

**ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3rd, 2021
OLD CITY MARKET, 131 W. BELLEVUE ST.
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA**

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

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

1. Public Works Chairman Jimmie Edwards called the Public Works Committee of the St. Landry Parish Council to order.
2. Councilman Coby Clavier led the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.
3. Roll Call:
Conference Call: Nancy Carriere, Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, Jimmie Edwards and Coby Clavier. Ex. Officio Dexter Brown. ABSENT: None.
4. Person to address the Committee:
There was no one to address the Public Works Committee Meeting at this time.
5. Public Works Report:
 - a. Update on Adjudicated Property in the Parish.
Parish President Jessie Bellard, "No update other than Mr. Richard Lewis joined us about two weeks ago. He is our new Court Enforcement Officer for the parish. He will handle all adjudicated and blighted properties in our parish. He is getting with Bruce and Garrett to set up a meeting to start a process to come up with a procedure to sell all the property we can at this time. He is already working on some properties in the parish that needs cleaning up. He will also be in charge of our Fleet in the parish as well."
 - b. Update on Road Work throughout the Parish.
Parish President Jessie Bellard, "We are still digging ditches in the parish. We are having some issues here and there with water but the ones that come up with the most needed repairs are being done. It is moving rather quickly in the right direction. We are still looking at roads to get overlaid and that's a process that's ongoing."
Councilman Jimmie Edwards, "Is the culvert cleaner still in the repair shop."
Parish President Jessie Bellard, "It is out of the shop and back working."
Councilwoman Nancy Carriere, "The update on the roads, do you have list of the roads you are overlaying?"
Parish President Jimmie Edwards, "We do have a list that I can email or text you."

A motion was made by Councilman Coby Clavier, seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Carriere to accept the Public Works Report.

On roll call vote: Nancy Carriere, Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly and Coby Clavier. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion carried.

6. Forward all applications received for one appointment to the St. Landry Agricultural Arena Authority for a five year term. (03-16-2021- 03-16-2026).
A motion was made by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, seconded by Councilman Coby Clavier to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday March 17th, 2021** all applications received for one appointment to the St. Landry Agricultural Arena Authority for a five year term. 03-16-2021- 03-16-2026).
On roll call vote: Nancy Carriere, Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly and Coby Clavier. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.
Motion forwarded.
7. Authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for two appointments to the Ward Two Gravity Drainage District No. 1 for a four year term. (04-19-2021 – 04-19-2025).

A motion was made by Councilman Coby Clavier, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, March 17th, 2021** authorizing the Council Clerk to advertise for two appointments to the Ward Two Gravity Drainage District No. 1 for a four year term. (04-19-2021 – 04-19-2025).

On roll call vote: Nancy Carriere, Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly and Coby Clavier.
ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion forwarded.

8. Discuss the installation of a Security Light Wattage that is too bright and shines into the neighbors house. (Councilwoman Nancy Carriere).
Councilwoman Nancy Carriere, “I will table it at this time the situation has got semi resolved at this time.”
9. Discuss future plans for St. Amand, Collins, Old Hickory, Raiders Road, Sandy, Bellridge, Malveaux and Prayerhouse Road.
Parish President Jessie Bellard, “I spoke with Mrs. Thierry about those roads today. They will be maintained for now. Collins needs to be lifted as well as St. Amand in some spots. Raiders Road and Prayer House Road needs to be completely redone, but for right now maintaining them is what we can do. We did remove some trees off of them from the debris. We had a meeting on yesterday with FEMA and GOSEP it’s a 90/10 split on the debris pickup in the parish. We did RFP last year after the storm and we still have them. They gave us the approval to go ahead and us those RFP’s we have in place and pick a contract with a monitoring firm, finish up the debris pickup in the parish just in the unincorporated areas of the parish. So that is something I will be asking the Council to do in the near future so that we can finish with the debris pickup in the parish.
10. Discuss mud riding on Parish Roads. (Councilwoman Mildred Thierry).
Sheriff Bobby Guidroz, “I did discuss with my patrol division today, anytime we get a call now, keep in mind these parish roads that are passable with a vehicle or truck we don’t have on our ships. Most of the vehicles that we have on our ships are Tahoe’s that are not 4 wheel drive. We will answer the complaints, we just need people to call it in and we will do what we can to stop it. We will charge anyone we catch, whether it’s a 4-wheeler or passenger truck, we will charge them. I would like a list of roads that are being torn up by ATV’s and trucks then we can send a deputy there.”
Chairman Dexter Brown, “I know it’s a parish wide situation that you are facing but we want to commend you and your deputies for doing an awesome job every day. When you catch whoever that’s messing up our gravel roads, we would like for you to give a citation and whatever else to the fullest extent of the law.”
Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, “I can give you two roads tonight Rolton and Tower Road.”
11. Discuss the water leaks inside the Council Chambers. (Councilman Wayne Ardoin).
Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “Ms. Sherell brought it to my attention when I called in to put some items on the Agenda about the roof leaks inside the Council Chambers. I think they have about 10-12 leaks in the building. We need to try to take care of that. After a while, we may not be having meetings in that meeting room because of a mole situation. We need to look at the situation and see how it can be repaired.”
Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Mr. Chairman, when it comes to that building over there, we are already on top of it. It is just taking a while for the people to come and give us a price to have it repaired. We are actually going to do the whole roof because we just can’t repair that roof leaks. We have been in contact with the contractors and it has been about three weeks now. We will get that done as soon as the prices come back in.” Council Clerk Sherell Jordan stated, “They did have a contractor come out today. They were on top of the roof patching it up where it is torn until they can get it replaced.”
12. Discuss the speed limit on Country Ridge Road. (Councilman Wayne Ardoin).
Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “I am hoping that is what the Sheriff is here for tonight. Sheriff, you remember you volunteered to do the speed zone situation thru out the parish. Unfortunately we spent a bunch of money to do the speed zones on our parish roads after they had gotten their overlay. I am getting complaints that the speed limit is a little too slow on Country Ridge Road. I am just asking that you look at it and give us an idea on what speed we can go up on it to make it safe for people that is speeding a little more if the

speed limit is upped a little bit. I get complaints that it is a speed trap because the Marshall's Office is there writing citations."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Mr. Chairman, I don't think the Sheriff is on the line. I did e-mail him and he is working on that. We spoke again today about that. He is working on that to come up with an idea on what to do. Right now, it is presently a 35 mph. We also have to look at how we posted it on Municode. Municode is saying 20 mph and our office is saying 35 mph. He is looking into it and he will give us his recommendation. The posted speed limit on Country Ridge is 35 mph. I am assuming we will ask to go up another 10 mph, whatever the Sheriff comes up with. Hopefully at the next council meeting we will have an answer."

13. Discuss ditches dug "Too Deep" in front of Mr. Dwayne Belaire and Mr. Olan Quebedeaux homes on Charles Fisher Road in Opelousas. (Chairman Dexter Brown).

Chairman Dexter Brown stated, "I received a call regarding the ditches on the east and the west side of Charles Fisher Road. Mr. Joe went out there and inspected each side and he informed me that he gave Mr. Olan Quebedeaux and Mr. Dwayne Belaire a call. Mr. Bellard, just before a little coolie in front of Mr. Dwayne Belair's house we have a wash out on each side. There is a wash out on his frontal property by the ditch and there is a wash out towards the road as well. Did Mr. Joe get in contact with you regarding this matter?" Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "He went and look at it and he will give me his recommendation by the end of the week on what we need to do." Chairman Dexter Brown stated, "Mr. Belair, I will get Mr. Joe to reach out to you this afternoon or tomorrow morning. He should be contacting you." Mr. Dwayne Belair stated, "That sounds good, Thank you." Chairman Dexter Brown stated, "Mr. Olan Quebedeaux had a ditch on his side that was dug to deep. Mr. Bellard, I will get with you on the results from Mr. Joe."

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

Councilman Coby Clavier stated, "Mr. Bellard, I wanted to follow up on that ditch situation on Vige Street. It was a situation that was unsure whether the ditch was located in the parish or the city. The ditch was not draining by the construction site. The contractor at the construction site stated the ditch is still not draining." Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "We did go look at the situation. It needs a pipe to be ordered and we did order the pipe. It is a Parish problem and not a City problem because it is draining onto our side. Joe went out there and he turned a requisition in on Monday. I signed the requisition and the pipe is on order to be fixed." Councilman Coby Clavier stated, "Thank you, I will let the contractor know." Councilman Jerry Red Jr. stated, "Off of Charles Burr Lane, I turned in the papers today to Ms. Sherell to introduce a speed bump for Charles Burr from 6th street to Wisdom. It will be introduced at the full council meeting."

15. Adjourn.

A motion was made by Councilman Coby Clavier, seconded by Councilman Alvin Stelly to adjourn the Public Works Committee Meeting.

On roll call vote: Nancy Carriere, Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly and Coby Clavier. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion carried.

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