

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

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

1. Chairman Coby Clavier called this meeting of the Public Works Committee of the St. Landry Parish Council to order.

2. **Roll Call:**

Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, Jimmie Edwards and Coby Clavier.
Ex-Officio Vivian Olivier. **ABSENT:** Public Works Chairman Dexter Brown.

3. **Person to address the Committee:**

Ms. Shala Buller addressed the council. She stated, “I am here to ask about the ordinance concerning private subdivisions. We can’t submit our Plat until that is taken care of. Our Surveyor said that it is a whole different ball game whenever you submit a Plat for a private subdivision in a regular subdivision. Mr. Harold Taylor came and spoke to me before and he said they are waiting on the ordinance to be written because you all had voted on it three months ago. The guy who suppose to write it is on vacation and he will be back on the 15th I think. He will be writing it. As soon as that is taken care of then our Surveyor can put it together so that it can be submitted and that is what we are waiting on.”

Chairman Coby Clavier questioned, “Mr. Harold, do you have any information on that?”

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “He is outside.”

Chairman Coby Clavier stated, “We will follow up on that.”

Ms. Shala Buller stated, “Thank you so much. We are on hold by waiting on that ordinance to be written. As soon as that is done then we can go ahead and submit everything. Basically everything else is ready.

Chairman Coby Clavier stated, “We will follow up on it.”

Ms. Flo Hammond addressed the council. She stated, “My name is Flo Hammond. I am practically a lifelong resident of St. Landry Parish but my first time at the council. This is important to me. These are pictures of homes on McNeese Street. I live off of McNeese Street and I am asking the council for help. I have contacted Code Enforcement. Mr. Richard Lewis came out last year, looked at the property and nothing was done. A couple of months ago they came out and they cleared the property. If you look at this picture right here, this top part is where they had cleared the property and they just clumped up the stuff that they had cleared, they did not burn it or anything nor did they take it away, they just clumped it up. You will see how the grass has grown over it. This picture right here is my street. This is Johnson Street. This was taken two weeks ago, can you imagine what the grass looks like now. I have asked and asked, I have bugged Nancy Carrier who is my representative. I need help and nobody is helping me. This other picture, this was a house and it had a whole tree growing out of it. They came and cut the tree down and they cut the grass down but they leave it like this. This does not make any sense. I can’t even walk my street because I don’t what kind of snakes, armadillo or anything else that will come from this property. There is another property that I did not get. I was not able to print pictures of but I have on my phone and you guy can look at it. It is Blighted Property that should have been torn down ears ago. I have asked and begged, how long does it take. I was told that we have to send the letter to the people three times. Sir, it has been over a year. How long does it take? Nobody would want property like this. None of you all live like this, none of you all. Nobody lives like this, but I am supposed to live like this and I am not the only one. There are elderly people on this street, there are young people on this street and there are kids on this street. It is not safe. The other blighted property is a complete health code. Let me show you all the pictures. It makes no sense. I have been asking even before Mr. Bellard was Parish President, I was calling the Code Enforcement Office so often, the girl knew my name. She would say, Ms. Hammond we will send someone out. Why is this not on a rotation? What is the deal? Who can I talk to? Who can help me? That is what I am here for. I am here for help.”

Chairman Coby Clavier questioned, “Mr. Bellard, are you familiar with that street?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I went ride today to see the trailer house that we discussed the other day her and I. The trailer house has new windows in it and they cut the grass, as far as I am concerned the trailer house can stay where it is at.”

Ms. Flo Hammond stated, “I am not talking about the Trailer House.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Okay, but he is asking me a question and I am answering his question. On the trailer house part, we will leave it as it is. Right next door to the trailer house are the pictures that you have right here. The situation on that one is that somebody else bought that property. The letters were sent to the previous owners and now we have a new owner so it all starts all over again.”

Ms. Flo Hammond stated, “Excuse me Sir. If you could look at those pictures. There are four properties on McNeese Street. He is talking about one property. It is not even in the pictures that I showed to you all. That one property that he is talking about, they did come out and they mowed the grass but guess what, this is the property next to it.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “That is the property that I am talking about.

This is what I am going to do Mr. Clavier. This is in my office. She is welcome to come to my office to discuss anything she wants to discuss with me in my office. I am not going to discuss issues in a council meeting that I can handle in my office.”

Chairman Coby Clavier stated, “Sounds good, I know they have been working more aggressively than ever in the past on blighted property and they are going a great job. So you can discuss that with Mr. Bellard in his office and I am sure he will take care of that.”

Ms. Flo Hammond questioned, “My question is, what the process when you have blighted property? I need you all to tell me. Then I can go to him and say the process is not being followed.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Ma’am, it starts in my office. It does not get here until we need it to get here. It starts in my office so you are welcome to come to my office anytime and we can sit down and discuss this but nothing happens in here until I bring it to the council.”

Ms. Flo Hammond stated, “I have brought it to you twice.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I talked to you last Saturday morning at Tommy’s Mobile. That is the first time that I have talked to you.”

Ms. Flo Hammond stated, “No Sir that is incorrect. That is not true. This is the attitude that I am getting when I am coming to the council for help.”

Councilman Jimmie Edwards questioned, “Who district does this belong to?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I will get that information tomorrow whenever we will have time.”

Councilman Jimmie Edwards stated, “Because all of this discussion is not going anywhere?”

Councilman Alvin Stelly stated, “We have big problems with this. They can do so much because Mr. Lewis came in my district. You can cut the grass this month but then it is right back again. So what do we do with this?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Hopefully by putting these leans on the property and at some point I will ask our tax assessor if it is even legal to put it on the tax roll. We can start getting our money back from the people. Just going cut the grass every two weeks, we will never get our money. There are no consequences. One thing the council did last month was approve the Code Enforcement Order, the Civil Enforcement Authority. That person can go and write tickets now. They will come over here and pay a fines, before we did not have that opportunity. I am thinking that once we put enough fines on people, eventually they will come and take care of their own property, I am hoping.”

Councilman Alvin Stelly stated, “If we have the right to put a for sale sign in front of that property when we cut the grass, I think things would change. I guess we don’t have that right to do that but that is the only way that we can show the people that we mean business.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I think once we can start finding these people who have the same problems, and we have them all over the parish, but on a regular basis I see more on HWY 190, we have to cut their grass.”

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, “According to our ordinance, once the blighted property is removed, the cost of it can be put on the tax bill of the property owner. The statement of the cost is given by the tax assessor. That is on the back end of it after the blighted property have been removed. On the front end of it, whenever blighted property address is given to the council, our clerk Sherell sends a certified letter. If we get it back we then record it with the Clerk of Court. If we get it back unclaimed, we mail it regular mail and that is all according to the ordinance. On the front end, whenever we send the notice to the property owner, we give them a meeting to come to. We have to do it 60-90 days because we don’t get the green card back in time a lot of times. That is on the front end, on the back end after blighted property has been removed the cost of removing it can be put on the tax bill

if that cost statement is given to the tax assessor of the St. Landry Parish. That is all in our ordinance.

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere questioned, “I am sorry Ms. Hammond had to leave. This is what Ms. Hammond is concerned about. She has spoken to me several times and I have spoken to Mr. Lewis several times. If Mr. Lewis can recall a couple of months ago with the blighted property which now, I think may have been sold, it was mentioned to me that they were going to clean it. Then a month or two later Mr. Lewis brought it back to my attention that they did not. So now we will have to take action. That is what Ms. Hammond is concerned about because no action has been taken. I have been in contact with you about the blighted property. You informed me that a certified letter was sent. My concern with the certified letter is, when I spoke to Mr. Garrett, which he just explained the process, now my confusion is this, A certified letter was sent about the blighted property but when I spoke to our council clerk and Mr. Garrett, that blighted property is not even on the list and that is one that I consistently ask about. It is over a year and I think that is what she is talking about. It is not even on the list and a certified letter was sent but they did not know that it was sent because it was never on the list. From what I understand, after the letter is sent and if they don’t get anything back from that letter you all would automatically send a regular letter, that is what you told me. The regular letter cannot be sent because when I spoke to you, you told me that you never got the certified copy back. This has been almost three months so now it is three months past and they have never gotten a regular letter. I am just trying to understand if we can come together where the Code Enforcement either let Ms. Sherell handle all the letters so we won’t have no confusion that a certified letter was sent and it was never received. So the second letter has not been sent, they don’t know that it is a blighted property to even send the beginning of the letter. That is my issue that is ongoing with my properties in my district and she and I have been talking and she came to express her frustration because she has spoken to you and me. She does not see any results. What I am here to night is mentioning that we let them handle the letters.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “That is not how it works. The ordinance is clear. The ordinance is passed by the council. We are following the ordinance to the ‘T’. My thing is that it is so long of a process. This could go on for three months and you will have tall grass by the time you get to the end result. I am trying to explain that it comes to us first. We will send a letter out and we will do what we have to do on our end. We can’t just go and cut their grass without everything being done.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “I understand that. That is not the one that I am talking about. I don’t have an issue because he told me it was sold. That is their responsibility and I know that it starts over. It is not the grass that I am concerned about because I explained to Ms. Hammond that I am not concerned about the grass right now because everybody’s grass is high, everybody. What I am concerned about is the Blighted Property that has been over two years that she is mentioning. She is concerned about the grass, I explained to her that I am more concerned about those Blighted Properties. That is more of a hazard and that is the one that Mr. Lewis told me the letter was sent. Now that was it. He has not received any response and it has been months so the second letter has not even been sent. I asked them if they had that property on the list they don’t even have it as a Blighted Property.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “No, we don’t sent it to you all until we finish with our third letter.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “I understand, but when Garrett and I spoke he said they send out the first letter, certified.

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Yes, we do.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “So you all don’t sent out any letters Sherell?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “The only letters that they will send out is once we bring it to the council and they get a certified letter coming to the meeting to show cause why we should not clean up the property. That is the letter that they are receiving from the council.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “My question to Mr. Lewis was, the first certified letter has been sent out and it has been months, when will the second letter going to go out for the Blighted Property.”

Mr. Richard Lewis stated, “Tomorrow.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “I did not here you, did you say tomorrow, you will send out the second letter? So we will wait until the second letter goes out then how long do we go from there. That is what I think she wants to know.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Whatever the ordinance calls for, I am thinking it is about 30 days.”

Councilman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “I think Parish Government is doing a great job with the Blighted Properties as well as the Adjudicated Properties. I can remember under the other person that was handling it, the lady just mentioned five years, we would turn in a work order and nothing would happen. Nobody would say anything, now you have somebody doing something and we want to run them into the ground. We need to appreciate the work that is being done and not be so nick picking. I can say this much, I know work is being done on blight properties and adjudicated properties. I thank you all for the work that is being done.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “Yes she mentioned five years. It is great Mr. Red that your work is getting done.”

Councilman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “Our work is getting done.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “I am talking about McNeese, I am asking for some results. That is all I am asking for. I don’t look at this as nick picking because this does matter to these people. All I am asking is to move forward and let’s try to get this straightened out because all of you all are familiar with this situation and I am asking for you all to try and resolve it, legally. I am not asking for you all to go and cut grass, I am not asking for you all to take down somebody’s property without the proper notification. All I am saying is to let’s move on it. Yes it has been five years. The other administration maybe did not do what some may have wanted but the point is now we are here and we are supposed to be better. So let’s just move forward.”

4. Public Works Report:

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Right now we are still digging ditches with the ARA Funding. We still have some left in 11, 12 and 13 to do. We met today regarding that so that is ongoing. Of course with all the rain and everything has been stopping but we are cutting grass on the side of the roads and we are spraying as soon as the weather permits. All of that is taking place.”

Public Works Chairman Coby Clavier questioned, “Can I ask you an update on the statue removal?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “The last we heard and this was yesterday, they will bring it to Kentwood. Initially they said they would place it on the Grandigo Island Road but then they got permission from Camp Moore in Kentwood and that is where all the statues go too, so they will bring it over there. We got verification yesterday that they wanted to get the weight on it. Now they are forming the base on it. So they changed the place on us.”

Public Works Chairman Coby Clavier stated, “So that will get removed in what month? Do we know?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I was hoping they would do it this month.”

Councilman Jimmie Edwards questioned, “Did you check on that stop sign on South St. Mary and Beulah Street?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I will have them put another one up. For whatever reason people are stealing all of our signs across the whole parish. It is not made with aluminum anymore, it is made with fiberglass. It is not worth anything other than what it is for. We have signs that are being stolen all over the place and all we do is change them out. We are adding some stuff to the signs that I promise you that they will take one and they will come back to get another one. It is perfectly legal, we have to do something.”

A motion was made by Councilman Jimmie Edwards, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to accept the Public Works Report.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly and Jimmie Edwards.

NAYS: None. ABSENT: Dexter Brown. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion carried.

5. Discuss possible funding for Hard Surface Roads in District 4 that are in need of overlaying. (Councilwoman Mildred Thierry).

Councilwoman Mildred Thierry stated, “Mr. Bellard, I have District 4 down here because that is the District that I represent, quite naturally I would look out for my District first. I am concerned and I had some concerns that came to me about some of the roads that are already paved that needs to be paved again and they were wondering since it would be cheaper to do those could we get some overlaying done on some of these hard service roads?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I am afraid to tell you all but a lot of these roads that are failing and I know in your district one of them is her house they have these wells underneath the road. I don’t know what the answer is. William and I talked about it again last week. It is a natural spring underneath the road in several places so the roads will never become hard service and stay hard service. We have a few roads like that in the parish. A few of our roads are just cracking up for whatever reason. I don’t know what the answer will be to fix the problem but William is aware of it. He and Carl are discussing the options. I forgot what the cost would be to do her house again but the problem when you do it again, it is the same problem. We are not getting to the root of the problem which is underground on the sub-service.”

Councilwoman Mildred Thierry stated, “I am referring to basically some of those other roads not a road in the same situation as Prayer House, just some of those others that are just a plain flat service, they have already been paved but it needs to be redone. Wouldn’t they possibly qualify for just this overlaying?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “If there is a way that we can do it and save an existing black top road, yes, we definitely want to do that to save us money in the long run.”

Councilwoman Mildred Thierry stated, “So do we have some funds to look at doing some of that thru-out the parish, basically District?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “We will be doing across the whole parish. I know each councilperson have to worry about their own districts and I appreciate that but I have to worry about the whole parish. I appreciate you asking. I will tell you right now, we are doing a lot across the whole parish. Luckily we have District 5 and District 6 that is able to do their district pretty well.”

6. Update on Broadband and the GUMBO Funds. (Councilwoman Mildred Thierry).

Councilwoman Mildred Thierry stated, “Mr. Bellard, can you give us an update on that?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Yes, \$3.45 Million Dollars was allocated between Allen Cable and Charters Communications thru the GUMBO Plan. Last week the Governor announced another million dollars for Cajun Broad Band. I am not quite sure, we did not get the verification on that, but I want to say Cajun Broad Band will be open in the Northern part of the parish but I did not get verification on where that will be at. If you go on our website, you would go to the broadband updates. You can zoom in and find out in your area what broadband you will have and what company will be providing it. It overlays if you have two or three of them. Those who have two or three companies that are overlaying that is a good thing, you will have a choice to pick and have a reasonable price. That is the whole purpose of having this broadband initiative.”

7. Discuss future plans for pavement on Gravel Roads in District 4. (Councilwoman Mildred Thierry).

Councilwoman Mildred Thierry stated, “We have several gravel roads that still exist. I have had people come to me and say, “When they were pushing for a tax, they promised me that my roads would eventually get done, what happened? We still have not gotten it.” I tried to explain that Smooth Ride Home was a 15 year plan and we still have other years. They feel like they will be left out.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I don’t think that anybody will be left out. I don’t see that it happening this year or next year for all these roads, it is impossible. Prices have gone up so much and tax collections have gone up as well. When we collect more taxes because the prices of everything is going up to. We will be at a stalemate at some point and we will do what we can. When you have the amount of miles we have in our parish, it will not nearly be enough money to do them all in that first 15 years. It don’t pay for me to lie to nobody. I don’t see it happening in 15 years.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “Ms. Thierry, I just want to share something with you. I am sorry I did not mention this earlier if I am not out of order. You mentioned about Broadband. I noticed that Spectrum is going around and they are offering free internet service. Maybe you can check into that in your area. I don’t know what it is about, it is just something with the government and they are offering free internet service with Spectrum.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Part of the plan that came out in 2019, Spectrum bided on the program and was awarded that whole program for certain areas of our parish. They are running lines now and they are able to provide service to people who meet the criteria at no cost or low cost that is also subsidized to the Federal Government.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “You may want to check on that for your constituents Mrs. Thierry.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune questioned, “Mr. Bellard, when we went to the convention, we went and look at gravel roads thru hard surface or having a minimum amount of dust, mud or what have you on these roads. My question is, are we looking further into that process. It is supposed to be considerably cheaper than keeping them over laid with rocks and it would control the mud and the dust like we saw by the airport. We could use it in our parish thru out on the gravel roads where we have a lot of issues.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “We are in talks with companies now to discuss the pricing on that. I don’t think that it will be as wide spread as we would like to see it but I think we will have some areas where we can use that program.”

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin questioned, “Mr. Bellard, do we have a priority list on the gravel roads?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Yes, we have a list of all the gravel roads. A priority list. The list that we have does mention the amount of homes on them and the miles.”

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “I know we use to have a list years ago but I know that there is a possibility that it changed. Like Ms. Thierry was telling Mr. John and the audience, Mr. John Trahan, he lives on Muscadine Road which happens to be in Ms. Vivian’s Taxing District. It is in my district also but Ms. Vivian has the purse string. Do they have some roads that are in the process of maybe later on coming with some kind of overlay?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I am hoping in the first quarter of next year we can do some more with the tax collections that are coming in.”

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “Okay, I realize that she has the taxing district and I have an area that I represent also. But then with reapportionment those things change and we all represent different people.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere questioned, “The priority list, how does that work?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “It is done already. That was set forth years ago. I think what needs to be done is another one to bring it back up to 2022. I can’t tell you the year that the last one was done. I imagine the amount of household on those roads have changed a lot also. It was just a big cost to have that done years ago. We never had one before but I can get with William to see if they can update our list.”

**8. Discuss removing barricades on Pebble Road and Rainbow Road.
(Councilwoman Nancy Carriere).**

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “I know you are familiar with that situation. Garrett you want to update everybody on that barricade that is supposed to be temporary from what I am understanding.”

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, “I have not been out to Pebble Road or Rainbow Road. That is in your District right?”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “Yes it is.”

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, “I don’t know if there is anything that is going on, on that road or not. Maybe you can tell us.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “No, nothing is going on, on that road. I think it was done temporarily. I don’t even think it was for construction. I figured they had trail rides back then and that was to stop the traffic thru to the casino. It is not a permanent structure. It is a hazard.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I agree, I think it needs to be removed for emergency purposes. A fire truck have to back up down there. I am not sure if that was done by an ordinance Ms. Nancy.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “Garrett that is why I am referring to you to tell us because that was before my time. What would we have to do to reverse that if it was an ordinance that was passed before me?”

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, “I can look. I don’t remember seeing an ordinance on that and I will look and see. I don’t remember an ordinance in that section of the code regarding that.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Can we do this Mr. Duplechain, can we make a motion to have it removed at the council meeting. If you find that there is an ordinance you can at that point introduce and ordinance? That way we won’t have to wait another month.”

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, “Yes, we should do that. We can make the motion and push it to the full council I guess. For the time being we can make that motion and I will look at our code.”

Councilman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “The ordinance was created by the previous Councilmember in District 2. It was done by the previous person sitting in that district at the time. It was done basically because of trail rides.

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “There are no more trail rides.”

Councilman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “It was done and I believe we may have to go back to the people that are living in that area before we remove that, is that correct?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I am not sure. If it was an ordinance that passed then we have to follow the same procedure to overturn it. But I don’t remember if it was an ordinance.”

Councilman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “It was an ordinance.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I remember it was because of the trail riders that would leave Evangeline Downs and go down that road and stuff.”

Public Works Chairman Coby Clavier stated, “Is there a motion that someone wants to make on this Public Works Committee regarding this.”

A motion was made by Councilman Jimmie Edwards, seconded by Councilman Alvin Stelly to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, September 21st, 2022** to authorize Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain to present the council with updates on the removal of the Barricades on Pebble Road and Rainbow Road.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly and Jimmie Edwards.

NAYS: None. ABSENT: Dexter Brown. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion forwarded.

9. **Discuss Garbage Carts and pick up throughout the parish.**
(Councilwoman Mildred Thierry.)

Councilwoman Mildred Thierry stated, “Mr. LeBouef, I have a few questions and I know you have discussed most of this already but after noticing on Social Media and I have gotten several calls from constituents who are not quite certain about some situations with the cans. One of the first question that was asked and I told the ones that I communicate with and I figure the more we get this out, the better, they wanted to know when are the old carts going to be picked up?”

Mr. Richard LeBouef, Executive Director, Solid Waste Disposal District stated, “For everybody and all the council the information what we are being told by Waste Connections is that on your constituents last day of service in the city limits and they get twice a week service, the last day of service, they are telling us that they are going to pick up the carts. Now the confusion with that is and I don’t know how many other questions you have, they are telling us that they are only going to pick up one. Again we are faced with the fact of how many of your constituents have actually paid for a cart. That will not be a Solid Waste or Bayou State issue it will be a thing that you will have to take up with Waste Connections. We are not sure how that is going to happen. We are very limited on information that we can get and the conversation that you and I had this afternoon and I have had with some of you I don’t expect it to get any better in the next three weeks. It has not been good for some time. Today we had a route in Eunice that was down and three trucks were out. We found that out this afternoon with 4:25 p.m. Three drivers did not show up today and we found that out at 4:25p.m. That is what we are faced with. Tell your constituents that if they paid for a can they need to keep that can. On the last day of service they are telling us that they are going to pick them up. You see Progressive Cans out there, you see Waste Connections and you see IASI. None of those manufactures are the same and we don’t know when they are going to pick them up or what is going to happen. We were told one can initially and now they are going to pick up everything that they see. Another issue now is they told us that they will not pick up the Bayou State cans.”

Councilwoman Mildred Thierry stated, “Some drivers are picking up the Bayou State Cans and others are leaving them. I had a constituent call me last week, she was furious, she asked why is it that everybody got their trash picked up on my street except mine?” I said I was in your area earlier today and I can tell you why. Because you use the can that you were told not to use until October 1st. That was the reason. In other areas they are picking up those cans. They need to be consistent.”

Mr. Richard LeBouef, Executive Director stated, “Again Ms. Mildred, we have stressed that to the drivers and we have tried to talk to the management and that can only yield to the fact that the guys that are picking up the Bayou State Cans will probably be going to work for Bayou State. So they want to stay in good graces with that neighborhood.”

Councilwoman Mildred Thierry stated, “I get quite a few calls with the liter after the garbage truck pass. I had a person call me last week. He was furious. He said every Tuesday when the garbage truck pass our street becomes a street full of liter. Some of the problem and I am not saying that is all of the problem but we are putting loose trash in the cans when that should all be bagged and that would eliminate some of that, although some of the bags are being dropped off of the trucks. If we could remember to try to put all trash in some type of bag and tie it that would help to eliminate some of that.”

Mr. Richard LeBouef, Executive Director stated, “That would be a perfect world but we see that whenever they don’t bag and the cans left outside with the Curotto System, that is the front loader that they have now. If it blows over at your house that is number one. If they move it into the cans for pick up that is number two. When they are running down the street especially on West Landry at 50-60 miles per hour, probably heading to Eunice to see Mr. Jimmie and Colby and Jessie too, you see flying all over the place. When they actually go over the top that is the fourth one. We see trash bags that we report to them that ride around for a week on the top of the truck like it is taking a free ride. We try to let them know and nothing happens. All of these trucks were put in service in September of 2014. They had three trucks that were down today. They have trashed, scrap and cannibalized three of them to fix what they have left and that is what we are dealing with. I know you guys and the residences were skeptical in the beginning but I promise you that we have some meat in this contract that we can get some traction. The people in this parish deserves better than what we have gotten, it is that simple.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune questioned, “His question could not be heard clearly over the microphone.”

Mr. Richard LeBouef, Executive Director answered, “It concludes on Friday. If we lose because of a holiday or anything that is remaining. If you check the website or you call the number that was issued with the can it will tell you when you will be picked up.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere questioned, “Can we somehow advertise because everyone does not do Facebook. Some people said that they did not get the letter. I taught the schedule was going to be the same.”

Mr. Richard LeBouef, Executive Director stated, “It has been published in the paper on Sunday’s as well. It is on our Website and on our Facebook.”

Councilwoman Mildred Thierry stated, “I also reposted it on Facebook several times.”

Mr. Richard LeBouef, Executive Director stated, “Ms. Mildred and I have had this conversation several of times. When you get a constituent that calls you send them our way. You don’t need to handle that, we will take care of that for you if you send them to us. What is going on right now is active on Monday the 12th. Bayou State is having their system in place completely digital and you will have two ladies there and they will have 8-9 phone lines. Some of them will be dispatched to me or Mr. John or straight to the Landfill and to our Bulky Waste Provider. That is going to be the easy thing. Any questions that you have send it to us. You don’t need to be fooling with that.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere questioned, “On the last day, everybody will have their trash cans by the time of October 1st.”

Mr. Richard LeBouef, Executive Director stated, “Absolutely. They are actually right at 4,000 cans ahead of schedule right now on the deployment.”

Councilwoman Mildred Thierry stated, “I want to personally thank you for always coming to my rescue. Because if nobody else don’t burn up your phone I sure do. I want to thank you because the customer always end up happy once they get resolved.”

Mr. Richard LeBouef, Executive Director stated, “I want to leave you with this, I think Ms. Thierry mentioned the before factor. It has been a pleasure. My Predecessor avoided you all at long reach. You all have been gracious to us and transparency I think is a key. We are a separate entity but we work for the betterment of each municipality and the parish in a whole. I am at your service and I appreciate each and every one of you.”

10. Discuss adding a three-way Stop Sign Proposal at the intersection of Acadiana Road and Airline Road. (Councilman Dexter Q. Brown). *Councilman Dexter Brown was absent for this meeting.*

Councilman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “That is in my district and he did not tell me about it. We will wait for him. I just want to know why he wants to place a 3-way.”

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

Public Works Chairman Coby Clavier stated, “I want to bring up something to our Legal Counsel. Mr. Duplechain, can you check to see if we have an existing Ordinance on how close a building can be built to the neighbor’s property line. It is about the situation that I texted you about today where the building is 6 inches from the fence and his overhang from the rain is falling all on the man’s yard.”

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, “I checked today and I can check again if you want. I did not see any. I know that before the construction is done they have to get a permit. If they get the permit then the construction of whatever they are constructing is done. I looked for it today. I can look again if you want.”

Public Works Chairman Coby Clavier stated, “What if he did not get a permit. The neighbor feels that he did not get a permit and just built it right on the property line.”

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, “I can tell you that I have seen a number of lawsuits regarding that as I had text you today. I have one where a building is encroaching on the neighbor’s property. It is called a Petitory Action. Those lawsuits are filed once in a while by neighbors. It sounds like a Civil Lawsuit between two private landowners. That is what it sounds like. At the beginning when the building is built, they get the permit, if they get the permit they construct it after that if one neighbor encroaches it is a civil lawsuit between two private landowners.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “I did not place this on the agenda because I received a call about it. A woman on Roland Oaks have some concerns. She wanted to know about Speed Bumps. They have had several accidents and one was a fatality due to the speeding. I just want to mention that.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “At the council meeting you can introduce an ordinance

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “That is what I am going to do at the next meeting. The second thing I want to mention if there is anything possible that could be done because, there have been a lot of fatalities in Bayou Teche. Today we had someone that I know very well that passed away in Bayou Teche, the Bayou. Nothing as far as a stop sign was damaged. I don’t know what cause the accident and I don’t know the reason for the accident but my concern is and I am not sure if we can assist in this but I will mention it, is there any way possible that that area of 103 and Church Road have some sand barrels or place some kind of barricade to help. That would stop or slow down some fatalities. In the last 10 years at least 3 people have died at that section. Today it was very foggy and I don’t if that contributed to the accident or not. I am asking what we can do. It is a state highway.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I will get with the Sheriff’s Office tomorrow to see what the investigation concluded. If there is something that we can do to help to prevent it, definitely we will do what we can.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “They do have reflectors but if we can do something to help these fatalities. None of them have been injuries it all has been fatalities. I would appreciate that.”

12. Adjourn

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

On roll call vote: YEAS: Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly and Jimmie Edwards.

NAYS: None. ABSENT: Dexter Brown. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion carried.

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