

**AGENDA**  
**ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2022 @ 6:00 P.M.**  
**OLD CITY MARKET, 131 W. BELLEVUE ST.**  
**OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & INVOCATION (Councilman Coby Clavier)**

**III. ROLL CALL**

**IV. CONDOLENCES**

**V. PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL**

- **Golith Adams (Parcel No. 0103564000) 927 McNeese Street Opelousas, LA**
- **Jeremy Quebedeaux (Parcel No. 0301042300A) 541 Mushroom Road Arnaudville, LA**
- **Councilman Wayne Ardoin (Animal Shelter)**

**VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- Regular Meeting: November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**VII. PARISH PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

- Authorize **Resolution 033-2022** Authorizing St. Landry Parish Government to apply for loans/grants to fund improvements to the Wastewater Treatment Facility and Collection Systems.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS:**

\*Items passed through committee.

1. Authorize Parish President Jessie Bellard to begin the process of getting prices for three Motor Graders and present the findings to the council.
2. Authorize Parish President Jessie Bellard to start the process of gathering information on the cost for the Old Federal Post Office Building and present the findings to the council to see if it is feasible.
3. Authorize Parish President Jessie Bellard to sign the Lease and Operating Agreement between the St. Landry Government and AF & RL Enterprises, LLC to Lease a Hanger at the Airport.
4. Authorize Parish President Jessie Bellard to contact Mr. William Jarrell to begin a Study to overlay Flag Station Road, Suzanne Dejean Drive, Aspen Lane, and present the findings back to the council.
5. Authorize Council Clerk to advertise for one appointment to St. Landry Agricultural Arena Authority for a five- year term (01-18-2023 – 01-18-2028).
6. Authorize Council Clerk to advertise for one appointment to Eunice Gravity Drainage District No. 9 of Evangeline and St. Landry Parishes for the remaining of a four - year term. (10-02-2021 - 10-02-2025)
7. Authorize Council Clerk to advertise for one appointment to Prairie Basse Gravity Drainage District No. 15 for the remaining of a four-year term. (02-17-2020 - 02-17-2024)
8. Authorize Council Clerk to advertise for two appointments to Fire District No. 5 for a two-year term. (01-01-2023 – 01-01-2025)

9. Authorize Council Clerk to advertise for three appointments to Fire District No. 6 for a two-year term. (01-18-2023 – 01-18-2025)
10. Authorize Council Clerk to advertise for five appointments to Bayou Mallet & Plaquemine Gravity Drainage District No. 10 for a four-year term. (02-01-2023 - 02-01-2027)
11. Authorize Council Clerk to advertise for two appointments to St. Landry Parish Waterworks District No. 2 (Rural) for a four-year term. (01-01-2023 – 01-01-2027)
12. Authorize the beginning process for the study of Speed Bumps on: Avenue A, Azeline Drive, Hidden Village Lane, Gilbert Drive, and Carl Drive.
13. Vote to appoint David Bourque to the St. Landry Parish Sewer District No. 1 (Linwood Subdivision) to replace Gene Wiley Sylvester. (no term set).
14. Update on the Statue Removal.

**IX. ORDINANCES TO BE INTRODUCED:**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2022-022**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ST. LANDRY PARISH ORDINANCE SECTION 40-165, PRE APPLICATION CONSIDERATION AND DRAINAGE REVIEW.**

Whereas, Chapter 40 of the St. Landry Parish Code of Ordinances require all partitions of property into subdivisions in St. Landry Parish to be reviewed by the St. Landry Parish Government;

**ORDINANCE NO. 2022-023**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ST. LANDRY PARISH ORDINANCE SECTION 24-3 – PAYMENT OF TAX OF THE ST. LANDRY PARISH CODE OF ORDINANCES.**

Whereas, Section 12-16 A of the St. Landry Parish Home Rule Charter grants the St. Landry Parish Council the power and authority to levy and collect taxes;

**ORDINANCE NO. 2023-001**

An Ordinance to set regular meeting dates for the St. Landry Parish Council Meetings for the year 2023 on the third Wednesday of each month at six o'clock p.m. and for the Public Works and Administrative/Finance Committees to meet on the first Wednesday of each month at six o'clock p.m. with the exception of November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 in reserve of All Saint's Day.

**X. ORDINANCES TO BE ADOPTED:**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2022-016 (Sponsored by: Councilman Wayne Ardoin)**

**AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL THE ANIMAL AND FOWL ORDINANCES IN CHAPTER 8, ARTICLES I, II, III, IV, V, VI, AND VII IN THE ST. LANDRY PARISH CODE OF ORDINANCES AND REPLACE THEM IN CHAPTER 8 WITH THE FOLLOWING ANIMAL AND FOWL ORDINANCES**

**WHEREAS**, the St. Landry Parish Home Rule Charter Sections 1-02 and 1-06 establish that, aside from the Section 1-05 management of Parish government affairs power, the Parish government has the special power to pass all ordinances necessary to promote, protect, and preserve the general welfare, safety, health, peace, and orderly conduct of the Parish.

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL FOR ST. LANDRY PARISH GOVERNMENT**

**THAT** the animal and fowl Ordinances in Chapter 8, Articles I, II, III, IV, V, VI, and VII in the St. Landry Parish Code of Ordinances are repealed, and replaced, in Chapter 8 with the following animal and fowl Ordinances which are attached to this Ordinance.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2022-017 (Sponsored by: Councilman Harold Taylor)**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE SOLAR FARMS ORDINANCE 2021-017 TO CHANGE THE DECOMMISSIONING SECTION OF THE ORDINANCE**

**WHEREAS**, the St. Landry Parish Home Rule Charter Sections 1-02 and 1-06 establish that, aside from the Section 1-05 management of Parish government affairs power, the Parish government has the special power to pass all ordinances necessary to promote, protect, and preserve the general welfare, safety, health, peace, and orderly conduct of the Parish, and

**WHEREAS**, the St. Landry Parish Council adopted Ordinance No. 2021-017 on November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Establishing Regulations and Permit Requirements for Solar Farms, and

**WHEREAS**, this amendment amends Section 9 of the Solar Farm Ordinance regarding the decommissioning plan for a solar farm, and

**WHEREAS** this amendment adds Section 10 to the Solar Farm Ordinance under the heading of “Legal Fund Established”, whereby one- and one-half percent (1½%) of the proceeds derived from the payment-in-lieu-of taxes for ad valorem taxes from all taxing bodies is deposited into a special fund to be used to pay all legal fees and cost associated with potential litigation arising from Solar Farms construction, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning; and

**WHEREAS** this amendment adds Section 11 to the Solar Farm Ordinance under the heading of “Economic Development Fund Established” whereby one-and one-half percent (1½%) of the proceeds derived from the payment-in-lieu-of taxes for ad valorem taxes from all taxing bodies is deposited into a special fund to be used future Economic Development projects in St. Landry Parish.

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL FOR ST. LANDRY PARISH GOVERNMENT that the Solar Farms Ordinance 2021-017 is hereby amended and shall now read as follows:**

**1. Purpose.**

The purpose of this ordinance article is to promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the citizens of St. Landry Parish by regulating solar farms located within St. Landry Parish.

**2. Definitions.**

For the purposes of this Chapter the following terms shall mean:

- (a) Solar energy: Radiant energy received from the sun that can be collected in the form of heat or light by a solar collector.
- (b) Solar energy system: A device or structural design feature intended to provide for collection, storage, and distribution of solar energy for heating or cooling, electricity generation, or water heating.
- (c) Solarfarm: The use of land where a series of solar collectors and related equipment and accessories are placed in an area on a parcel of land for the purpose of generating photovoltaic power. A Solar farm shall not be interpreted to mean one or more solar collectors intended to provide electrical power generation for a single residential dwelling or commercial property.

**3. Permits and Fees.**

- (a) Prior to placing, establishing, expanding, or substantively altering the operation of a solar farm, a permit must be obtained by the developer of the solar farm from St. Landry Parish Government. Permits shall be issued only after the plan therefor has been approved as provided for in this section.
- (b) The developer of the solar farm shall submit a Solar Farm Permit Application along with the plans for

the proposed solar farm. Each Solar Farm Permit Application will include a site plan showing all property to be included in the project, all access roads, drainage study, environmental study, and a traffic plan.

(c) The Solar Farm Permit Application and site plan shall be reviewed by the Parish Engineer.

(d) If the Parish Engineer disapproves of the solar farm plan and project, the developer shall be given sixty days to correct the problems cited by the Parish Engineer for rejection of the plan and project, and then the developer may resubmit the permit application to the Parish Engineer for approval. If the Parish Engineer approves of the solar farm plan and project, the developer of the solar farm shall conduct at least one community meeting to provide adjacent landowners and the public an opportunity to ask questions and discuss the project. The community meeting shall be conducted prior to obtaining the permit for the solar farm. Notice of the time and location of the public meeting shall be published at least twice in the official journal before the public meeting.

(e) After the community meeting the Solar Farm Permit Application and site plan shall be presented to the St. Landry Parish Council at a council meeting to approve or deny the solar farm permit.

(f) If a permit for the solar farm is granted, the developer of the solar farm shall pay a fee of \$1,000.00 to the St. Landry Parish government for a solar farm consisting of 500 acres or less, and for a solar farm consisting of more than 500 acres, the fee shall be \$1000.00 plus an additional \$1.00 for each acre in excess of 500 acres. The applicable permit fee shall be determined by consideration of the entire project, inclusive of buffer zones and access roads.

(g) A solar farm permit issued under this Chapter may be transferred or assigned, with the assignee being obligated to all requirements of the permit and this Chapter. However, written notice of such transfer or assignment shall be made to the St. Landry Parish government and the identity of the new permittee shall be noted in the Parish records.

(h) The issuance of a permit under this ordinance shall serve as the agreement and acknowledgment by the permittee, and its successors and assigns, as well as the property owners, that the St. Landry Parish government shall have standing to enforce any and all provisions and obligations of this ordinance.

(i) A solar farm permit shall expire one year from the date of issuance if construction has not yet commenced on the solar farm.

#### **4. Single or Multiple Tracts.**

(a) A solar farm may be operated on a single contiguous tract or multiple contiguous tracts, either with ownership by the developer/applicant, under one or more leases in which the developer/applicant is a lessee, or any combination thereof.

(b) Any solar farm permit issued for a solar farm which relies upon one lease agreement shall become null and void upon the termination of said lease agreement, unless the lease agreement is terminated because the developer/applicant has been conveyed ownership of the property previously subject to the lease. In the case of a solar farm permit issued for a solar farm which relies on more than one lease agreement, if one of the lease agreements is terminated the solar farm permit shall become null and void only to the part of the project or solar farm that is affected by the lease termination by being on the land subject to the lease that was terminated.

#### **5. Traffic Plan.**

(a) The plan for a proposed solar farm shall include a traffic plan for the movement of vehicles that will use parish roads during the construction, maintenance and decommissioning of the solar farm.

(b) The plan shall provide for the remediation of any damages occasioned to parish roads during the construction or erection, maintenance, and decommissioning of the solar farm.

#### **6. Drainage Plan.**

(a) The plan for a proposed solar farm shall include a drainage plan.

(b) The drainage plan shall include an hydrologic and hydraulic (H&H) analysis to establish that the solar farm will not have any adverse impact on the parish drainage system or adjacent property owners, or, alternatively, the drainage plan shall establish a plan for remediating any adverse impact on the parish drainage system or adjacent property owners that may result from the construction of and the operation of the solar farm. The plan shall also include an ongoing schedule of water sampling and testing of water runoff from the site of the solar farm.

**7. Buffer Zones.**

- (a) The plan for a proposed solar farm shall include the provision of a buffer zone around the perimeter of the solar farm.
- (b) The buffer zone shall include a setback of not less than 150 feet from the center of any adjacent public roadway.
- (c) The buffer zone shall include a setback of at least 150 feet from any residence, unless otherwise waived by the homeowner, and 50 feet from any adjacent property line used for residential purposes at the time of the application.
- (d) Each buffer zone shall include a stand of trees or shrubbery, between the operational area of the solar farm and the adjacent roadway or property owner, to screen the solar farm from view, the sufficiency of which is subject to review and approval as part of the plan.
- (e) The buffer zone shall be maintained in such a manner so as to not present a nuisance as provided for otherwise in the Code of Ordinances.

**8. Secured access and Lighting.**

- (a) The plan for a proposed solar farm shall include a plan for secured limited access to the solar farm by a security fence no less than 6 feet nor no greater than 8 feet in height.
- (b) Lighting. To reduce light pollution, lighting for the solar farm shall be limited to the minimum lighting reasonably necessary for its safe operation, and the lighting shall be directed downward where reasonably feasible.

**9. Decommissioning plan.**

- (a) The plan for a proposed solar farm shall include a decommissioning plan for the remediation of the area of the solar farm upon the cessation of operations of the solar farm.
- (b) Decommissioning of the solar farm shall begin no later than 12 months after the solar farm has ceased to operate as a solar farm or collect solar energy. For purposes of this provision, temporary cessation of operations of the solar farm due to circumstances beyond the control of the developer, such as force majeure or commercial decisions by the developer’s customers, for a period of less than 12 months would not trigger any decommissioning requirements.
- (c) The decommissioning plan shall provide for the removal of the solar panels, ancillary structures, and other infrastructure utilized in the operation of the solar farm.
- (d) The decommissioning plan shall provide for the remediation of any environmental hazards remaining on the property of the former solar farm, as determined by the EPA, DEQ, or the St. Landry Parish Government.
- (e) Any lease forming a portion of the application for the original permit shall include reference to the decommissioning plan and the funding thereof as a necessary term therein.
- (f) The Developer shall provide a “decommissioning fund” with sufficient funding to remediate all the property encompassing the Solar Farm restoring said property to its original purpose. The developer of the solar farm shall present documentation to St. Landry Parish Government that the decommissioning fund is established.

**10. Legal Fund Established.**

One- and one-half percent (1 ½%) of the proceeds derived from the payment-in-lieu-of taxes for ad valorem taxes from all taxing bodies shall be deposited into a special fund to be used to pay all legal fees and cost associated with potential litigation arising from Solar Farms construction, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning.

**11. Economic Development Fund Established.**

One-and one-half percent (1 ½%) of the proceeds derived from the payment-in-lieu-of taxes for ad valorem taxes from all taxing bodies shall be deposited into a special fund to be used for economic development projects in St. Landry Parish in unincorporated areas and small incorporated municipalities with populations of less than 4,000 residents.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2022-018 (Sponsored by: Councilman Wayne Ardoin)**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ST. LANDRY PARISH ORDINANCE SECTION 2-289, SALE OF ADJUDICATED PROPERTY BY PUBLIC SALE.**

Whereas, Louisiana Revised Statute 47:2201, et seq., provides for parish governments to sell property that has been adjudicated to the parish for non-payment of property taxes by public sale;

Whereas, Louisiana Revised Statute 47:2204 provides that the ordinance that allows for the public sale of adjudicated property by the parish governing authority may subject the public sales to terms and conditions imposed by the parish governing authority;

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL FOR ST. LANDRY PARISH GOVERNMENT THAT Section 2-289, Sale of Adjudicated Property by Public Sale, of the St. Landry Parish Code of Ordinances, is hereby amended and shall now read as follows:

**SEC. 2-289 - SALE OF ADJUDICATED PROPERTY BY PUBLIC SALE.**

(a) Sale of adjudicated property may be made by public sale, in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 47:2201 et seq.

(b) Minimum bid; appraisal.

(1) In the event the parish government elects to set a dollar amount as a minimum bid for the sale of adjudicated property, the minimum bid for the sale of adjudicated property shall include the following:

- a. The total amount of all statutory impositions of the parish government and of any other political subdivision of the state affecting the property;
- b. The total amount of all governmental liens affecting the property;
- c. The costs of adjudication of the property to the parish government at the tax sale of the property, if any; and
- d. The costs of sale of the adjudicated property by public sale

(2) The parish government may, however, by special ordinance provide that the sale of adjudicated property by public sales shall occur after appraisal of the property, rather than as set forth in subsection (b)(1) of this section, in accordance with R.S. 47:2202, in which case the parish government shall appoint a licensed appraiser to appraise and value the property. In such case, the minimum bid at the first public sale of the property shall be at least two-thirds of the appraised value of the property. If the property fails to sell at the first public sale, the minimum bid at the second public sale of the property shall be one-third of the appraised value of the property. If the property fails to sell at the second public sale, the parish government may, by subsequent ordinance, sell the property at the minimum bid set forth in subsection (b)(1) of this section.

(3) In addition, the parish government may, by special ordinance, provide for the sale of adjudicated property at public sale to the highest bidder without setting a minimum bid or requiring an appraisal, in accordance with R.S. 47:2202(A), as amended.

(c) The sale of adjudicated property by public sale may be initiated either by the parish government or by any person, in accordance with the following procedures:

(1) Initiation of public sale by parish government. The parish government may provide by special ordinance for the sale of adjudicated property at a public sale, which ordinance shall contain the following:

- a. The legal description of the adjudicated property to be sold at public sale (including the lot, square and subdivision name, if applicable);
- b. The municipal address of the adjudicated property to be sold at public sale;
- c. The name and address of the owner of record of the property, as reflected in the records of the assessor's office, as of the date of the tax sale by which the property was adjudicated to the parish government or its predecessors.

d. In the event the parish government elects to set a dollar amount as a minimum bid for the sale of adjudicated property, the ordinance shall state the minimum bid for which the property shall be sold. In the event the parish government provides that the sale of adjudicated property shall occur after appraisal, as provided for by subsection (b)(2) of this section, the ordinance shall state that the sale shall be subject to

appraisal. In the event the parish government provides that the sale of adjudicated property shall be without a minimum bid or appraisal, as provided in subsection (b)(3) of this section, the ordinance shall state that the sale shall be to the highest bidder with no minimum bid or appraisal.

(2) Initiation by persons. Whenever a person desires to initiate the sale of adjudicated property by public sale and the parish government, in turn, is willing to sell the property, the person so desiring shall submit an application to the administrative department of the parish government, requesting the sale of such property, which application shall contain the following:

- a. A legal description of property (lot, square and subdivision name, if applicable);
- b. Municipal address of property;
- c. Name of the owner of record of the property at the time of adjudication and the year of the tax sale;
- d. Affidavit certifying the prospective purchaser is not a member of immediate family of property owner or entity in which owner has a substantial economic interest;
- e. A copy of tax sale deed evidencing the recordation in excess of three years;
- f. A copy of current tax bill;
- g. An executed offer letter to purchase the property;
- h. Deposits.

1. A deposit, by cash, certified cashier's check, or money order, in an amount as established by the parish council from time to time, to cover the expenses of the public sale, including advertising, appraisals (if applicable), legal fees of the parish government in connection with the sale, title abstract and mortgage certificate costs and all other costs associated with the public sale.

2. In the event the applicant is the highest bidder at the public sale of the adjudicated property, any unused funds on deposit shall be applied to the purchase price of the property sold at the public sale. If there are remaining funds on deposit after the payment of the purchase price of the property sold at the public sale, said remaining funds shall, upon authentication of the sale as described hereinbelow, be refunded to the applicant.

3. In the event the applicant fails to be the highest bidder at the public sale of the adjudicated property, this deposit shall be refunded to the applicant. In the event, however, that no one at the public sale bids up to the minimum amount, if any, required for the sale of the property, then the deposit shall be retained by the parish government to pay the costs and expenses of the public sale; provided, however, that any monies remaining on deposit after the payment of said costs and expenses shall be refunded to the applicant.

(d) Advertising.

(1) In the event of initiation of sale of adjudicated property by public sale by the parish government or any person, the public sale shall be advertised twice in the official journal of the parish government, the first advertisement being at least 30 days prior to the date of the public sale, and the second advertisement being no more than seven days prior to the date of the public sale. Each advertisement shall be on a form prescribed by the parish government, and shall contain the following information:

- a. Notice of the sale;
- b. The amount of the minimum bid, if any. If the sale is subject to appraisal, the advertisement shall so state. If the sale is without minimum bid or appraisal, the advertisement shall so state;
- c. The name and address of the department within the parish government to which bids shall be submitted;
- d. The date, time and physical and/or electronic addresses of in-person bidding on the property;
- e. A description of the property to be sold at public sale (including the lot, square and subdivision name, if applicable), as well as the municipal address of the property (if applicable);
- f. Any other terms which the parish government may require.

(2) All bids shall be on a form, either written or electronic, prescribed by the parish government.

(e) All bids received shall be submitted by the administrative department to the full parish council at its next regularly scheduled meeting, at which time the parish council may adopt an ordinance approving the sale of the property to the highest bidder, as provided by R.S. 47:2204. The ordinance, if adopted, shall include the following requirements:

(1) A requirement that the purchaser certify in writing to the administrative department of the parish government that he or his agent has examined the mortgage and conveyance records of the parish to determine the names and last known addresses of:

- a. The tax debtor at the time of the tax sale of the property;
- b. Any person requesting notice pursuant to R.S. 47:2159;

- c. The owner of the property, including the owner of record at the time of the tax sale of the property;
- d. Any other person holding an interest in the property, including a mortgage, privilege, lien or other encumbrance on the property, and including a tax sale purchaser.

Attached to this certification shall be a written list of all names and last known addresses of the persons listed hereinabove;

(2) A requirement that the purchaser of the adjudicated property shall send the written notice to any person described in subsection (e)(1) of this section in the form provided by R.S. 47:2206(A). A copy of said written notice shall be furnished to the administrative department of the parish government with a certification that the notice has been sent to said persons;

(3) A requirement that the purchaser file in the mortgage records of the parish a copy of the written notice required in subsection (e)(2) of this section, and furnish the administrative department of the parish government with stamped copies of the recorded notice;

(4) A requirement that the purchaser shall cause to be published in the official records of the parish a notice in the form prescribed by R.S. 47:2206(B), and furnish to the administrative department of the parish government with an affidavit of publication of said notice prepared by the official journal;

(5) An acknowledgment in writing from the purchaser that the adjudicated property is sold without any warranty, except a warranty against eviction resulting from a prior alienation of the property by the parish government or its predecessor;

(6) The name and address of the purchaser, the amount of money for which the property has been sold and a requirement that the purchaser remit the purchase price of the property, by cash, cashier's/certified check or money order, contemporaneously with the furnishing of the other documents listed in this subsection (e), with an appropriate credit for any sums previously deposited for costs by the purchaser.

(f) Authentication of sale.

(1) At the expiration of the 60-day or six-month redemption periods, set forth in R.S. 47:2206(A) and (B), the purchaser shall begin the process of authentication of the sale of the adjudicated property within ninety days of receiving the letter from St. Landry Parish Government notifying them that they have successfully bid on the property, and the purchaser shall complete the authentication process, including the satisfaction of any terms, conditions, and requirements set forth in the ordinances providing for the sale of adjudicated property, within nine months of beginning the authentication process. If the purchaser does not begin and complete the authentication process within this time period the adjudicated property shall be sold to the person(s) or entity that was the next highest bidder in the sale of the property. The authentication of the sale of the adjudicated property shall be as provided in R.S. 47:2207.

(2) The authentication shall be in the form of an act of sale prescribed by R.S. 47:2207(B), which act of sale shall be prepared and filed into the conveyance records of the parish. The purchaser shall pay all costs incurred in preparing, filing and/or recording the said act of sale authenticating the sale. The act of sale authenticating the sale of the adjudicated property shall be without warranty, except a warranty against eviction resulting from a prior alienation of the property by the parish government or its predecessor, as provided in R.S. 47:2207(A).

(g) Contemporaneously with filing the act of sale authenticating the sale as provided in subsection (f) of this section, the purchaser shall file, at his cost, an affidavit into the mortgage records of the parish in the form prescribed by R.S. 47:2208, and shall furnish to the administrative department of the parish government with a stamped copy of the recorded affidavit. The filing of said affidavit shall, in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 47:2208(B), operate as a cancellation, termination, release and erasure of record of all statutory impositions of all political subdivisions then due and owing, of all governmental liens and of all interests, liens, mortgages, privileges and other encumbrances recorded against the property sold and listed in the affidavit.

(h) Proceeds of sale.

(1) Except as otherwise agreed upon by the holders of statutory impositions and governmental liens, all proceeds from the sale of adjudicated property by public sale, after the deduction of costs of the sale, shall be paid on a pro rata basis to the holders of such statutory impositions and governmental liens;

(2) Any amount in excess of the costs of the sale, statutory impositions and governmental liens shall be paid to the parish government.

(i) In the event the adjudicated property is redeemed within the redemption periods set forth in R.S. 47:2206(A) and (B), then all sums deposited or paid by the purchaser for the purchase price of the



adjudicated property shall be refunded to the purchaser by the parish government, with legal interest, written 30 days after the parish government is notified of said redemption.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2022-019 (Sponsored by: Councilwoman Mildred Thierry)**

**AN ORDINANCE TO ABANDON THIERRY ROAD IN ST. LANDRY PARISH**

WHEREAS, St. Landry Parish Government has decided to abandon Thierry Road in St. Landry Parish because Thierry Road is no longer needed for public purposes, as per Louisiana Revised Statute 48:701.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL FOR ST. LANDRY PARISH GOVERNMENT that Thierry Road in St. Landry Parish, which runs for 2,230 feet from Texas Eastern Road to a dead end, is hereby abandoned and shall be a private road.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2022-020 (Sponsored by: Councilman Jimmie Edwards)**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ST. LANDRY PARISH ORDINANCE SECTION 26-21, PROHIBITIONS.**

Whereas, St. Landry Parish Ordinance Section 26-21 states the prohibition against allowing property found to be a nuisance by having noxious weeds, grass, or deleterious, unhealthy or noxious growth on the property;

Whereas, the St. Landry Parish Council hereby amends St. Landry Parish Ordinance Section 26-21 which to provide for a fine and administrative fee for property owners who violate this Article;

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL FOR ST. LANDRY PARISH GOVERNMENT THAT Section 26-21, Prohibitions, of the St. Landry Parish Code of Ordinances, is hereby amended and shall now read as follows:

Sec. 26-21. - Prohibitions.

(a) Properties within the city limits and occupied subdivisions and neighborhoods in the unincorporated areas. No owner, tenant or occupant of any leased, occupied or unoccupied lot, place, property, or area shall permit any noxious weeds, grass, or deleterious, unhealthy, or noxious growth over 12 inches in height to grow, stand, or accumulate on any lot, place, or area leased or occupied by the such owner, tenant, or occupant, or on any abutting sidewalk or neutral ground within any residential area; nor shall the owner, tenant, or occupant allow a lot, place, or area of any abutting sidewalk or neutral ground to become a haven for rodents, other dangerous animals, or reptiles in any residential area.

(b) Properties outside occupied subdivisions and neighborhoods. No owner, tenant, or occupant of any leased, owned, or occupied lot, place, property, or area within the jurisdiction of the parish government, and located outside an occupied subdivision or neighborhood, shall permit any weeds, grass, or deleterious, unhealthy, or noxious growths or matter over 24 inches in height to grow, stand, or accumulate on any lot, place, or area leased, owned or occupied by the owner, tenant or occupant, or any abutting sidewalk or neutral ground located within any residential area; nor shall such owner, tenant or occupant allow such lot or area, or any abutting sidewalk of neutral ground to become a haven for rodents or other dangerous animals.

(c) Upon committing a violation of this section the property owner shall be issued a citation, and shall be assessed with a fine of \$100.00 for the first violation, \$200.00 for the second violation, and \$300.00 for the third and subsequent violations, and the fine shall be paid to the St. Landry Parish Government within 45 days of the issuance of the citation. The citation shall also set a court date for the property owner to appear in St. Landry Parish District Court on a civil court date.

(d) In addition to the costs owed by the property owner in Section 26-24, the property owner shall owe an administrative fee of \$100.00 if the St. Landry Parish Government must perform the work

pursuant to the provisions of this Article.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2022-021 (Sponsored by: Councilman Wayne Ardoin)**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ST. LANDRY PARISH ORDINANCE SECTION 26-23, AUTHORITY OF THE PARISH PRESIDENT OR HIS DESIGNEE TO ENTER PROPERTY.**

**Whereas**, St. Landry Parish Ordinance Section 26-23 authorizes the Parish President or his designee to enter property found to be a nuisance by having noxious weeds, grass, or deleterious, unhealthy or noxious growth on the property, and remove the nuisance from the property if the owner of the property will not remove the nuisance;

**Whereas**, the St. Landry Parish Council hereby amends St. Landry Parish Ordinance Section 26-23 to provide for a registered or certified letter to be sent to the property owner by the Parish President or his designee;

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL FOR ST. LANDRY PARISH GOVERNMENT THAT** Section 26-23, Authority of the Parish President or his Designee to enter property, of the St. Landry Parish Code of Ordinances, is hereby amended and shall now read as follows:

Sec. 26-23. - Authority of the parish president or his designee to enter property.

(a) The parish president or his designee is hereby authorized to enter property found to be in violation of this article, and to cut, rake and remove any noxious weed, grass, or deleterious, unhealthy or noxious growth, on occupied or unoccupied property, growing or standing on any sidewalk or banquette, or on any lot, place, or area, provided no such work shall be undertaken by the parish president or his designee until the owner of the lot, place, or area, or the owners of the property abutting the sidewalk or banquette shall have had the opportunity to do the work at least within 15 days after receipt of a registered or certified letter by the Parish President or his designee.

(b) In lieu of the notice prescribed in subsection (a) of this section, the parish president or his designee shall be authorized to undertake the work under the following circumstances or upon the giving of the following notice, to wit:

(1) If the owner of any lot or other real property is unknown or his whereabouts is not known, a sign giving notice of the violation and of the intent to abate the violation shall be posted by the president or his designee upon or near the premises and may, at the option of the president or his designee, be published in the official journal of the parish one time at least three days before the work is performed. The president or his designee shall make an affidavit setting out the facts as to unknown address.

(2) All costs incurred by the parish government in effecting notice to the owner shall be included in the costs specified in section 26-24.

**XI. RESOLUTIONS TO BE ADOPTED:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 030 - 2022  
ANNUAL CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE  
WITH THE STATE OF LOUISIANA  
OFF SYSTEM BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the Code of Federal Regulations as enacted by the United States Congress mandates that all structures defined as bridges located on all public road shall be inspected, rated for safe load capacity and posted in accordance with the National Bridge Inspection standards and that an inventory of these bridges be maintained by each State; and

WHEREAS, the responsibility to inspect, rate and load-post Parish bridges is under the authority of St. Landry Parish Government in accordance with standards as delegated by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (herein referred to as DOTD) for the period of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023.

1.The Parish has performed all interim inspections on all Parish owned or maintained bridges in accordance with the National Bridge Inspection Standards.

2. All parish owned or maintained bridges, which require load posting or closing, have been posted or closed in accordance with the table in the DOTD Engineering Directives and Standards Manual Directive No. 1.1.1.8. DOTD supplies only load posting information concerning bridges that have been critically reviewed prior to load posting.
3. All bridges owned or maintained by the Parish are shown on the attached list in the format specified by DOTD. Corrections to data supplied to the Parish by DOTD are noted.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 031- 2022**

A resolution providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the special elections held in (i) Sub-Road District No. 1 of Road District 11A of the Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana and (ii) Sub-Road District No. 2 of Road District 11A of the Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana, on Tuesday, November 8, 2022, to authorize the levy of special taxes therein.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Parish Council of the Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of (i) Sub-Road District No. 1 of Road District 11A of the Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana and (ii) Sub-Road District No. 2 of Road District 11A of the Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana (the "Districts"), that:

SECTION 1. Canvass. This Governing Authority does now proceed in open and public session to examine the official tabulations of votes cast at the special elections held in (i) Sub-Road District No. 1 of Road District 11A of the Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana and (ii) Sub-Road District No. 2 of Road District 11A of the Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana, on TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2022, to authorize the levy of special taxes therein, and said Governing Authority does further proceed to examine and canvass the returns and declare the result of the special elections.

SECTION 2. Election Results. According to the official certified tabulation of votes cast at said Elections, (i) there was a total of 476 votes cast IN FAVOR OF Sub-Road District No. 1 of Road District 11A Proposition and a total of 586 votes cast AGAINST Sub-Road District No. 1 of Road District 11A Proposition, resulting in a majority of 110 votes cast AGAINST Sub-Road District No. 1 of Road District 11A Proposition and (ii) there was a total of 528 votes cast IN FAVOR OF Sub-Road District No. 2 of Road District 11A Proposition and a total of 805 votes cast AGAINST Sub-Road District No. 2 of Road District 11A Proposition, resulting in a majority of 277 votes cast AGAINST Sub-Road District No. 2 of Road District 11A Proposition. The Propositions were therefore duly DEFEATED by a majority of the votes cast by the qualified electors voting at the Elections.

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

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

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

### **RESOLUTION NO. 032-2022**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL THAT THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE ST. LANDRY PARISH COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY IS AUTHORIZED TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE LOUISIANA HOUSING CORPORATION IN ORDER TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP) GRANT.

**XII. COMMITTEE MINUTES:**

**ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL  
ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 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. Councilman Coby Clavier led the Pledge of Allegiance & Invocation
3. **Roll Call:** Jerry Red Jr., Nancy Carriere, Easton Shelvin, Harold Taylor, Wayne Ardoin, Timmy Lejeune and Ex-Officio Vivian Olivier. **ABSENT:** None.
4. Person to address the Committee:
  - *Ms. Pat Mason-Guillory addressed the council.* She stated, “Good evening Madam Chairlady and Councilmembers. I would like to remind you that today marks 81 years of the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor during World War 2 in 1941. I had the honor to celebrate with Mr. Joseph Richard and his family at a Luncheon in Lafayette in his honor. He is the only surviving member of Pearl Harbor attack in the state of Louisiana. Mr. Joseph Richard is 99 years old and he is still going strong. I am here today with Ms. Martha Ford on behalf of the Veterans Memorial Committee to extend an invitation to you to attend the Ceremony at the Memorial on next Friday, December 16th, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. As you all may recall I have spoken to you all about Walmart Transportation Department donating Christmas Wreaths. It is a national celebration across this nation. All over this nation different organizations along with the Veterans Memorial Committee will be putting wreaths on the graves of their loved ones. We have combined with the Walmart Distribution Center. The distribution center here in Opelousas is a major stock for the trucks. Four years ago the manager, Mr. Michel Bell Chamber in conjunction with the Society would give wreaths to the families of the fallen. We have asked them to extend this so that each one of you as a councilmember would attend the ceremony and take one back to a family not just a fallen hero but just a loved one, a veteran that is deceased. On next Friday at 2:00 p.m. we will have a short ceremony where we will present each one of you a wreath. If you are unable to attend you can send a representative to receive the wreath at the memorial. I also want to remind you that I have set up thirteen chairs so you don’t want your seat to be empty. Thank you, Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.”
  - *Mr. Don Leger addressed the council.* He stated, “Good evening Mr. Parish President and members of the council. I am here to speak on item number 5 of the agenda. It is to start the process of purchasing the Old Federal Post Office. We have already discussed that at another meeting. We talked about it and I thought that the council was real clear, at least I left with a clear impression. Ladies and gentlemen do you all think that we can afford another building? What is the purchase price? Can we do a study and slow this thing down to see what we are going to use this building for? I challenge anybody here to tell me how many buildings you all own. I was here when you could not get insurance to cover the roofs that were leaking. Parish Government is here to serve us and serve us well and you all are doing a real good job but I don’t think that it was intended that you all should build a real estate empire. If we need more meeting space maybe we could use a courtroom at night or something I don’t know but somebody ought to study the space or at least look at it. How much will this building cost? What is the renovation going to cost? Is there asbestos in it? Is it handicapped accessible? I can tell you that no. How much does an elevator cost? Does anybody here own a building with an elevator? If you had you would wish you never had because the maintenance would kill you. I am just asking you all to slow down and take a look at it. What are we doing? Can anybody tell you what the cost will be or what we will use it for? Until we can do that I rather not proceed with getting another building. Thank you.”
  - *Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,* “Mr. Leger, you have another speaker card request here.”

- *Mr. Don Leger stated, "That is for the next meeting."*
- *Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Is there anyone else that would like to speak on the public comment section?"*

5. Parish President & Finance Report:

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "We spoke in a previous meeting about Motor Graders. We want to start the process of buying three Motor Graders so we can have in place by next October. If we buy them today it will be next July before we will get them in. I want to start the process of getting the quotes and see what will it cost to buy three of them and start the finance options once we get the quotes in."*

*Councilman Timmy Lejeune questioned, "What you are asking for and I just want to make sure that it is clear, you want us to authorize you to start looking into a possibility of purchasing rather than leasing or look at both options and see which one would be beneficial to the parish, is that what you are asking?"*

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "They said that we would have to bid them out to find out what the cost will be so we can bid it out and find out what the cost is going to be compared to what we are being told about the lease. We are being told approximately \$5,000.00 a month on leasing versus buying."*

*Councilman Harold Taylor questioned, "Mr. Bellard, I was not able to make either of the meetings. Are we also going to look into the possibility of having a lease with another firm?"*

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Yes, we had to put out a bid. There are only three companies that meet that criteria on Motor Graders, Caterpillar, John Deere and Volvo. Volvo was the least amount you would pay but you will also have the less quality when it comes to the actual equipment. We will put out specs basically from Caterpillar and John Deere. We want to make sure that we get good quality stuff."*

*Councilman Alvin Stelly questioned, "Jessie what is the difference between Leasing and Purchasing. I know on our drainage board we use to buy our machines and we quite buying because on a lease purchase you can turn them in every three years and get a new one so you never really go out of warranty but when you purchase a machine and after so many years everything is on you. You won't have a warranty anymore unless you buy a high maintenance warranty."*

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "The purchase of the equipment is roughly \$334,000.00 for each piece right now. We are paying \$2,600.00 per month per machine and it will double next. So that is roughly \$5,000.00 a month. When we turn them back in we have no equity in them at all. We have to turn them back in with new tires on them and put a new wind shields. We need to get it back to where it needs to be and somebody else buys it and use it. The only thing that they are doing on a lease right now is changing the oil. We still have to change all of the blades and we still have to do everything that is outside of the warranty. A warranty comes with a new machine. What I am planning on doing when the warranty goes out I will trade it back in and whatever equity we have we will put it towards another machine and we will start having some equity in a machine instead of just paying the lease. The only thing is trying to get the price down as much as we can per month because even at \$5,000.00 a month I think that is kind of pushing it."*

*Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "I would like to make a motion that we authorize the Parish President to start the process so we can have a better idea of what decision and what direction we are going to take."*

*Councilman Easton Shelvin stated, "I second."*

*Councilman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "Mr. Chairman, so your motion is for what it says right here?"*

*Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "Yes sir."*

*Councilman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "Because it says authorize approval to purchase three motor graders."*

*Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "It is not to approve a purchase. It is to start the process and look at prices so he can show us the difference between both and we can make a decision."*

*Councilman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "So it is totally different than this."*

*Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "I understand, it is not an approval."*

*Councilman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "I just wanted to make sure."*

*Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "You want to read the motion Ms. Sherell so we will all be on the same track."*

*Council Clerk Sherell Jordan stated, "We have a motion by Mr. Timmy to start the process to get prices for motor graders from different vendors and bring the prices back to the council. And we have a second by Mr. Easton Shelvin."*

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Easton Shelvin to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, December 21, 2022** to authorize the Parish President to begin the process of getting prices for three Motor Graders and present the findings to the council.

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

**Motion forwarded.**

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,* “The next item is to start the process of purchasing the Old Federal Post Office across the street from the Courthouse. The purchase price on that building is \$500,000.00. It is owned by Dr. Freddie Fandal out of Port Barre. We spoke to him a couple of times in the pass. He had a bid on it and somebody backed out of it. He contacted us and we are looking to purchase that building. The estimated cost to revise it and bring it back into a usable facility and make sure that it is ready to rent would be about \$1.5 Million Dollars. It would be done through the Federal Grant Policy. Inaudible conclusion.

*Councilman Harold Taylor stated,* “First of all, I know they are asking \$500,000.00 but have you had it appraised?”

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,* “We have not started nothing on that I just wanted to get the ball rolling to start the project. Inaudible conclusion.

*Councilman Harold Taylor stated,* “Frankly I think that we have too many buildings to maintain. If I am correct we had to get a State Grant to do the roof on the courthouse, we had to get a State Grant to the roof on here, We had to get a State Grant to.....

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,* “That is not true.”

*Councilman Harold Taylor stated,* “Yes we did too.”

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,* “Not true.”

*Councilman Harold Taylor stated,* “That is true. It is through Capital Outlay. First of all I think we have enough buildings and I cannot vote to buy this building. Thank you very much Mr. Chairman.”

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,* “Let me just answer the question. We did not have to do anything with the state, it is an option on the table. Instead of spending our money in General Fund I chose to go to the state and say hey we have some extra Capital Outlay Money, I would like to use it on our buildings that we have in place now. We did not have to do anything to get money from the state that is not true.

*Councilman Harold Taylor stated,* “I am not going to argue with you, this was before you were here Mr. Bellard. I am not going to argue, enough said.”

*Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,* “Point of Order, let’s move on. We are not going to have any arguing.”

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,* “We chose to do that, no, I have the floor, I am talking to the rest of the council. On my next item on the Parish President’s Report is going to be to discuss what we just finished talking about.”

*Councilman Jerry Red Jr., stated,* “I would like the President to finish what he was saying so we can get an understanding.”

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,* “So this process right here, the money is in the ARA Fund, the Federal Money, we use that money to put toward that building and buy that building and bring down town Opelousas back to where it needs to be to some degree. We would rent the space out and generate some revenue so the parish can start collecting some revenue. I am not saying we are in the realtor business, we are not buying buildings to rent them out but that eye sore across the street can come back and have business come back into Opelousas which is the seed of our parish. If we can’t have Opelousas booming then the rest of the parish is going to fail, that is how I feel. So we have the money available to us through Federal Grants so why not use the funds and then later on collect the rent on then use that money to put towards roads and put towards whatever you all want to put it towards on any revenue that is coming in from that building. Now going back to the previous statement, every year we submit, let me take that back, every year since I have been back here we submit through Capital Outlay for Parish Government, after I left they stopped doing that in 2014. Now we are doing this. Every year we will submit, this year I submitted \$5,000,000.00 to do roads. Do we have to do it, no we did not have to do it but it was money coming from the state I am going to ask for it. I asked for \$1,000,000.00 to build us another Hanger at the Airport, did we have to, no, but I will ask for it and if we can get it, we get it and improve our government and improve our whole way of doing business in the parish. We don’t have to do anything when it comes to finding money to do anything to repair our building, we don’t have to do that we chose to do that. It is called good government.”

*Councilman Easton Shelvin questioned,* “Mr. Bellard you did say that the money will not come from Parish Government?”

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,* “It is coming from the ARA Funding, Federal Grants.”

*Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,* “What is the wishes of the Committee on that item that Mr. Bellard just spoke about?”

*Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated,* “I make a motion that we move it to the Full Council. But Mr. Bellard, I want to make sure, I am not going to vote on this issue in the Full Council Meeting until you bring me documentation about everything about this building, not one way or the other. I need more information on this to make a real decision so if you would bring us that information. Anything that you will present to us if it can create revenue sources for the parish I am all for that but I have to make sure that we don’t spend more than the revenue source it could possibly create. So my motion is to move it to the Full Council pending more information.”

*Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "I concur with Mr. Lejeune. I just heard about this less than one hour ago. I am not willing to vote for this either. I will need more information on this. I agree with Mr. Taylor, we are not in the real estate business and I think that it should be further discussed."*

*Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "So Mr. Lejeune you are offering a motion for Mr. Bellard to bring additional information at the Full Council Meeting either this month or next month so you can make a better decision? Do I have a second?"*

*Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "Sure."*

*Councilman Jerry Red Jr stated, "I would second this if we are starting the process of purchasing the old Federal Post Office through a Federal Grant Funding. This is starting the process, going through every step and making sure that this building is what it said it is in order for us to purchase it. We are not purchasing it right now but it is starting the process. I second your motion."*

*Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Are you offering a Substitute Motion?"*

*Councilman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "No, I am seconding his motion."*

*Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Well you can't seconded it and add into it unless you do a Substitute Motion."*

*Councilman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "Is that your motion what is on this paper?"*

*Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "The motion on the table is to send it to full council and ask the Parish President to bring more information so that we can make a comprehensive decision on this, it is not to purchase anything."*

*Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Let's go back, Mr. Lejeune."*

*Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "Let me question Mr. Bellard one more time please. Mr. Bellard it states to start the process of purchasing the Old Federal Post Office through Federal Grant Funding. I still want that information without a doubt. Because I want to make sure that we don't go over our head with this if we do decide, I need that information. The process of looking for Grants or applying for the Grants, I will award that process because we can deny the Grant if we choose not to take the money for that building is that correct?"*

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Yes definitely."*

*Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "I will award you to start the process but that does not give you full approval. The motion is for him to start the process but bring us more information on the spending before it is totally approved. Because if he is going to start the process on the Grant and it is not costing us anything there is a possibility that we need to get that ball rolling if we approve it. I want to see what it will cost before I vote yes completely but authorize him to start his grant process."*

*Councilman Easton Shelvin questioned, "Mr. Bellard can you not start the process to the Grant until the building is purchased, right?"*

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "In order to do the re-have on the building you have to own the building. What we are talking about right here is purchasing of the building and starting the process. In my understanding of starting the process is being able to go and talk to Dr. Fandal and get some concrete numbers and look into seeing who will do the appraisal, looking to see who is going to do the inspection and looking to see who is going to do what. I don't want to start nothing if there is no hope for it. I don't want to waste my time or their time."*

*Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "That is what I am looking for."*

*Councilman Easton Shelvin stated, "We don't want to buy anything until we get all of that information."*

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "No, not buy. I want to start getting information together so I can make sure that when he comes we will have all of that information together."*

*Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "I want restate my motion. I want to withdraw my motion that I had and restate my motion. I want to authorize Mr. Bellard to start the process of gathering information, the cost and everything on the Old Federal Building across the street and presenting it to the council to see if it is feasible."*

*Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "As long as it does not say purchase."*

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Jerry Red Jr., for forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, December 21st, 2022** to authorize the Parish President to start the process of gathering information on the cost for the Old Federal Post Office Building and present the findings to the council to see if it is feasible.

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

**Motion forwarded.**

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "In your packet you all have a letter from the Louisiana Housing Corporation for low income Home Energy Assistance Program. It is an agreement for the Grant Period 10/1/2022 – 9/30/2024. I need to get that approved and sign the contract on that as well. I need it sent to the full council for approval."*

*Councilman Jerry Red Jr., questioned, "Is that the LIHEAP Program?"*

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Correct."*

A motion was made by Councilman Jerry Red Jr., seconded by Councilman Easton Shelvin to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, December 21st, 2022** to authorize the Parish President to sign the Agreement Grant with the Louisiana Housing Corporation.

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

**Motion forwarded.**

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "You should also have a copy of a new lease for a Hanger at the Airport. It is with AF & RL Enterprises, LLC. This company would like to lease a Hanger."*

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, December 21st, 2022** to authorize the Parish President to sign the Lease and Operating Agreement between the St. Landry Parish Government and AF & RL Enterprises, LLC to Lease a Hanger at the Airport.

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

**Motion forwarded.**

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "That is all I have, Ms. Fulop can present her Financials."*

Finance Director Caryn Fulop presented her Financials to the council. She stated,

General Fund Revenue: \$4,488,318.00

Expenditures: \$6,218,313.00

Cash Balance: \$86,586.00

Fund Balance: \$573,373.00

Road and Bridge Fund Revenue: \$3,446,421.00

Expenditures: \$4,273,782.00

Cash Balance: \$172,174.00

Fund Balance: \$1,384.00

*Councilman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "Let's back up. Back to the General Fund. You said that you have \$4.9 and the expenditures were \$6.2 is that correct? And we have a net of a negative \$1.7 is that correct?"*

*Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, "Yes, that is the total for the year. We have been paying for debris removal. The \$500,000.00 from the State until the expenses pick up the debris we have been paying through the General Fund and the \$500,000.00 should be coming as a reimbursement. We had to put that on an invoice to be reimburse."*

*Councilman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "Go ahead to Road and Bridge."*

*Councilman Harold Taylor questioned, "Caryn, you tell me we spent \$6.2 million and we budget \$4.9 million and we are \$1.7 million short, how we are going to cover that? It is in the General Fund on page 5. On page 5 in the actual amount you have \$6,218,313.00 is what we spent actual, is that correct?"*

*Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, "We should be receiving our first Ad Valorem Tax check this month and they are late getting property tax out."*

*Councilman Harold Taylor questioned, "Oh no, this is what we spent, right? We actually budgeted \$4.9 Million is that correct?"*

*Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, "Yes."*

*Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "So we actually spent \$1.7 million more then we budgeted is that correct?"*

*Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, "Are you talking about the original budget for 2022."*

*Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Oh, I give up."*

*Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, "I have this amended budget."*

*Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "I want to know the numbers. Is this the real numbers?"*

*Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, "Yes."*

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "If you all remember correctly she does not put the Ad Valorem that is collected for 2022 for 2021. Remember we took that out and put it in 2021 Financials. So that is the difference in the \$1.7 Million."*

*Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "I am not asking that question, I am saying if we approved \$4.9 million dollars in the General Fund Budget and we spent 6.2 million, why we did not know about this sooner?"*



Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "I just finished explaining that to you Mr. Taylor. The \$4.9 does not reflect that Ad Valorem collected for 2022."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Listen, we budgeted \$4.9 million. That is what you have on here right?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "That is what we showing collected."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "No, we budgeted that. Collected my eye, that is what you budgeted and we spent \$6.2 and we are just hearing about it now. Can you explain?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "I will have to look at it and get back to you on that part."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "That would be appreciative, thank you."

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin questioned, "Ms. Caryn, you stated when Mr. Red asked a questioned that you were waiting on some payment on some storm debris. How much do we have coming to us? Where is that on this report?"

Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, "\$500,000.00. It is debris removal. It should be Account 5900775. As of October 31st, we have \$232 Thousand Dollars."

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "\$232,350.00, yes I see the figure that you have there."

Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, "The Liability Insurance doubled."

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Wait you are jumping."

Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, "I am trying to figure out what increased on the Liability Insurance. We had to pay \$95,000.00 down payment by the end of September and it doubled."

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Let's get back to the debris money. Is this money owed to us right now in the amount of \$232 thousand dollars?"

Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, "Up to \$500,000.00."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "We spent \$232 thousand dollars on picking up debris is that correct?"

Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, "Yes."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "We are only going to get reimbursed \$232 thousand dollars on debris they will not give us an extra \$250 or \$267 thousand dollars if we did not spend is that correct?"

Finance Director Caryn Fulop response was inaudible.

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "So unless we can prove to them that we spent up to \$500,000.00 we won't receive any more. Is that all of the expenditures, \$232 or what you are telling me is that we do have \$267 thousand dollars more in expenditures that have not been reported and we are expecting to get the whole \$500,000.00 back at one time."

Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, "As of October 31 we have \$232 thousand dollars of expenditures. We have not spent more in debris removal pick up since the end of October. We are planning on spending the whole \$500,000.00."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "You have not."

Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, "We will, yes."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "But you have not"

Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, "Not yet, no. We were just awarded this in July."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "I understand. I just want to make sure that I understand that we are not getting \$500,000.00 unless we spend \$267,000.00 more."

Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, "Yes."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "So that does not change anything on \$6,218,000.00 I understand what Mr. Taylor is saying, he is saying that we gave you all \$5,000,000.00 to spend and you all spent \$6,200,000.00 so you all went over budget. Not rather if we had revenue or not, we authorized \$5,000,000.00 worth of expenditures and you spent \$6.2 million dollars, is that what happened?"

Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, "Yes."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "Okay."

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "I might be nick-picking but I want to ask a couple of questions. When you go back to the actual amount that was budgeted for gasoline, subscriptions, rent expenses, office expenses, nothing was budgeted but gasoline but we spent \$4,000.00. Why wasn't anything budgeted for the gasoline and for subscriptions, nothing was budgeted but we spent \$18,000.00. Then we went over budget because we budgeted for the Grant Expenditures, \$21,000.00 but we spent \$99,000.00. I just want to understand how we went over."

Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, "Well there are so many accounts. I have broken up some of the accounts so that we could budget better because things were being lumped into one account before. I have the amended budget which shows all of the breakdown with the amended budget amount. Before everything was being lumped together and you could not get a real picture of what you all were spending it on."

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "So you are saying we budgeted \$3,200.00 for the insurance for the Yambilee Building but how did we end out spending \$8,900.00? Did the insurance go up?"

Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, "Yes all building insurance doubled."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "When you all get your packets you will see in there that you all have to understand that we had cash in the accounts from the Ad Valorem that we received in January. It is not going to show in your financials that you see right there but when you get your packet from the amended budget you will see that we estimated the \$6.6 million dollars. We have not over spent the budget but at the end of the year when it counts. We don't collect taxes year round in Ad Valorem. So the cash is in the bank, we are not short of cash and when you get to the amended budget it will show you that we have \$6.6 anticipated revenue coming in by the end of the year and it will end up being a net of \$600,000.00."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "So we budgeted \$4,900,000.00 to General Fund Expense is that correct?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Right."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Okay, we never authorized you to spend more than that is that correct?" Is that correct? We did not authorize you to spend any more than what we budgeted for, is that correct?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Whatever is budgeted I have spent, yes."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Yes, but you spent more than that, you spent \$6.2 million according to this, is that correct?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Right."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Why did you not come to us sooner and tell us that you were going to be over budgeted."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "We are not going to be over budgeted. We will not be over the 5% variance."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Did you just not tell me that we budgeted \$4.9 million?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "\$4.9 million on the....."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "That is gospel. If you agree that that is the number that we budgeted the first of the year that is gospel is that correct? We never authorized you to spend \$6.2 million that is the point. That is our job to appropriate that is what I am trying to say. If you are going to ask us to amend the budget and make it whatever the numbers are."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "We are amending the budget at the end of the year."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Don't you think you should have let us know that you over spent \$1.2 million dollars? I am just asking the question."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "And we got in \$500,000.00 more in revenue to over set the expenditures."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Jessie then you should have come to us to amend that and put in the budget that you spent it."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "You are amending the budget at the end of this year."

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "But it is not at this time though Jessie. Now the \$500,000.00 where are you getting that from? The ARA."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "No, the \$500,000.00 will be coming from the State for that money that they gave us in July. We will have more money that what you see on spent. Let me ask you all this question. In the history of the Government have you all ever amended the budget at the end of the year?"

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "We sure have."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "So that was anticipated."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "It was routine."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Routine."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Routine."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Well I will ask the council for a copy."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "If we can provide services and we need to amend the budget we will go along with it, just tell us, don't surprise us like this where the press will start writing up that we can't even follow a budget for heaven's sakes I am through. Thank you."

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Are there any other questions for Ms. Caryn? Ms. Caryn let me ask you something so we don't have moments like we have had tonight. Don't you think sometimes you need to maybe make a phone call to the Finance Committee and try to have a meeting so you will enlighten us of what is getting ready to happen? You have jumped from: It has cost us more money for insurance, it cost us more money and we have not received the money from the pick up from the Storm Debris. You have jumped around on why it is costing us more money. I think before we have a meeting, we need to sit down and discuss like Mr. Bellard had this evening when he wanted to discuss the federal building and three or four items that we have discussed tonight so it will not be disheartening for you. Am I correct?"

Finance Directory Caryn Fulop stated, "Yes Sir, I will make sure."

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "I think you need to come to us. We are the ones that allocate the money for you all, am I correct? For you all to be able to spend. I just think that you need to think about that."

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "Ms. Caryn, let me just say this. It would probably be a good idea that we meet up and go over this. It can get very embarrassing. I know you are very qualified so it would be good if we could meet ahead of time so that way we won't have this."

Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, "I had put it out last week so if there were questions you could have had time to call and ask me."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Mr. Chairman, whenever we send out the packet like last Friday we sent out the packet, you all wait until the day to ask the questions. I am just trying to figure this out. It is okay though. If you all want to have meeting, we will have meetings. I can promise you all that."

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "That is fine and dandy. But the thing about it is, do you think I like this conversation that we are having here tonight?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "We will have plenty of meetings, I am good, I am good on meetings."

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Ms. Caryn, do you want to proceed with your financials? I think you are at the Road and Bridge Fund."

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Mr. Red you had the floor. Do you still want the floor?"

Councilman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "The only thing I want is for you to just take your time. When I go over and I see something I will ask a question. That is why I asked a question about the \$1.7 that I saw that was over the amount that was allocated for. Just briefly go through it so I guess we can all make sure we are going through it and know what we are looking at. That is all I have."

Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, "Fund 23 Health Unit."

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Go back to Road and Bridge."

Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated:

Road and Bridge Fund

Revenue: \$3,446,421.00

Expenditures: \$4,273,782.00

Councilman Harold Taylor questioned, "Okay, on page 7, amount spent: \$4,273,782.00 and we budgeted \$2,502,000.00 and a deficit of \$1,771.782 again, why did we not know about this before today? I rest my case."

Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, "There is an entry that I made and it is not reflected on here. It proceeds from the Capital Lease for the money that we use to buy the equipment that we use. There is another financing source for the proceeds from the Capital Lease. I made an entry to replace it after October 31. I made it when I was doing the budget. It was for the line of credit that you all approved. It is an entry to put it as proceeds for Capital Leasing. You will see it when you look at the amended budget."

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "You don't have it on paper here am I correct?"

Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, "No, I did not make the entry until after October 31. It reflected the financials the day I made the entry."

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "So it would be balanced then?"

Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, "Yes, we will have \$1 million or more in revenue."

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Where did you get that from? Did you say from that money that we have borrowed?"

Councilman Harold Taylor questioned, "Money you borrowed? We are using borrowed money to balance the budget? Is that what you are saying?"

Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, "To buy equipment. It is proceeds from a Capital Lease."

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Capital Lease, okay. Mr. Bellard, do you know what she is talking about? Can you explain?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "The meeting a while ago you all asked about \$5,000,000.00 and the fact that we had borrowed on it. We bought equipment with that money. We borrowed that money for the line of credit and it is just hitting the books now. It will show the money coming in as a revenue source and it will offset the council expense and the budget."

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "And it is to the tune of \$1,000,000.00 that she said."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "\$1,000,000.00."

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "It is not on any of this paperwork that we have here in front of us tonight?"

Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, "The changes was not made until after I posted it to the account. I have it on my Adobe Account."

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "I just don't understand why you are bringing it up tonight because we should have had it in our paperwork here when you handed us this."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "You are talking about October 31. These reports are one month behind. We don't have November 30 financials now."

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Are there any other questions from the committee members? Proceed Ms. Caryn."

Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated:

Health Unit Fund:

Total Revenue: \$788,362.00

Expenses: \$1,680,734.00

Councilman Harold Taylor questioned, "So far we have spent \$1.6 million, right? Health Unit, that is what you said, is that correct?"

Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, "Yes, Sir."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "And we budgeted 1,058,425.00 is that correct?"

Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, "Yes Sir."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "And we over budgeted \$622,309.00. Why didn't you come to us before now with this? Thank you."

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Let's move on to the next one unless I have any questions from the committee or any other committee member."

Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated:

Jail Fund:

Total Revenue: \$246,321.00

Expenditures: \$760,339.00

We have received all of the revenue

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin questioned, "Mr. Bellard, have you received the final bill on this addition. Will that be in this also?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "The Trustee Dorm."

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "The Trustee Dorm, yes sir."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "No we have not started. The bid opening was today and I did not get the bid. We don't have anything on the Trustee Dorm as of right now."

Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated:

Road District 12 or Ward 2 Maintenance:

Total Revenue: \$126,854.00

Total Expenditures: \$285,356.00

Road District 1 of Ward 3 Maintenance:

Total Revenue: \$151,370.00

Total Expenditures: \$175,603.00

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

Total Revenue: \$80,740.00

Total Expenditures: \$161,261.00

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

Total Revenue: \$27,647.00

Total Expenditures: \$122,604.00

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

Total Revenue: \$109,356.00

Total Expenditures: \$207,301.00

St. Landry Parish Airport:

Total Revenue: \$389,086.00

Total Expenditures: \$521,922.00

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Are there any question on the ones that she just read off, Road Districts or the Airport? Do you have the American Rescue Financials? Do you want to go over that?"

Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, "Oh yes."

American Rescue:

Total Revenue: \$7,976,319.00

Total Expenditures: \$5,572,189.00

Councilman Harold Taylor questioned, "When will we get the budget for 2023?"

Finance Director Caryn Fulop stated, "I have the budget right here for you all to review. We will set up a meeting whenever you all want. I have a draft copy for everyone right here."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Could we be more communitive with the council on spending over the budget. It is part of the Home Rule Charter that we get to know these things when it happens."

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Is that all you all have on your Parish President and Finance Report? Do I have a motion to accept?"

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: None. ABSTAINED: Harold Taylor.

Motion carried.

6. Discuss verbiage changes for the Animal Ordinance. (Councilman Wayne Ardoin).

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "I ask that it be placed back on the agenda and be brought back before this next full council meeting. Mr. Garrett, I think you made the changes that were requested. Are you satisfied with the ordinance as it is presented to us now in our packets?"

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "Yes, I have reviewed the latest changes and forwarded it to the council clerk to be introduced. The animal ordinance on the books now will be repealed and replaced with this new animal ordinance. I have reviewed it and it looks good and it looks like it is in its final form unless there are any more changes just let me know."

Councilwoman Mildred Thierry stated, "I received several calls from some of my constituents and they had some concerns that concerns me as well. One thing that they pointed out, and you know life is already hard, so we need to make sure that we are trying to make things civil as we possibly can for the constituents. Some of them are stressing the feelings that their rights are being taken away. One particular person called me today and said, you know they are going in your home to check on an animal, they are not even doing that for some people. I said I did not see it that way in the ordinance. I am just telling you some of the misconceptions. Another person said there are somewhere where you can't bring your animals in your vehicle. I ask how you will get them to the vet. So I looked through the copy that I had and I did not see that but those are some of the misconception that are out there. So I just wanted to bring that to the fore front."

Councilman Coby Clavier questioned, "Mr. Garrett, on page 7 under animal noise, can you explain the intentions of number 1. How will you keep a dog from barking more than 10 minutes? It is on page 7 under section 8-9 number 1. Can you explain number 1 to me? That is my hold up right there."

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "As long as there is no tension between the person who owns the dog and they don't want to be overly regulated and the person who can't sleep because of the dog. So this ordinance is needed to have a notice sent by Animal Control saying do something about your dog. That is what these ordinance are for. It is a balance between the people that are up and the people that need to sleep at night. This ordinance tries to regulate dogs that are barking all night long. This is a tool that animal control has to give a notice that they have to keep peace in the neighborhood."

Councilwoman Mildred Thierry stated, "I just wanted to say that is one of my questions that I forgot to ask as well. How do you control a dog from barking less than 10 minutes? I just forgot to ask that question."

Public Works Chairman Dexter Brown stated, "I live deep in the country where I have possums and everything else around the area. My black lab sees it and he will bark and sometimes he will bark all night long. I am just delivering the comment."

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "Well, I would keep my dog inside my house."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Maybe I can add a little color to this conversation. Normally a dog, if you have him in your yard and someone passes on the road, he will bark at it, we got that. If someone comes into your yard he will raise a lot of sand. But a dog that sits in the yard with nobody bothering it and nobody around and he is just hollowing to the moon and hollowing then that kind of disturbs the neighbors and I think that is what this particular piece of the ordinance addresses. Now you will have an animal control person out there when this happen to listen for 10 minutes to make sure. Mr. Bellard, is that correct?"

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "That has happened, that has happen at 3-Mile."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "If that is what the ordinance calls for then we will have to follow the rules."

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Are there any other questions on the Animal Ordinance? We will present it at the next council meeting."

7. Discuss getting some Bid Tabulations for FlagStation Road, Suzanne Dejean Drive, and Aspen Lane. (Councilman Wayne Ardoin)

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "I ask that this be placed on the agenda so you can get Mr. Jarrell and them to start doing the study. I need a motion from the council to authorize Mr. Bellard to contact Mr. Jarrell and they can get us some prices. I would like to get some prices to try and overlay those three roads. Do I have a motion?"

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilman Easton Shelvin to forward to Regular meeting held on Wednesday, December 21, 2022 to authorize the Parish President to contact Mr. William Jarrell to begin a Study to overlay Flag Station Road, Suzanne Dejean Drive and Aspen Lane and present the findings to the council.

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

Motion forwarded.

8. Discuss Road District 1 of 11A to find out what is the Earliest Date a Proposition can be added back on Ballot and Leave Books Open. (Councilman Wayne Ardoin)

*Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,* "I want to ask that we look and see if we can possibly get with the firm out of New Orleans, Foley & Judell to see if there is some kind of way that we can put it on the ballot. Mr. Bellard, are we having a Judges Election or anything soon, have you heard of anything?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "I think the next one will be in October for the Judges. I am not sure about the taxes, I think they have a tax election in March."

*Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,* "That is why I want to ask that we let our clerk try to get us a date because I would like to put this road district tax back on the books and leave it open. She will be collecting tax on that this year, the assessor will collect taxes this year. I want to keep the books open

Councilman Harold Taylor questioned, "What is your motion?"

*Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,* "I would like to find out if we can put it on the ballot in March." Now Mr. Brown, I think you have a similar situation."

Public Works Chairman Dexter Brown stated, "Yes, I was going to wait for the part on the agenda that discusses any other business properly brought before this council but if I can tag it on with you is you don't mind. I have Road District 2 of 11A. If we can do the same and forward that to the full council."

Councilwoman Nancy Carrier stated, "My tax failed also."

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin questioned, "How long ago did that tax fail?"

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "I Think it was about 2 - 3 years ago."

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "It is not a renewal. You will have to start a new process is what I think will have to happen."

Councilwoman Nancy Carrier stated, "The only reason I am mentioned it is because I know it is a different expense. If it would be possible that I could start mine and pose it at the same time I would like to because it would be cheaper."

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "I can understand but I don't know the process.

She can find out. At this time I have a motion to see if we can bring it up in the spring for 2 of 11 A and 1 of 11 A. Do I have a second?"

A motion was made by Councilman Easton Shelvin, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to forward to Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, December 21st, 2022 to authorize the Council Clerk to contact Foley & Judell to see if Taxes for Road District 1 of 11 A and Road District 2 of 11 A can be place on the Ballot in March 2023.

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

Motion forwarded.

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Let me make a comment on this. I think it happened in your area Mr. Brown. With our Precinct changes I think that some people were not able to vote. I hope by this time with our new Registrar of Voter we can sit down and get some of these precincts straight. Mr. Taylor, I think you had a precinct where you had three people that could vote and nobody showed up. We have a serious problem. Ms. Vivian, do you want to give us a little lite on that."

Madam Chairwoman Vivian Oliver stated, "I met with the Clerk and Court and The Registrar. We had a lot of lockouts where people could not vote and they were mad, it was just a chaos. I am hoping that he can straighten it out. I think that our Registrar is going to be able to do that. He had some good suggestions. I wanted my pole changed from Grand Coteau to Sunset and looks like we will be able to do that. We have until July to file a Resolution to get it changed. He suppose to meet with every one of you,

one on one and see what you would want and the different changes and see if you want some changes. Some might not want any.”

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “Sherell, would you be kind enough to call him and ask him about what Ms. Vivian is saying to us. I have a situation in District 9 with some people where the line was drawn and now we have to extend. I think we need a little bit of input from our new Registrar of Voter and let us know something by the next meeting.”

9. Forward RESOLUTION NO: 030 of 2022 ANNUAL CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE STATE OF LOUISIANA OFF SYSTEM BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM.

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “Mr. Bellard, you want to give us a little input on that.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “You all have a copy in front of you.”

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “Right here, it is a one sheet deal. So you need us to go ahead and give you permission to sign off on it?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “It is something that we do every year for the Off System Bridge Replacement Program. On top of that we will have \$8.5 Million Dollars that will be allocated. Not to the parish directly but in the parish for the state to spend on some more bridges. So that is coming up as well next year.”

Councilman Alvin Stelly questioned, “Will it be for Parish Bridges or State Bridges?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “State Bridges.”

Councilman Jerry Red Jr., questioned, “Is that dealing with City Bridges also?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Some City Bridges belong to the parish. So, yes it is on the Off System Bridge Replacement Program but it is located in the municipality.”

A motion was made by Councilman Jerry Red Jr., seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to forward to Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, December 21st, 2022 RESOLUTION NO: 030 of 2022 ANNUAL CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE STATE OF LOUISIANA OFF SYSTEM BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM.

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

Motion forwarded.

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “Ms. Sherell, where do you have the dates for the meetings? On which agenda do you have it?”

Council Clerk Sherell Jordan stated, “It only goes on the regular meeting agenda Mr. Ardoin. I only put it out for everyone to see the dates but we will introduce the Ordinance with a sponsor at the full council meeting.”

Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “Ok that is fine.”

10. Discuss any other business properly brought before this committee.  
None.

11. Adjourn

A motion was made by Councilman Jerry Red Jr., seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to adjourn the Administrative/Finance Committee Meeting.

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

Motion carried.

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

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

1. Chairman Dexter Brown 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, Dexter Brown, Jimmie Edwards, Coby Clavier and Ex-Officio Vivian Olivier. **ABSENT:** None.

Councilwoman Mildred Thierry stated, “Mr. Chairman, at this time I would like amend the agenda to include Carl Drive to the list of roads for discussion on Speed Bumps.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, seconded by Councilman Alvin Stelly to amend the agenda to add Carl Drive to the list of roads for discussion for Speed Bumps.

**On roll call vote:** YEAS: Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, Jimmie Edwards and Coby Clavier. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.

**Motion carried.**

3. Person to address the Committee:

- *Sandy and Lance Lee addressed the council* regarding Adjudicated Property. Ms. Sandy Lee stated, “Good evening, my name is Sandy Lee and my address is 2899 HWY 347, Leonville. On May 21, 2021, I initiated the purchase of an adjudicated property that is connected to mine. I paid \$500.00 to start the process and made a bid of \$500.00 after speaking with Mr. Lewis and Mr. Jessie Bellard. On June 16th, 2021, *Mr. Bellard said* tonight you will be voting on item number eight on the agenda. He wanted to list all Parcel Numbers when it was adopted and make sure that the council was approving to sell a particular piece of property. The list was in the packet and Mr. Bellard said he wanted to make sure this was adopted as well. When the council got to item number eight Mr. Bellard answered that yes the vote was for the property to be sold and that this is the first step, the second step was to place it in the official journal and third and final step was to open the bids. The motion was made and accepted on June 16th, 2021. On August 18, 2021 *Mr. Bellard stated* the adjudicated property sale of the 13 properties will take place at the next regular council meeting in September. On September 15th, 2021 Mr. Bellard stated the 13 pieces of property that was on the list would be sold. Bids were open and we were the only ones to bid on our parcel at 2903 HWY 347 so we won the bid. The motion was made and approved. On October 20th, 2021, thirty-five days after our bid was approved it was somehow put back on the list of adjudicated properties to be sold. After multiple attempts to get the award letter from Mr. Lewis, he gave us a letter on November 22, 2021. I have had problems with this letter all along the way. I have made multiple attempts to get this corrected. Mr. Lewis either tells me he will mail the corrected letter and he does not and he just ignores my calls or visits to his office. Finally on January 5th, 2022 my property was somehow sold to someone else. That sale was 45 days after Mr. Lewis gave us the letter that is still not corrected. I am not asking for special treatment, I am just expecting what I paid for.”
- *Parish President Jessie Bellard stated*, “I forwarded messages to Garrett for him to look at it.
- *Mr. Lance Lee stated*, “We just want to make sure that we get that adjacent property that we paid for. We are the adjacent property owners, we have the letter saying that we were awarded the property, there was a mistake that was made and the property was sold again. We just expect for the property to be taken from the people that it was sold to on the second time and we just need a letter to bring to our attorney saying that parish has elbowed that other person out of that property and it is now ours again.”
- *Parish President Jessie Bellard stated*, “Nothing has been done legally on that property.”
- *Ms. Sandy Lee stated*, “I did speak to the Tax Assessor’s Office and it actually have been sold to someone else. They registered it in their name. This gentleman came to our home and served us with an eviction notice thinking that the home came with the building. He served us an eviction notice saying that we had five days to vacate our home and the property that we have purchased. The eviction notice was actually addressed for our home address.”
- *Public Works Chairman Dexter Brown stated*, “Mr. Duplechain, do you have a comment on this matter?”
- *Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated*, “I don’t know who the record owner is right now. I have not seen the Tax Assessor’s Assessment Sheet.”
- *Councilman Alvin Stelly questioned*, “Was there any paperwork done when you all received the property?”
- *Ms. Sandy Lee stated*, “When we purchased it, no. I made the bid on my name. It never came in the mail. We waited and waited. I have tried calling multiple times and I never received a call back. Lance was my Fiancé at the time. He went to Mr. Lewis’ office and he got a letter but it was addressed to Mr. Lance that he won the bid but I am the one that placed the bid. We were not married at the time and I wanted the property on my name. I have been trying to get the corrected letter from Mr. Lewis. He would not return my call and I have stopped into his office multiple times and they always tell me that he is not in.”
- *Public Works Chairman Dexter Brown stated*, “Mr. Lewis, do you have a comment?”
- *Mr. Richard Lewis stated*, “I have a letter here dated November 22, 2021 to Lance Lee/Sandra Bellanger. That is the letter that you requested from me.”
- *Ms. Sandy Lee stated*, “No Sir, all along I have requested a letter with Sandy Bellanger. Because I am the one who placed the bid, not Lance Lee.”



- *Mr. Richard Lewis stated*, “This happened in 2021. I found out about this property from the Attorney Secretary Monday. So you sat a whole year with the award letter and did not do anything with the property.”
- *Mr. Lance Lee stated*, “And your ordinance does not have a statute of limitation on it so I could have sat another year before I came and found you at fault.”
- *Ms. Sandy Lee stated*, “That is not the point. Listen on November 22 I reached out to your office to try and get a corrected letter. That is not the only time. I have multiple notes that I wrote when I tried to contact Mr. Lewis and the times that I have gone into his office. Like I said, they would tell me that is was not in.”
- *Public Works Chairman Dexter Brown stated*, “Mr. Lewis can you help Ms. Sandy Lee on tomorrow regarding this?”
- *Parish President Jessie Bellard stated*, “No, it has been turned over to Garrett.”
- *Public Works Chairman Dexter Brown stated*, “Okay, Garrett, can you help Mr. and Mrs. Lee and assist them in their matter?”
- *Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated*, “I have spoken to them on the phone and I will be glad to speak with them. I need to know the record owner of that property right now.”
- *Public Works Chairman Dexter Brown stated*, “Mr. & Mrs. Lee, can you all meet with Mr. Garrett.”
- *Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated*, “I will be in court all day tomorrow. Do you have the Tax Assessor’s Assessment Sheet?”
- *Ms. Sandy Lee stated*, “It is not with the new purchaser name on it. It has the old tax assessor.”
- *Public Works Chairman Dexter Brown stated*, “Can you give them a date and a time that they can meet with you regarding this matter.”
- *Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated*, “They can call my office first thing Friday Morning as early as they can.”
- *Parish President Jessie Bellard stated*, “I am not asking for Mr. Garrett to discuss this matter with them. I am asking him to discuss with me and find out all of the particulars. That is not his job to give them advice. He has to give us advice. Once we get the advice then we will follow through with it. It is not proper for him to meet with the people.”
- *Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated*, “Mr. Brown, if there is a Lawsuit I will be representing the Parish. So I mentioned that to them when I spoke to them on the phone. If they have an attorney representing them and I think they said that they did, he can call me but I can’t represent them because I will be representing the parish.”
- *Public Works Chairman Dexter Brown stated*, “Mr. & Mrs. Lee, is it possible for you all to contact Mr. Bellard’s office next week.”
- *Parish President Jessie Bellard stated*, “Mr. Chairman, I am waiting on Mr. Garrett to give me his advice. Until that time I will get with him and we will see what happens. Everything is in his hands right now, when he gives us advice then I can move forward.”
- *Public Works Chairman Dexter Brown stated*, “Ms. Lee, just stay put for a little while longer until we can get our legal matters in order. Mr. Bellard, our Parish President will get in contact with you all regarding your land that you all purchased.”
- *Ms. Sandy Lee stated*, “I have been waiting a whole year to receive messages from both Mr. Bellard and Mr. Lewis. For a whole year I have been waiting. I haven’t received anything and in the process they sold the property to someone else.”
- *Councilman Alvin Stelly stated*, “Mr. Brown that is in my district. If you all have any problem, I know Mr. Jessie will help you all out. If you all were awarded the land, you all should be getting the land. I don’t know how they sold that twice. I sure would like to find out what happened. Please let me know what happened. I will help you all as much as I can. I think you all should have got the land. You all were the only bidders on the land the first time.”
- *Councilman Jerry Red Jr., stated*, “I know that we have put something in place that if the first party don’t purchase it, I believe Ms. Nancy or someone had said if the first person don’t purchase it can the next person in line purchase it.”
- *Parish President Jessie Bellard stated*, “We have not passed that ordinance yet.”
- *Councilman Jerry Red Jr., stated*, “But that was after the fact. My point is, is everything paid on that property?”
- *Parish President Jessie Bellard stated*, “Nothing is paid on the property from anybody,”
- *Councilman Jerry Red Jr., stated*, “So the \$500.00 that they put down, that is just a deposit. That is not for you purchasing the property. But after you won the bid you still could have went in and took care of that matter.”
- *Ms. Sandy Lee stated*, “When I tried with an attorney I needed the corrected letter that I still have not received from Mr. Lewis. Even besides that it was 30 days after I purchased the property that it was put up for sale for someone else. Someone else did the same thing that I did.”

- *Mr. Richard Lewis stated*, “I am not trying to go back and forth but the Attorney came in when in told you that you needed and attorney. He told me that you were doing the paper work.”
- *Mr. Lance Lee stated*, “So this is the whole thing that I want you all to understand. Thirty something days after he gave us an award letter he took the money from another person and he gave them an award letter. Thirty something days. Our letter was dated 11-21-2022 and the next person I can find it in all of you all records and he sold it to somebody else. Thirtysomething days. So we were supposed to take care of it in 30 something days when the property is under our name. Thirty something days after you gave us the letter, 11-21 you sold the property. On your January 5th meeting you all adopted it and I can show you all right here in the minutes.”
- *Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated*, “My question is you mentioned something about the house. You received an eviction notice, what does that have to do with the property?”
- *Ms. Sandy Lee stated*, “I think when he looked up the property he thought the house was on the same property and it is not. It is two different properties. He made a mistake and he gave us an eviction notice for our home with the address of our home but he purchased the address next door to us.”
- *Mr. Lance Lee stated*, “The home is recorded as Homestead Exempt. We have been owning it for 6 years. We were trying to get this property for years. Civic Source had it. I have been maintaining the property. We just want what we paid for.”
- *Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated*, “I just want to ask Mr. Bellard to give us an update in 14 days if all possible at the full council meeting so we will have some kind of idea of what is going on with this piece of property, please.”
- *Parish President Jessie Bellard stated*, “As soon as Garrett gives me information I will forward it to you all.”
- *Public Works Chairman Dexter Brown stated*, “Thank you for all of your patience. The next person to address the council is Ms. Lena Charles.”
- *Ms. Lena Charles addressed the council*. She stated, “Good evening Mr. Chair, Councilmen and women. I was not available on the last full council meeting because we had a very distinguished tour coming through St. Landry Parish and the Holy Ghost Catholic Church. The Holy Ghost Fathers were touring the African American Churches that they had founded in the South. At that meeting my name as well as four other members were re-appointed and I wanted to come before you to give you my vote of thanks and appreciation that you all voted for us. I did a presentation at the Committee Meeting and it was pointed at the Full Council Meeting and I want to thank you all for your vote of confidence in me. I really appreciate every time that I come before you to give you all an update on things that is going on and what we are doing and to be available to answer questions. I think Mr. Ardoin personally because Ms. Milton had come in my place and she said that you all would be available to vote and I heard about it and I want to thank you. I appreciate you all.”
- *Mr. George Morgan Jr. Addressed the council*. He stated, “Good evening ladies and gentleman of the council. My name is George Morgan Jr. I am here because we did everything right to get married. I am getting married December 10th, 2022, three days from now. I am nervous already. This is a matter that should have not have come to this point right here. We booked and we did everything right, me and Fiancée’ went to the Yambilee Building and we talked to the lady through the screen to show us the books for December 10. She pulled the books out and we put our name down on December 10. We asked how much the deposit was and she told us the deposit was \$500.00. We gave her \$500.00 deposit and she gave us a contract and said that we would have to get with the police department if we were going to have liquor. We had to get security. I get security for the vineyard. She and I went out and got the security offices that we wanted to sign who would do policing for that day. We brought it back to her, done. We got the building and we got the decorator to come out and look at the Yambilee building and we got everything squared away with the. We got a Caterer together and we put a deposit down for the Caterer. Now this is several months ago. We started saving ourselves buying little things here and little things there for our event that is coming up. Well two months ago through Social Media, Facebook, we found out that the building was double booked. There is another event that will be going on the same day, December 10. I was at work and my Fiancée’ called me. I told her that could not possible because we went to the building and we looked at the calendar. A couple of hours later she went to the Yambilee Building and the lady told her that they had an event and it was double booked. A group will be taking over because they have an event every five years on a Saturday and this is the Saturday that they want. My Fiancée’ went to Mr. Jessie Bellard’s office and he told her and I am quoting what he said, ‘I am sorry about this but we don’t have a contract form the other group and we had our contract in hand.’ He told her whatever happens we will get you all another vineyard. I am so sorry if we can’t settle this we will pay for the vineyard that you guys choose. Whatever you get that is available we will pay for it. A lady named Alicia called from Jessie Bellard’s Office called to let us know what vineyards they had. The offered the one across the street, the Delta Grand and we told them that it was not big enough for what we were having. She said that they would put out tents on the outside for the wedding. That made my Fiancée’ very upset because she did not want a reception on the outside. I got involved and I call the office of

Jessie Bellard, I called 30 times and twenty-eight of the calls said that he was in a meeting and the other two calls said that he was not there. That aggravated me the last two months. I got in touch with another guy from his office and he said that we are looking at Civic Center and Evangeline Downs and we will pay for that. We are so sorry for double booking and your wedding is coming up in less than two months.” I told him how I had to find out on Social Media. He said he would find us a vineyard and he called us back and said that he talked to the mayor of Opelousas and the Civic Center is unavailable because of the run-off election and he is checking into Evangeline Downs. Two weeks goes by and it is getting close to our event and we don’t have a location. I go to Evangeline Downs and I talk to the person who books events. He said December 10th, 2022 is available and I told them to book us for that date because I have been going through it with my Fiancée. I gave them my name and they said that someone from the parish called me about three weeks ago to ask if this date was available. At that time the phone rang and it was Alicia and I think that we have found you a building at Evangeline Downs and we will take care of everything. Two weeks later she said that we can’t pay for anything because it has to go before a board and it will take 30 days. I went back and paid out of my pocket for the Evangeline Downs. Just yesterday I got a check from the Parish Government and it was for \$500.00 which is the \$500.00 deposit that we put down on the Yambilee Building. I want the word to be honored saying that they would pay for the building. Evangeline Downs don’t want you to bring Liquor and they don’t want you to bring food. Their food is \$30.00 a person. I am not asking for that but that is what my Fiancée’ would ask for, I am just asking for what you all promised that you all would pay and that for the building. That is my complaint, just answer the phone. Just like this meeting here, I went to their office and ask about the council meeting? A friend of mine told me to go and talk to the council. I did not know that I could do that. They told me to call this number and they told me that the meeting is on December 7th, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. I get here at 6:30 thinking that I am early and they are telling me that I can’t talk because the meeting starts at 6:00 but luckily I was able to speak. I would just like for him to honor his word and pay for the building, help us out a little bit because we are over budgeted.”

- *Public Works Chairman Dexter Brown stated*, “Mr. Bellard, do you have any comments.”
- *Parish President Jessie Bellard stated*, “I will get with Alicia in the morning to find out what is the deal with the double booking.”
- *Public Works Chairman Dexter Brown stated*, “Mr. Morgan, Ms. Alicia will contact you tomorrow.
- *Mr. George Morgan stated*, “I have been very patient. Everything is paid for now because the wedding is right there. If not, I will be back next month because they do not answer the phones. The ladies that work up front are very nice, I don’t have any complaints about them but there is never anyone to talk to.”
- *Councilwoman Nancy Carriere questioned*, “You said that you were over budgeted, what is the price that you are spending on the wedding?”
- *Mr. George Morgan stated*, “It is at \$34,000.00. If we would have done it at the Yambilee we would have spent about \$22,000.00.”
- *Mr. Don Leger addressed the council*. He stated, “Do you all want to buy more real estate to rent. What I am talking about right now on the agenda is the Statue. Thank you Ms. Carriere for putting the statue back on the agenda. It is not a rocket science, I remember Mr. Gil was the only one that was not here at the time when this room was packed full of people. I am not here tonight as a member of the executive committee. I am here as an individual. At the time the Democratic Executive Committee came out in full force and you guys said that statue out there offended people and we will remove it. You all told your constituents you all would do it and you all told the parish president to do it. Now we have to wait on some board of directors to have a meeting. We have had several excuses on why this thing cannot be removed. If the parish cannot move it I am sure there are other people that can move it. They could take a couple of sheets of plywood and made a box and placed it in a box and that could stop offending people until they can have it moved. That is not too complicated. You have money to do whatever you want to do Mr. Bellard, you have money for new vehicles and money to do the windows on the courthouse there is no reason why you can’t find money to get the statue moved out. Please do whatever it takes to move that statue out of the courthouse. This is the fifth time that I have come and asked you all to do this. I have asked you to do something and you all did it and now I am asking you all too please do what you said that you would do. We have money to go to the Mardi Gras and not just you but we have money for you to bring a whole crew to represent us at the Mardi Gras. We have money for anything that you would need. I wish that you would consider this command from the council. If you are short of funds maybe you can go back to Fund 22 from a couple of years ago. Maybe you ought to think about using that fund. Thank you.”
- *Mr. Don Leger stated*, “Mr. Aline McNaulty is celebrating his 103rd Birthday today. He resides on Pamela Street in Opelousas and I am just asking the council to recognize him his 103rd Birthday.”
- *Public Works Chairman Dexter Brown stated*, “We would like to wish Mr. Aline McNaulty a Happy 103rd Birthday.”

4. Public Works Report:

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "We are finally getting some material in for Limestone and Gravel that is a plus. We are still cutting grass in December.*

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

On roll call vote: YEAS: Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, Jimmie Edwards and Coby Clavier.  
NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.

**Motion carried.**

5. Update on the Statue Removal. (Councilwoman Nancy Carriere).

*Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "Mr. Bellard as far back as March 2022 and now we are in December 2022 with the last discussion. One of the questions that I brought to you was when would the statue be removed. And you said November 14th, I don't know what the holdup is but I have submitted a proposal from April 21 and this proposal still stands. I don't know if everybody got a chance to read it and discuss it as a council."*

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "That proposal is exactly what I got. I am not even looking at proposals."*

*Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "What are you going to do because we are still waiting and nothing has gotten done. You projected a proposal what about the council, do we have a say in this? We are the ones that voted that it be removed."*

*Parish President Jess Bellard stated, "First of all, nobody wants to spend a dollar. So we are doing what we can not to spend any money. We are at the mercy of people that will do it whenever they want to do it. We are waiting on a guy to come. He said that he would be here. It is not a simple process to remove that statue.*

*Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "It would probably cost us the same as we would pay someone else and we were supposed to put it in storage. I don't know if I can bring this up about setting a time limit. Because right now it seem like it can drag on until next year."*

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Unless you all want to spend money. You all made it clear that you all did not want to spend a dollar on it."*

*Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "Those other people that was coming from Kentwood, were not charging a dime."*

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "We would have to bring it to Kentwood, they are not picking it up. We have to bring it to them."*

*Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "We are not paying the person that have to dismantle it? Who will you get to dismantle it?" My question is to the council. We voted to have this removed and this have been going on and on since March. I am not sure what you all want to do because a lot of people are not satisfied about this. We have made a decision and now we are being told that our decision does not matter. We wanted it gone and we voted for it to be gone and it has not left. I am not happy with these results. We don't have any answers. Again we have been told since March and nothing has been done. I don't know how long we can just not have a voice but I am here to say that I think that we have a proposal. It is not unreasonable."*

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "I will tell you right now that I am not doing that proposal each time the council pass one. That is my job I take care of that. Ms. Nancy, you all do your part and I will do mine."*

*Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "Well may part is to represent the people and I think that I am by asking for this to be removed as soon as possible."*

*Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Jessie, Mr. Monty Morgan was supposed to remove it, hadn't you brought his name up?"*

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "There is nothing to move it, it is to take it apart. Monty will haul it to Kentwood and they will put it together in Kentwood."*

*Councilman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "Mr. Bellard, it was supposed to be done in November, what is the holdup?"*

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "The guy was supposed to come from New Iberia and show us how to take it apart and put it on the truck."*

*Councilman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "Can we get in touch with him to find out what is the hold up?"*

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "I have been try to get in touch with David Ardoin or Mr. LeDay from Lawtell. That is what I need someone to tell me how to take it apart. Everything comes apart on that monument and it comes in pieces."*

*Councilman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "If they don't come I will have to put whoever is going to remove it to have it removed. We gave them ample amount of time to have it removed and we were banking on these people to come and remove it but nobody is moving it."*

*Councilman Coby Clavier stated, "Mr. Charles Cravins offered to move it if nobody else would move it."*

*Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “Well I know Mr. LeDay personally. I can contact him. I can contact a marble person also and if that is the only hold up we can try to find somebody that can dismantle it that works with marble. Layne, I can give you a couple of names in case Mr. LeDay does not work. I know somebody would move this for us or dismantle it rather. Hopefully we can have something by the next meeting. Thank you Layne.”*

**6. Discuss update on Burn Ban Ordinance. (Councilwoman Nancy Carriere).**

*Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “We don’t have an update ordinance on the Burn Ban. I wanted us to discuss it and look over it and see what changes and what we can do. I have checked and we have talked about it and there is no updated ordinance. Maybe we need to address some situations. I have some constituents that were concerned. At certain times we have a ban. I really want to talk about the whole ordinance. We smoking issues and we have different other issues that comes with the burning. I just think that we need to look at it and see what we need to upgrade. I have some constituents that burn all the time. They are affected by the smoke, they are affected the smell. When I stay the burn ban I also mean just discuss everything with burning. I will have Sherell get a copy of that.*

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “He felt that is was not necessary because they already have a burn ban in place, no burning at 1000 feet from dwelling not located on property.”*

**7. Authorize Council Clerk to advertise for one appointment to St. Landry Agricultural Arena Authority for a five- year term (01-18-2023 – 01-18-2028).**

*Councilman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “I believe we need to look at that. I don’t believe that they had a meeting over there in over one year.*

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “They started back having meetings for the last six months I believe.”*

*Councilman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “My reason for saying that is I know when you miss 4 consecutive meetings that is grounds to have them all removed on that board. And I know it was for 6 months at a time they were not having a meeting.”*

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I don’t know what their bylaws read.”*

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, seconded by Councilman Coby Clavier to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, December 21st, 2022** to authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for one appointment to St. Landry Agricultural Arena Authority for a five- year term (01-18-2023 – 01-18-2028).

On roll call vote: YEAS: Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, Jimmie Edwards and Coby Clavier.  
NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.

**Motion forwarded.**

**8. Authorize Council Clerk to advertise for one appointment to Eunice Gravity Drainage District No. 9 of Evangeline and St. Landry Parishes for the remaining of a four - year term. (10-02-2021 - 10-02-2025)**

A motion was made by Councilman Coby Clavier, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, December 21st, 2022** to authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for one appointment to Eunice Gravity Drainage District No. 9 of Evangeline and St. Landry Parishes for the remaining of a four - year term.

(10-02-2021 - 10-02-2025)

On roll call vote: YEAS: Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, Jimmie Edwards and Coby Clavier.  
NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.

**Motion forwarded.**

**9. Authorize Council Clerk to advertise for one appointment to Prairie Basse Gravity Drainage District No. 15 for the remaining of a four-year term. (02-17-2020 - 02-17-2024)**

A motion was made by Councilman Jimmie Edwards, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, December 21st, 2022** to authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for one appointment to Prairie Basse Gravity Drainage District No. 15 for the remaining of a four-year term. (02-17-2020 - 02-17-2024)

On roll call vote: YEAS: Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, Jimmie Edwards and Coby Clavier.  
NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.

**Motion forwarded.**

**10. Authorize Council Clerk to advertise for two appointments to Fire District No. 5 for a two-year term. (01-01-2023 – 01-01-2025)**

A motion was made by Councilman Jimmie Edwards, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, December 21st, 2022** to authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for two appointments to Fire District No. 5 for a two-year term. (01-01-2023 – 01-01-2025)

On roll call vote: YEAS: Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, Jimmie Edwards and Coby Clavier.  
NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.

**Motion forwarded.**

**11. Authorize Council Clerk to advertise for three appointments to Fire District No. 6 for a two-year term. (01-18-2023 – 01-18-2025)**

A motion was made by Councilman Jimmie Edwards, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, December 21st, 2022** to authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for three appointments to Fire District No. 6 for a two-year term. (01-18-2023 – 01-18-2025)

On roll call vote: YEAS: Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, Jimmie Edwards and Coby Clavier.  
NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.

**Motion forwarded.**

**12. Authorize Council Clerk to advertise for five appointments to Bayou Mallet & Plaquemine Gravity Drainage District No. 10 for a four-year term. (02-01-2023 - 02-01-2027)**

A motion was made by Councilman Jimmie Edwards, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, December 21st, 2022** to authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for five appointments to Bayou Mallet & Plaquemine Gravity Drainage District No. 10 for a four-year term. (02-01-2023 - 02-01-2027).

On roll call vote: YEAS: Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, Jimmie Edwards and Coby Clavier.  
NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.

**Motion forwarded.**

**13. Authorize Council Clerk to advertise for two appointments to St. Landry Parish Waterworks District No. 2 (Rural) for a four-year term. (01-01-2023 – 01-01-2027)**

A motion was made by Councilman Coby Clavier, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, December 21st, 2022** to authorize Council Clerk to advertise for two appointments to St. Landry Parish Waterworks District No. 2 (Rural) for a four-year term. (01-01-2023 – 01-01-2027).

On roll call vote: YEAS: Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, Jimmie Edwards and Coby Clavier.  
NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.

**Motion forwarded.**

**14. Discuss Speed Bumps being Added on: Avenue A, Azeline Drive, Hidden Village Lane, Gilbert Drive and Carl Drive. (Councilwoman Mildred Thierry)**

*Councilwoman Mildred Thierry stated,* “Also add Carl Drive to that also. I have quite a bit of calls in regards to the high rate of speed that is being done. Under the past administration we were told at one point that we were no longer doing Speed Bumps. Now I noticed that we have been talking Speed Bumps again. I am wondering if it is possible to get something done or start the process for these streets. We have traffic at some point and I have witnessed this on a daily basis of traffic going at least 40 mph in a residential area where there is a lot of children including Fed-ex and those other trucks and school busses. Something needs to be done before someone gets hurts. I don’t what is the process but if we are doing speed bumps again I would like for these streets to be considered to start the process of what ever need to be done.”

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,* “That would be a council call.”

*Councilwoman Mildred Thierry stated,* “I would like to start the process.”

A motion was made by Councilman Alvin Stelly, seconded by Councilman Coby Clavier to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, December 21st, 2022** to begin the process to add speed bumps to Avenue A, Azeline Drive, Hidden Village Lane, Gilbert Dive and Carl Drive.

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

Coby Clavier. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.

**Motion forwarded.**

**15. Discuss any other business properly brought before this committee.**

*Councilman Alvin Stelly* spoke about a clean-up of a property.

*Councilman Timmy Lejeune* stated, “I think we passed an ordinance about people destroying roads or shoulder banks. Now we have a lot of shoulders that are torn up. I have an individual that called me this morning. An 80 year old man. He called me this morning and the rut on the side of a brand new parish road caused him to tear up his vehicle, nearly hurt himself and his wife and when I nearly hurt myself, he nearly hurt himself to the capacity where he bent the rim, blew out the tire. This happened last night, not in the day light not at 1 in the evening. We need to go down these roads and figure out who is tearing up these shoulder banks because it is somebody in the construction business. It is big trucks that are doing it and they are tearing up these shoulders and we did pass an ordinance that says that they are responsible if they did it. I am asking for you to please have someone go and look at that so we can address the problem so we can get reimburse or their insurance can pay for the damages they have do so no one gets hurt. I know you are supposed to stay on the road but you and I both know that our roads aren’t as wide as I-10. At some point when you have someone coming in your direction that is taking more than their share of the road without a strip on it they will go to the right to get out of harm’s way. When they hit the right they have 3 foot rut all along the road.”

*Parish President Jessie Bellard* stated, “I got pictures today on Hypolite Miller Road and Jesse B. Richard. I addressed some issue last week on Chetrin Point where Sugar Cane Farmers were parking on the side of the road. I sent out investigators and had them to remove their truck off of the road. They moved to another location so they were not on the roadway. Later that afternoon they went into the ditch. That did not go over well but I will send them a bill and make them pay for the damages over there as well. On Jesse B. Richard, the one that you are talking about it is unbelievable. They put some material to bring it back up. They can’t keep on damaging our roads and I know they have to being their crops but they can’t come into our parish and damage our stuff and leave without paying.”

*Councilman Coby Clavier* stated, “I just want to follow up on putting limestone or crushed asphalt on the shoulders of Beck Miller Road.

*Parish President Jessie Bellard* stated, “ It will be done soon.”

*Administrative Finance Chairman Wayne Ardoin* stated, “I have a sewer district which is St. Landry Parish Sewer District No. 1 in District 9. Everyone has a copy of the letter from Mr. Gene Wiley Sylvester who has served for 20.5 years on the Sewer District. He has ask that I replace him and I have a replacement. They have to live in that Sewer District because that is the boundaries of it and his name is David Burke. He lives at 154 Dr. Charlie Drive, Opelousas. I am asking that we bring it to the full council to get ratified to take Mr. Gene Wiley Sylvester’s place. I need a motion from you all.”

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, seconded by Councilman Alvin Stelly to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, December 21st, 2022** to appoint Mr. David Burk to the St. Landry Parish Sewer District No. 1 to replace Mr. Gene Wiley Sylvester whom has retired. (No Set Term).

On roll call vote: YEAS: Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, Jimmie Edwards, and Coby Clavier. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.

**Motion forwarded.**

*Public Works Chairman Dexter Brown* informed Mr. Richard Lewis regarding the Junk on Wildflower Lane. Mr. Brown asked where was Keith Johnson located at this time.

*Richard Lewis* stated, “He was incarcerated at this time.”

**16. Adjourn**

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

On roll call vote: YEAS: Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, Jimmie Edwards, and Coby Clavier. NAYS: None. 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**

**XIII. ADJOURN**