

**ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL
ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7th, 2022
OLD CITY MARKET, 131 W. BELLEVUE ST.
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA**

ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

1. Chairman Wayne Ardoin called this meeting of the Administrative/Finance Committee of the St. Landry Parish Council to order.
2. Pledge of Allegiance & Invocation (Councilman Jerry Red Jr.)
3. **Roll Call:** Jerry Red Jr., Nancy Carriere, Harold Taylor, Wayne Ardoin and Timmy Lejeune. Ex-Officio Vivian Olivier. **ABSENT:** Easton Shelvin.
4. Person to address the Committee:

Ms. Denise Cannatella addressed the council. She stated, “Good evening, my name is Denise Cannatella. I am a resident here in St. Landry Parish, I live in the Melville area. My husband, son and I are farmers out there where we farm 4000 acres of corn, soybean, sugarcane and a small beef herd. I am applying for the open seat at the Greater Krotz Springs Port of Authority. I just want to come out here and say hello and let you see my face and know just a little bit about us. I am originally from Opelousas. I have been a residence in Melville for 40 years now and we are heavily dependent on the Port System thru out the entire country because our grain is loaded on the Port in Baton Rouge right now and that is where we ship out crop out, our lively hood. The Port System is extremely important to me because of Agriculture. All farmers and ranchers depend on these Port Systems and I just wanted to say hello and let you know that I am applying for this position. Thank you.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “Ms. Cannatella, tell us about your involvement in Agriculture.”

Ms. Denise Cannatella stated, “I have been a volunteer, sort of like a professional volunteer for many years now with the Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation in St. Landry Parish Farm Bureau Federation. I have held a state position that is the Louisiana Women’s Chairman where I also held a seat on the Louisiana Farm Bureau Board of Directors. I was a voting delegate and I held a seat on their Mutual Insurance Council as well. I am currently serving as the Louisiana Women’s and Agriculture State President where we are a group of women who are dedicated to promoting and educating about Agriculture in the state.”

Ms. Lena Charles addressed the Council. She stated, “Good evening. Everybody knows my name is Lena Charles. I represent here today the 40th Annual Southwest Louisiana Zydeco Music Festival. It took place on last weekend and I am here to tell the council, personally Chairperson Vivian Oliver and Mr. Ardoin as well as our Parish President, Mr. Jessie and his staff, we just can’t tell the council enough of how much I appreciate being in St. Landry Parish. This Parish Festival really shined because of your support and the parish all coming together. You are the leaders of this parish and by setting the tone for our festival and being supportive all of these years it afforded me to bring everyone else from tourism to law enforcement to the community at large. We really welcomed our out of town, out of state and our international guest. Evangeline Downs Race Track and Casino as well as their hotel, the block was open three times for visitors coming in. We had Hampton Inn with a special rate as well and we just wanted to thank you. Thank you Jessie for your staff and the council for the support that we have had this year. This was a successful opening and also the celebration of our 40th and we could not have done that without your support. Thank you very much. I appreciate you all.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “Ms. Lena, I just want to tell you that I enjoyed it. I attended the festival and I enjoyed the artwork. Thank you again for the complimentary tickets.”
5. Parish President & Finance Report:

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “In your packet you all should have the LA Act 526 Opt in Expedited Temporary Housing Assistance Waiver. It is an option for us to

opt in or opt out in case there is an emergency in our parish. FEMA Trailers can be deployed into our parish so we can either opt in or opt out on that program. It is a yearly program. All that does is allow people to put a FEMA Trailer at their residence if their residence is destroyed by an emergency. That is all that is saying. We can go in or out. It is whatever you all want to do.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune questioned, “I have a question about those FEMA Trailers. The question that I have about those FEMA Trailers are, when they bring them in it is no cost to the parish?”

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

Councilman Timmy Lejeune questioned, “When they take them out, it is no cost to the parish?”

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

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “So therefore it is a no brainer that we should do this for the parish.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “It is a temporary housing.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune questioned, “Do we need that as a motion?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Yes.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “Just so everybody knows, it is temporary meaning for what duration Mr. President?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “From what I am being told it is temporary. It could be up to a year but it should not last that long. It just depends on how fast the homeowner can get their home up and running again. But at any time they can be removed. It is not like we giving them Cart Blanch for the rest of their lives. It is a one year option to opt in and opt out. If they are not getting their home set up fast enough, if we feel that they are neglecting, then we can have it removed.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “For those H. O. A’s who have prohibit against it, how does that work?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “The H. O .A’s can say no and it is no.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere questioned, “A few years back on HWY 190, there were some FEMA Trailers that were stored there. I have no problem with us allowing the FEMA Trailers to come in when they need to be coming in. I think that man was leasing the property and was storing them there which was a sore sight, now it is 99% clean. We are not going to fall into that same thing where we are going to let them just dump the trailer there again.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “This is only for the residence of our parish to have a FEMA Trailer at their house. That is what we are opting in. We are not opting in for anything other than that.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune questioned, “The trailers that we are speaking about are they the same ones they spoke about when we attended that FEMA meeting at the convention concerning \$250,000.00 approximately per trailer placed on property?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I am assuming so, yes. It is a FEMA Trailer. You can’t go and buy a camper and move it on your sight. This has got to be a FEMA Trailer that is set up by FEMA on your property and those are the ones that we are speaking about that was at that conference, correct.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “Just because we approve that, I just want to make it clear that it does not necessarily mean that everybody that had damage to a house qualifies, did he not say that in the meeting?”

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

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday September 21st, 2022** to approve ‘Opting In’ on the LA Act 526 OPT In Expedited Temporary Housing Assistance Waiver.

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

Motion forwarded.

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “The next item that I have is the Women’s Shelter. She found a location off of HWY 190 which is by Lawtell. She is asking if we can do a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with her and her Non-Profit. She would guarantee us so many beds in the facility if we would maintain the grounds. I don’t have a problem with it I just want to bring it up to the council.”

Councilman Harold Taylor questioned, “Any idea what that might cost?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I am not exactly sure. I think that it is an acre and one half. Our employees would cut the grass every 10 – 14 days, I don’t know.”

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin questioned, “Is she purchasing the property?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Correct. That will be her property. Nothing to do with Parish Government at all. She would guarantee us ‘X’ amount of beds in her facility. We would take people out of the jail that would qualify to go to her place especially women by the way.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere questioned, “What is going to be the process, being that she is providing beds? Is that only going to be for the inmates or will it be for people or homeless women? How will it be classified, I know it is a Shelter, will it be any different from the half-way-houses, being that you mentioned the incarcerated?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “This right here will be a Women’s Shelter. It is not just limited to anybody who is incarcerated. It is anybody who is homeless that can qualify to be in there. It is not limited to inmates, no.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere questioned, “Will children be allowed?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Yes, ma’am. Not in the initial phase or first phase. It will just be women only. The second phase of that will be women and children.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere questioned, “Do you have an age limit? When they had The New Life Shelter that was one of the issues because they had teenagers.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I am not sure of her program. She advised us that the second phase of her program will allow kids.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere questioned, “Are we going to be monitoring this or will we just approve it and then that is it?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I am almost positive that it will fit into our Group Home Ordinance. It will have to come before the council and get the approval to get the permit. I think it will fit. I did not read the Group Home Ordinance lately but I think that will qualify into the Group Home Ordinance. Then it will have to have certain criteria’s to be in there.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune questioned, “Mr. Bellard, I understand that it is a Non-Profit Operation. So when we speak of Non-Profit, is it like zero? These people are doing that totally volunteer? They are not going to make a dime off of this? This shelter is like free?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “From what I understand all of the money is coming thru grants for that program to work.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “I have a problem with the fact that if we cut grass for this one can we cut grass for everyone. My question is how many group home facilities do we have in this parish and will we be able to offer everyone the same accommodations?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “So the value of saving from across the street paying \$18.00 a day for an inmate if they would qualify to get into the Women’s Shelter. We would save that \$18.00 a day per inmate. So if we get three beds that is why I am looking at the value.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “If we do that then it is almost paying for itself.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I think that we would have to have, if I am not mistaken, Mr. Garrett can tell us we can’t just give that product away we would have to have something in return. So the return would be, say three beds guaranteed to the Parish Government for housing of women. We have some across the street that we could get out but they have no place to go. So they are in there because they have no place to go.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “I understand clearly that you are guaranteeing that the women inmates will have a place to go when they get out of the jail. You still cannot say if they have children, right now, if they get out of jail and they have little ones, infants, little kids, they won’t be able to go in the shelter?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Not in that first phase from what I am being told. Right now if they are incarcerated, they don’t have their kids with them.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “When they get out, they are not incarcerated so they will want to be reunited with their kids. Will you tell us who this anonymous person is or you still cannot say?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Whenever she will file her application, then I will bring it to the council.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere questioned, “She will pay every bill except the grass cutting. She will pay the utilities, the water and the rent. Whatever, she is buying the building. All we have to do is provide services to cut the grass.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “To maintain the grass yes ma’am.”

Councilman Jerry Red Jr., questioned, “Are they a 501-C3?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Yes.”

Councilman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “They are?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “They will be if they are not already. They were applying for that six months ago so I am assuming they got it by now.”

Councilman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “Also, I know we mentioned about the kids. I know this is a plus because there are many homeless people and this will help out a lot. Will she be able to come and give us an update like every three months?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I am pretty sure she will be more than happy to. She wants to expand it as far as she can.”

Councilman Jerry Red Jr., questioned, “What is the total occupancy at that location?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I want to say it will be 36. Thirty-three or Thirty-six I am not exactly sure but it is one of those.”

Councilman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “My reason for asking is because I know the location where I believe you are talking about, is it that double wide?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “That is the old event hall. They just built that maybe ten years ago. It is for sale.”

Councilman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “I know where you are talking about.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “On that Andrepont Property, District 1. I will bring the contract here with all the stipulations in it.”

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Harold Taylor to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, September 21st, 2022** to authorize the Parish President to sign the contract for the Women’s Shelter and allow the Parish Government to cut the grass on that facility providing that we receive beds to house people that are released from our jail or homeless.

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

Motion forwarded.

Finance Director Caryn Fulop presented the council with the Financial Statement. She stated:

General Fund -11:

Total Revenue: \$3,046,949.00

Expenditures: \$3,940,614.00

Net Change of Fund Balance: -\$893,665.00

Councilman Harold Taylor questioned, “On the Ad Valorem Tax, I see there is a 26.92% of the Ad Valorem Tax, was that the money that you received after January 1, 2022?”

Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, “When November and December roll around we will get more of the 2022 taxes.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “That 26% represents the money that you received after January 1st is that correct?”

Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, “Yes.”

Road and Bridge Fund 21

Total Revenue: \$2,550,426.00

Total Expenditures: \$3,149,481.00

Health Unit Maintenance Fund 23

Total Revenue: \$643,443.00

Total Expenditures: \$1,106,020.00

Jail Maintenance Fund 24

Total Revenue: \$205,554.00

Total Expenditures: \$556,505.00

Road District 12 of Ward 2 Maintenance Fund 26

Total Revenue: \$126,699.00
Total Expenditures: \$98,808.00

Road District 1 of Ward 3 Maintenance Fund 27

Total Revenue: \$141,553.00
Total Expenditures: \$110,535.00

Sub-Road District 2 of Road District 11-A of Ward 1 Maintenance Fund 28

Total Revenue: \$83,609.00
Total Expenditures: \$135,423.00

Sub-Road District 1 of Road District 3 of Ward 1 Maintenance Fund 29

Total Revenue: \$33,612.00
Total Expenditures: \$71,032.00

Sub-Road District 1 of Road District 11-A Maintenance Fund 42

Total Revenue: \$87,279.00
Total Expenditures: \$176,161.00

Airport Fund 146

Total Revenue: \$171,828.00
Total Expenditures: \$299,555.00

American Rescue Act Fund 158

Total Revenue: \$7,976,166.00
Total Expenditures: 3,533,510.00

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin questioned, “Ms. Caryn, I have a question on one of 11A. You have \$158,000.00 was spent. Can you tell me is that on the overlay of maybe Grant Road? Mr. Bellard, can you tell me?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “That was on those roads that we did with that three-quarter inch sealant in the area for Micro servicing.”

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin, “Was that St. Mary, St. Ann?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Correct.”

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin questioned, “Have you received anything on Grant Road?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Not yet, no. They are still working on it. I know the rain have stopped them.”

A motion was made by Councilman Jerry Red Jr., seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to accept the Parish President & Finance Report.

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

Motion carried.

- 6. Preliminary and Final Approval of Burnley Ardoin Subdivision, a 18.250 Acre Tract being partitioned into lots 5-10 located on LA HWY 10 Washington, La.

Councilman Harold Taylor questioned, “Mr. Bellard, have it gone thru Planning and the engineer and approved by them?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Yes Sir, you all should have a letter in front of you all.”

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, September 21st, 2022** to approve the Preliminary and Final Approval of Burnley Ardoin Subdivision, an 18.250 Acre Tract being partitioned into lots 5-10 located on LA HWY 10 Washington, La.

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

Motion forwarded.

7. Preliminary and Final Approval of Begnaud Ridge Subdivision, a 16.259 Acre Tract of land partitioned into lots 1-12 located on Begnaud Road, Sunset, La.
Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin questioned, “Is that in your District Ms. Vivian.”

Chairwoman Vivian Olivier stated, “Yes Sir.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “I am assuming that this has gone thru the same process.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “The same process. You should have a letter in front of you.”

A motion was made by Harold Taylor, seconded by Jerry Red Jr., to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, September 21st, 2022** to approve the Preliminary and Final Approval of Begnaud Ridge Subdivision. A 16.259 Acre Tract of land partitioned into lots 1-12 located on Begnaud Road, Sunset, La.

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

Motion forwarded.

8. St. Landry Parish Council to serve as the Board of Review for anyone present + wishing to file a protest in reference to their property values.

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “Do I have anyone in the audience who has a complaint as far as their property value taxes that they are assessed at?”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “Hearing no one, I move that we approve.”

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin questioned, “Do we need a motion for that Mr. Duplechain?”

Councilman Jerry Red Jr., questioned, “Will that be at the full council meeting?”

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, “Any action will have to be by full council at the full council meeting. If there is any action, which there does not appear to be any.”

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “It will be in the first part of the meeting to have a public hearing.”

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, “You can put it at any part in the meeting.”

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “I will ask that it be placed in a public hearing for any protest on it.”

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, “Okay, then at the full council meeting with the full council if there is anything to move on, it will take a full council vote. It does not appear to be anyone here so you can send it to the full council meeting.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “I moves to the full council for a hearing and an approval.”

A motion was made by Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to forward to Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, September 21st, 2022 to authorize the St. Landry Parish Council to serve as the Board of Review for anyone present + wishing to file a protest in reference to their property values.

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

Motion forwarded.

9. Forward all applications received for one appointment to the Lawtell Water District No. 1 for the remainder of a four-year term expiring 08-12-2023.

A motion was made by Councilman Jerry Red Jr., seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Carriere to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, September 21st, 2022** all applications received for one appointments to the Lawtell Water District No. 1 for the remainder of a four-year term expiring 08-12-2023.

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

Motion forwarded.

10. Forward all applications received for one appointment to the Greater Krotz Springs Port Commission. (No Set Terms).

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, September 21st, 2022** all applications received for one appointment to the Greater Krotz Springs Port Commission. (No Set Terms).

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

Motion forwarded.

11. Discuss the Travel Ordinance for the St. Landry Parish Council.

(Councilman Wayne Ardoin).

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “I ask that this be placed on the agenda because the other day we met with Mr. Moussa and Mr. Brown. It was discussed about the travel pay. We were over budgeted. Ms. Caryn, I think you told us that we were over the budget as far as for travel pay.”

Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, “As of right now, yes they are over the budget.”

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin questioned, “How much is that without me going back to the financials?”

Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, “I think that it is \$17,000.00.”

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “Over budgeted. That was brought out when Mr. Moussa met with Mr. Bellard and Ms. Caryn and myself.”

Councilman Jerry Red Jr., questioned, “What is added in these travel expenses?”

When we went to Washington, DC, that was supposed to be out of the Parish Government Expense and not Parish Council.”

Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, “The council was charged the council travel.”

Councilman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “No. That is not what the Parish President said.

The Parish President said that it was a trip that we were taking with him. It was going to be charged to the parish. Is that correct?”

Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, “I can go look. I will look at it and we can always make the adjustments. We still have to amend the budget for 2022 also.”

Councilman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “Can you get those numbers corrected? You have figures that is totaled for the council that should be charged towards the parish from the way that I am understanding.”

Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, “I did not know that that is how it was happening.”

Councilman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “Am I right?”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “A couple of things, just to add to Mr. Red’s comment. The travel budget for the Administration is out of whack also. Let’s get back to the council’s budget since that is the one that we are talking about. If we read the ordinance it clearly says that whatever money we set in there is appropriated in the budget will be divided 13 ways. We have to have some kind of system to monitor this where we don’t exceed the budget. Each council member gets one-thirteenth of that. At one time if I did not travel and somebody needed to go to a conference, I would waive my privilege to it. How are we keeping up with it now?”

Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, “I just learned about that when I printed it out. Jessie and I were talking about taking that into consideration when we amend the budget about the 1/13 and come up with something that you all would agree with.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “The ordinance that you all adopted, the way that I read it, it had to come in front of the council for that to happen. I did not know that you all had passed an ordinance like this. I know that something was passed years ago but I did not know that it was that specific.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “So going forward would you take care of reminding us so we can amend it”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “According to the ordinance, it goes to the council clerk and the council clerk gets it to you all.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “So Sherell, you are on to monitor this.”

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin questioned, “In the meantime Ms. Caryn, will you straighten it out. Is it General Administration Expenses as far as some of the travel? The only reason that I am bringing this up is because Mr. Moussa brought it

up the other day and you all were in the meeting also. I just think that we need to look at that because we have to answer to the constituents.”

Councilman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “I know that we are talking about council travel but we also had our council clerk travel with us on the trip. I believe you made that motion Mr. Ardoin. I don’t have a problem with that but where will we take the funds from to pay for the council clerk. The reason why I am saying this is because the only person that voted against it and he stuck to his word and his gun was Mr. Taylor, am I correct? I understand you are very keen about the dollars but I want to make sure that everybody understand, last year for the trip that we took to the NACo Conference in Maryland, that trip, my understanding and the information that the Parish President received from going to NACo, it paid off because we were able to refinance our loan on the Road District No. 1 and it will benefit. Not only that, six years ago, we had the president of NACo come to this parish and it benefited. When he came over here he gave information to our parish president then and he told him to make sure you get a Grant Writer. He told him to get a Grant Writer and then contact me and anything that you need within your parish, we will be there to help you. We did not get a Grant Writer then, but I am understanding Mr. Bellard has a Grant Writer and we are now in place to bring funds to St. Landry Parish. I must say that Executive Board that I serve on, the Police Jury Association, there are funds coming back to St. Landry Parish and it is coming from NACo and it will benefit, not only the parish but the municipalities, the town of Washington as well as Melville. We all know, we have been seeing it on Television the dire straight that they are in for money. If they don’t have money for a Grant Writer, the Police Jury Association will have funds set up to help these town out. I think that it will benefit the towns and the parishes that need funds to help out in whatever capacity that you may need. I understand we are very frugal on the money but I want you to understand if we are not at the table, you don’t know what is going on. I must say this, if you are at the table, you can eat what is being served at the table. I am just putting that out.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Just to kind of reiterate, Timmy Lejeune, Jerry Red and Jimmie Edwards all sit on a National Committee at NACo. The reason for them coming to the conference is because they sit on these committees. That helps us at the table like he said, I am just giving that out there for people to understand. They are not just going over there as a vacation. It is a national convention that we sit at the table and try to get some things for our parish. I really believe that Mr. Taylor’s statement last year to me was, to be at that Mardi Gras Ball, and I won’t lie, I was against it because I don’t believe in going to a Mardi Gras Ball but it was far from a Mardi Gras Ball. We got a lot of things accomplished in DC on that one. When we go there, I think the return on our investments will come in next year with the money coming in from the federal government. It takes two years. I think that we will see a good return in investments pretty soon.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “Listen, all I am saying is that we passed the budget, we have an ordinance to comply with and all I am saying is that we need to increase the budget, we all have a vote on it. We will bring it to the council to vote. All I am saying is that when you put a number in here for \$10,000.00 and we spend \$28,000.00, it does not look to good on our part and we did not approve the excess spending. That is all I am trying to say, Thank you.”

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “I think that they will fix the short comings in your General Administration Budget, correct?”

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

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “Let’s go back to square one, it is all about transparency with the people in St. Landry Parish.”

12. Authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for two appointments to Fire District No. 7 for a one year term and three appointments for a two year term expiring 11-18-2022.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy Carriere, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, September 21st, 2022** to authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for two appointments to Fire District No. 7 for a one year term and three appointments for a two year term expiring 11-18-2022.

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

Motion forwarded.

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

None.

14. Adjourn

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor seconded by Councilman Nancy Carriere to adjourn the Administrative Finance Committee Meeting.

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

Motion forwarded.

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