I was not asking the council for the approval to payment, I was asking the council for the approval for the relocation of the building which also entitles us to change her contract." Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Mr. Bellard I don't mind bringing it back up if I can get a second on that motion." Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "Mr. Bellard it is all running the same, asking for the approval to relocate still means that we have to pay for the relocation. I know you were not asking for us to pay for the relocation but it is all one in the same because we are approving the move, which means we are approving the payment. My thing is, if she could pay for one-half. I understand what you were saying, I just didn't fully agree with it. That is just my opinion. We can bring it back up if they want to take another vote, but it is still all the same." Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "No ma'am, not necessarily. If we approve the relocation of the building and we work out a deal with her or somebody else to pay for it. I am not asking the council to approve payment, that is a function on the outside. All I am asking is lease has to be changed to reflect the new location." Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "The lease says, if the renter needs to be relocated, then Parish Government/Parish Airport will relocate them. That is what the leases says. They will be relocated to a lot relatively similar to the one they have now. It says nothing about who pays for it but it does say, if they need to be relocated, we will relocate them." Councilwoman Nancy Carriere asked when will the payment come up. Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "The lease does not specify who pays for the relocation but the lease does say if the renter needs to be relocated, the Parish Government, Parish Airport will relocate them to another lot. That is already in the lease." Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "At the Parish cost." Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "It does not say who pays." Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "Can you tell me why they want to relocate quickly please." Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Whenever Mr. David Allen gave them that location they were not thinking that they needed to be in that corner by the Public Works Building so the planes that they will be doing interior work on can go back there and they can do the work and not hamper the aviation part of the airport. When she located over there, they put a sewer plant and everything that they needed but it is not a good location for her. She needs to be in that far corner, out of the traffic way." Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "I don't have a problem with the relocation, I will vote for that, I just don't agree with us having to acquire all of those fees for her convenience to be relocated." Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated he will give the vote a second if there is no expense to the parish. Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "We have to come to a better agreement than that. She is moving to a larger location. She will pay more rent, if we don't move her from her current location, her next move will be off the airport property. If you look at the bigger

picture, when you have this type of shop on your facility, you get more airport traffic, you get more fuel sales and everything is a better fit for our government. Again, the way the contract was written, before I came here, and you all approved it, was that if we had to relocate her, it was the Parish Government responsibility to do that. I did not make that up. That was done on the original contract. This is all about Economic Development for our airport. If we can't spend \$4,500.00 to move this building on the side to make everyone happy, and generate more traffic on the airport, then shame on us."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "Mr. Bellard, what you are asking of us is to spend the \$4,500.00 to relocate this building. I have a problem with that, I do want all the business I can put my hands on but I don't understand how she did not see this before she allowed this to happen." Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "She is not the one asking to be relocated. We are making that request of her because it does not benefit the airport to have her at that location. It actually penalize us to have her at that location because of all the traffic around the hangers."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "So let me make this clear. It is the Parish President's office that is coming to the Council and requesting an expenditure of \$4,500.00 to relocate a business that is on location to put them on another lot to generate more revenue, is that what you are saying?" Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Correct, I am asking that we relocate that building to give us a better opportunity to better serve that whole airport, it will be with an expense but I am asking you all to amend the original contract that you all put in place back in July or August. It will be a new lot location which will be a larger lot with a little bit more rent.

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "I have a motion by Mr. Brown and I have a second by Mr. Lejeune, but he is offering to second it at no cost to the parish."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "I will move my second at the request of the administration to allow Mr. Brown's motion to go forward." Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Mr. Bellard, for the full council meeting would you stipulate what lot number that she will be moving to and from for the record. Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "She will be moving from Lot 2 to Lot B-4 and B-5. That is the very end at the taxi way. Her lease amount will be \$600.00 per year.

A motion was made by Councilman Dexter Brown, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, January 20th, 2021** authorizing the Parish Government to move the building that houses the Acadian Aircraft Interiors LLC from Lot 2 to Lot B-4 and B-5 at the airport.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Gil Savoy, Dexter Brown and Timmy Lejeune.

NAYS: None. ABSENT: Alvin Stelly. ABSTAINED: Nancy Carriere.

Motion forwarded.

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere asked Parish President Jessie Bellard about Rental at the Delta Grand. She stated a constituent ask, "When renting the Delta Grand. Why isn't there enough chairs for a 500 capacity rental of the building? Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Whenever we rent the Delta the seating capacity verses the capacity of the building is different. It we are renting out and the seating capacity is 250, we will have 250 chairs for them. Whenever you occupy a building of that structure the seating capacity verses the standing capacity is different. On the wall where you see occupancy, is only going to be for standing room only and not for seating. It is all because of the Fire Marshal's Office. Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "So if the seating capacity is 200 and someone rents it, how many actual chairs do you have to meet and satisfy the capacity that is allowed for seating." Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "We are doing inventory now. I will tell you that six years ago we had plenty chairs, I got a funny feeling that we are not going to have nearly of what we need to have. A lot of these chairs are just missing now for some reason. I will get with Rachel for inventory. When we rent it out, we will rent it out with the right seating."

15. Adjourn.

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Carriere to adjourn the Administrative Finance Committee Meeting.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Nancy Carriere, Gil Savoy, Dexter Brown and Timmy Lejeune.

NAYS: None. ABSENT: Alvin Stelly. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion carried.

**I HEREBY CERTIFY THE FOREGOING TO BE EXACT AND TRUE
KAREN BARLOW, ASSISTANT COUNCIL CLERK**