

**ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL
ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6th, 2022
OLD CITY MARKET, 131 W. BELLEVUE ST.
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA**

ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

1. Councilman Harold Taylor called this meeting of the Administrative/Finance Committee of the St. Landry Parish Council to order.
(Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin was out ill at this time).
2. Councilman Jerry Red Jr., led the Pledge of Allegiance & Invocation.
Roll Call: Jerry Red Jr., Nancy Carriere, Easton Shelvin, Harold Taylor and Timmy Lejeune. **ABSENT:** Wayne Ardoin. **Ex-Officio** Vivian Olivier.
3. Person to address the Committee:
There was no one to address the Administrative Finance Committee.
4. Parish President & Finance Report:
Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Inside your package you will have some financials from the last couple of months. The software that we used crashed on us. She was only able to print out a couple of funds but Tom is working to get it back up and running again. As soon as she gets it, we will send it to you all. Also in your package you will see a Local Government Assistance Program Resolution (LGAP). We need to get that approved or sent to the full council for approval so we can apply for the LGAP money thru the state for year 2022.
Administrative Finance Chairman Harold Taylor stated, “Mr. President, you want to just explain a little about LGAP for the public.”
Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “The LGAP is just another way of getting money from the State. It is a discretionary fund that the state has. This year we got in \$11,000.00 from last year allocations. This year we are asking for \$20,000.00 last year we received \$11,000.00. That money is being used to fix the generator at the airport.”
A motion was made by Councilman Jerry Red Jr., seconded by Councilman Easton Shelvin to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, April 20, 2022** to adopt **Resolution 008-2022**.

***A RESOLUTION REQUESTING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
FROM THE STATE OF LOUISIANA
UNDER THE FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM***

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Legislature has appropriated funding for the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Local Government Assistance Program (LGAP) Program; and

WHEREAS, the Local Government Assistance Program offers grants to eligible municipalities and parishes for a wide range of projects to improve public health, public safety, living conditions and for economic development purposes; and

WHEREAS, it is deemed necessary and proper to submit applications to the Louisiana Office of Community Development under the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Local Government Assistance Program

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of St. Landry Parish Government that Parish President Jessie Bellard is hereby authorized to sign and submit an application to the State of Louisiana, Office of Community Development under the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Local Government Assistance Program and also execute any and all documents should this grant be funded;

On roll call vote: **YEAS:** Jerry Red Jr., Nancy Carriere, Easton Shelvin and Timmy Lejeune. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Wayne Ardoin. **ABSTAINED:** None.

Motion forwarded.

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “An update on the jail expansion, we bought the building on Bellevue Street. We will soon start the demolition and rebuilding to make it a Trustee Dorm. The problem we are going to have is with the jail expansion itself. That five million dollar project turned into an 8 million dollar project so that will have to be on hold. We will move forward with everything else but that project for right now. I will come back to the Council with some more plans in the near future. I just want to give you all an update on that.”

Councilman Jerry Red Jr., “What is the capacity size for that building.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard, “Right now we can hold 242 inmates where it sits now, the new trustee dorm that we will be doing across the street will hold 60 inmates. That will take 60 that is coming from out of parish that we paying \$26.00 per day, we will bring them back into the jail and take the trustees from the jail and put them across. We will start that process soon. They are bringing back 18 women tomorrow. They stopped doing COVID in the jail, so now we making our dorms back to be full capacity. We will bring back some more. We still have over 100 out right now.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune questioned, “Could you tell me what the cost is out of parish?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “It’s costing Parish Government approximately \$110,000.00 per month.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “For the out of parish prisoners, I guess that is what we call it.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Correct. Out of parish prisoners. Inmates that are charged and on hold until they are brought to court and go through the process. It’s roughly \$110,000.00 per month right now.”

Administrative Finance Chairman Harold Taylor stated, “Any other questions.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “This morning we went to the capitol. Senator Boudreaux asked that we go to support a local bill making St. Landry Parish the Equine Capitol of the State. It passed the committee this morning and I don’t think we will have any issues. We have a good support system over there. It is a good thing for our parish. It will help us attract more tourism money for our parish. It’s a good thing for the parish.”

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune., seconded by Councilman Easton Shelvin to accept the Parish President and Finance Report.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jerry Red Jr., Nancy Carriere, Easton Shelvin and Timmy Lejeune. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Wayne Ardoin. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion carried.

5. Forward all applications received for one appointment to the South St. Landry Community Library District for the remainder of a five year term set to expire 04-01-2024.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy Carriere seconded by Councilman Easton Shelvin, to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday April 20th, 2022** all applications received for one appointment to the South St. Landry Community Library District for the remainder of a five year term set to expire on 04-01-2024.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jerry Red Jr., Nancy Carriere, Easton Shelvin and Timmy Lejeune. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Wayne Ardoin. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion forwarded.

6. Further discuss Astera Espree Occupational License.

Administrative Finance Chairman Harold Taylor stated, “I spoke to Mr. Bellard and we are looking at this Ordinances that will take care of the Occupational License for these kind of businesses and he asked that we pull it until we get the Ordinance in place. Do we have a motion to do so?”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “You do. Do you want to pull it?”

Administrative Finance Chairman Harold Taylor stated, “Yes, pull it and extend permission for them to operate for another 30 days.

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Jerry Red Jr., to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday April 20th, 2022** to delay the occupational license for Astera Espree and extend permission for them to operate for an additional 30 days.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jerry Red Jr., Nancy Carriere, Easton Shelvin and Timmy Lejeune. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Wayne Ardoin. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion forwarded.

7. Discuss prices for a Fire Proof Safe to store council meeting minutes.

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Mr. Chairman, I will have that for you all at full council meeting and we can decide at that time what you want to do.”

A motion was made by Councilman Jerry Red Jr., seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday April 20th, 2022**, discuss pricing for a Fire Proof Safe to store council meeting minutes.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jerry Red Jr., Nancy Carriere, Easton Shelvin and Timmy Lejeune. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Wayne Ardoin. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion forwarded.

8. The St. Landry Parish Planning Department would like Preliminary & Final Approval of Godchaux Subdivision Lots 1A, 1B & 1-8 located off Courtableau & Mouille Roads, Port Barre, La 70577.

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Easton Shelvin to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday April 20th, 2022** the Preliminary & Final Approval of Godchaux Subdivision Lots 1A, 1B & 1-8 located off Courtableau & Mouille Roads, Port Barre, La 70577.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jerry Red Jr., Nancy Carriere, Easton Shelvin and Timmy Lejeune. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Wayne Ardoin. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion forwarded.

9. Update on the cost for replacing the windows at the St. Landry Parish Courthouse.

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “The Engineers and Architect looked at it. They took out one window to see what is behind it and everything. They are putting up a mock up window made of the same material that we have on these windows have aluminum. The courthouse was built in 1939 and the window frames themselves are part of the structure. We will have to leave the frames in place just take the inserts out and cover the frames with that bronze aluminum. They doing a mock up frame right now to see how it is going to work. Then they will have an estimate and I will have a better idea by the Council meeting then we will do the bid process.”

Administrative Finance Chairman Harold Taylor stated, “Do we need a motion to move that up.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Whatever you all want to do. I will have more information at the Council Meeting.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “Let’s do it.”

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Easton Shelvin to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday April 20th, 2022** an update on the cost of replacing windows at the St. Landry Parish Courthouse.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jerry Red Jr., Nancy Carriere, Easton Shelvin and Timmy Lejeune. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Wayne Ardoin. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion forwarded.

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

Councilman Jerry Red Jr. stated, “Mr. President, my question is about something that was brought up to this council about 3 or 4 months ago. Mr. LeBouef came before the council and said that a new person would be having the contract starting this year.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “That is correct.”

Councilman Jerry Red Jr. stated, “My concern is that the new people that will have the contract, I don’t believe they ever did this kind of work before. My main thing is they will be operating over the whole parish, so my only question is will they be able to do the job?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “According to Solid Waste, that is who awards the contract as you all know, I think they were aware that this is their first time doing this type of work, they awarded it to a local company in our parish but I’m not sure. I want to say Bayou Container or something like that. They have more teeth in this contract then they did in the other one. As you all know we had a lot of issues with trash pickup in the parish. There was no way to correct it or put a fine on these people because the process took too long and would cost more money than what the fine was. From what I understand this new contract that will come into effect October 1st, 2022, will have a lot more teeth in it so in case they not doing what they are supposed to do then it can be taken care of, I can’t talk beyond that. I know there is possibility of litigation that is coming up. I think everybody got a letter or email. I’m not sure if you all did, I think you all did, I’m not sure how it’s going to end up.”

Councilman Jerry Red Jr. stated, “My only question on this is, this Council is part of putting four people to serve on that board and my question, I’m speaking for myself, the rest of the Council can speak how they feel, but if I have constituents calling me and asking me about their trash being picked up and it becomes a problem, it is going be a problem for me. I’m asking if we are in line, I would like to make a motion if we can get Richard LeBouef or our four representatives that serve, and I want to see how they voted so they speak before us, so we know how we have to vote next time. I would like to make a motion to that.”

Administrative Finance Chairman Harold Taylor stated, “We have a motion and a second to ask Mr. LeBouef or the four members that we appointed to come before the council at our next committee meeting.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “I will support that Mr. Red but I would like to have them both, not either or. Not the four or Richard LeBouef. I want Richard LeBouef and the four here.”

A motion was made by Councilman Jerry Red Jr., seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, April 20, 2022** to invite Mr. Richard LeBouef, Executive Director of the St. Landry Parish Solid Waste Disposal District and the four St. Landry Parish Government Appointees, Mr. Edward Brisco, Ms. Kathy Moreau, Mr. Jack Ortego and Ms. Jodie Castille Powell to attend our next Committee Meeting held on Wednesday May 4th, 2022.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jerry Red Jr., Nancy Carriere, Easton Shelvin and Timmy Lejeune. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Wayne Ardoin. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion forwarded.

11. A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Easton Shelvin to adjourn the Administrative Finance Committee Meeting.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jerry Red Jr., Nancy Carriere, Easton Shelvin and Timmy Lejeune. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Wayne Ardoin. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion carried.

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