

AGENDA
ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2023 @ 6:00 P.M.
OLD CITY MARKET, 131 W. BELLEVUE ST.
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA

- I. CALL TO ORDER**
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & INVOCATION (Councilman Easton Shelvin)**
- III. ROLL CALL**
- IV. CONDOLENCES**
- V. PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL**
- VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
 - **Regular Meeting: February 15th, 2023**
- VII. PARISH PRESIDENT'S REPORT**
 - Discuss possible girls group home located at 216 Jeremy Dr. Opelousas, La.
- VIII. NEW BUSINESS:**
 - *Items passed through committee.
 - 1. Vote to appoint Michael Meche for one appointment to Ward 3 Consolidated Gravity Drainage District No.1 for the remaining of a four- year tem.(12-21-2020 – 12-21-2024).
 - 2. Vote to re-appoint Susan Fontenot for one appointment to South St. Landry Community Library District for a five year term. (04-01-2023 – 04-01-2028)
 - 3. Authorize the beginning process for the study of Speed Bumps on: Belmont and Plantation Road. (Councilwoman Nancy Carriere).
 - 4. Authorize Council Clerk to advertise for one appointment for the remaining of a three-year term to the St. Landry Parish Tourist Commission. (02-19-2022- 02-19-2025).
 - 5. Authorize Council Clerk to advertise for one appointment to St. Landry Waterworks District No. 3. (No Set Term)
 - 6. Authorize Council Clerk to advertise for two appointments to Fire District No. 2 for a two- year term. (05-15-2023 – 05-15-2025)
 - 7. Vote to appoint Lieutenant Ryan Young to serve on the St. Landry Parish Communications District E-911 board recommended by Chief Kyle LeBouf.
 - 8. Authorize the Preliminary and Final Approval for SHOWING NORTHWOODS COVE SUBDIVISION LOTS 1-7; SITUATED IN SECTION 49, TOWNSHIP 8 SOUTH, RANGE 4 EAST LOCATED ON SUNCAN AND BOAGNI RD, SUNSET LA 70584.
 - 9. Authorize forwarding Allen's Communications Request to the SLED Board for Mr. Bill Rodier review and report the findings back to the council.
 - 10. Vote to authorize Mr. George Gremilon 6 weeks to return to the council with a complete plan and a time of action for the removal of the statue.

11. Vote to retain an Independent Resource Specialist to Investigate the Human Resource Department and any other Parish Government Departments to determine that proper protocol was followed and that the terminations were justifiable.
12. Vote to consider retaining an outside Counsel on how to implement Resolution No. 006-2023 passed by the St. Landry Parish Council to get a Declaratory Judgement from the court to interpret the Home Rule Charter.

IX. ORDINANCES TO BE INTRODUCED:

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-003

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ST. LANDRY PARISH ORDINANCE CHAPTER 44, SECTION 44-14 so that Harmon Lane in Opelousas can be included on the list of roads in St. Landry Parish that are designated as “No Truck or 18-Wheeler Thru Traffic” routes.

WHEREAS, St. Landry Parish Ordinance Chapter 44, Section 44-14 lists the roads in St. Landry Parish that are designated as “No Truck or 18-Wheeler Thru Traffic“ routes.

WHEREAS, this Ordinance amends St. Landry Parish Ordinance Chapter 44, Section 44-14 so that Harmon Lane in Opelousas can be included on the list of roads that are designated as “No Truck or 18-Wheeler Thru Traffic“routes.

X. ORDINANCES TO BE ADOPTED:

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-002 (SPONSORED BY COUNCILMAN TIMMY LEJEUNE)

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.

XI. RESOLUTIONS TO BE ADOPTED:

RESOLUTION 009 of 2023

A resolution ordering and calling special elections to be 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, to authorize the continuation of special taxes therein; making application to the State Bond Commission and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

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. Election Call. Subject to the approval of the State Bond Commission, and under the authority conferred by the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974, including Article VI, Section 26

thereof, the applicable provisions of the Louisiana Election Code, and other constitutional and statutory authority, special elections are hereby called and ordered to be held in the Districts on **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2023**, between the hours of seven o'clock (7:00) a.m. and eight o'clock (8:00) p.m., in accordance with the provisions of La. R.S. 18:541, and at the said elections there shall be submitted to all registered voters qualified and entitled to vote at the said elections under the Constitution and laws of this State and the Constitution of the United States, the following propositions, to-wit:

SUB-ROAD DISTRICT NO. 1 OF ROAD DISTRICT 11A
OF THE PARISH OF ST. LANDRY, STATE OF LOUISIANA
PROPOSITION (TAX CONTINUATION)

Shall Sub-Road District No. 1 of Road District 11A of the Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana (the "District"), continue to levy a 9.56 mills tax on all the property subject to taxation within the District (an estimated \$304,000 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year), for a period of 10 years, beginning with the year 2023 and ending with the year 2032, for the purpose of improving, maintaining and operating public roads and bridges within the District, including the purchase of equipment therefor?

SUB-ROAD DISTRICT NO. 2 OF ROAD DISTRICT 11A
OF THE PARISH OF ST. LANDRY, STATE OF LOUISIANA
PROPOSITION (TAX CONTINUATION)

Shall Sub-Road District No. 2 of Road District 11A of the Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana (the "District"), continue to levy an 8.43 mills tax on all the property subject to taxation within the District (an estimated \$228,000 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year), for a period of 10 years, beginning with the year 2023 and ending with the year 2032, for the purpose of improving, maintaining and operating public roads and bridges within the District, including the purchase of equipment therefor, said millage to represent a .04 increase (due to reappraisal) over the 8.39 mills tax authorized to be levied through the year 2022 pursuant to an election held November 6, 2012?

SECTION 2. Publication of Notice of Elections. A Notice of Special Elections shall be published in the official journal of the Districts once a week for four consecutive weeks, with the first publication to be made not less than forty-five (45) days nor more than ninety (90) days prior to the date of the elections, which Notice shall be substantially in the form attached hereto as "Exhibit A" and incorporated herein by reference the same as if it were set forth herein in full. Notwithstanding the foregoing, prior to the publication of the Notice of Elections, the Chairman of the Governing Authority is authorized and directed to make any amendments to the foregoing propositions that may be required to comply with any state or federal regulatory agencies.

SECTION 3. Canvass. This Governing Authority shall meet at its regular meeting place, the Old City Market, 131 W. Bellevue Street, Opelousas, Louisiana, on **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2023, at SIX O'CLOCK (6:00) P.M.**, and shall then and there in open and public session proceed to examine and canvass the returns and declare the result of the said special elections.

SECTION 4. Polling Places. The polling places for the precincts in the Districts are hereby designated as the polling places at which to hold the said elections, and the Commissioners-in-Charge and Commissioners, respectively, will be the same persons as those designated in accordance with law.

SECTION 5. Election Commissioners; Voting Machines. The officers designated to serve as Commissioners-in-Charge and Commissioners pursuant to Section 4 hereof, or such substitutes therefor as may be selected and designated in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1287, shall hold the said special elections as herein provided, and shall make due returns of said elections for the meeting of the Governing Authority to be held as provided in Section 3 hereof. All registered voters in the Districts will be entitled to vote at the special elections, and voting machines shall be used.

SECTION 6. Authorization of Officers. The Clerk of the Governing Authority is hereby empowered, authorized and directed to arrange for and to furnish to said election officers in ample time for the holding of said elections, the necessary equipment, forms and other paraphernalia essential to the proper holding of said elections and the Chairman and/or Clerk of the Governing Authority are further authorized, empowered and directed to take any and all further action required by State and/or Federal law to arrange for the elections.

SECTION 7. Furnishing Election Call to Election Officials. Certified copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Secretary of State, the Clerk of Court and Ex-Officio Parish Custodian of Voting Machines of St. Landry Parish and the Registrar of Voters of St. Landry Parish, as notification of the special elections, in order that each may prepare for said elections and perform their respective functions as required by law.

SECTION 8. Application to State Bond Commission. Application is made to the State Bond Commission for consent and authority to hold the special elections as herein provided, and in the event said elections carry for further consent and authority to continue to levy and collect the special taxes provided for therein. A certified copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the State Bond Commission on behalf of this Governing Authority, together with a letter requesting the prompt consideration and approval of this application.

**RESOLUTION 010 of 2023
(HEALTH UNIT MILLAGE RENEWAL)**

A resolution ordering and calling a special election to be held in the Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana, to authorize the renewal of a special tax therein; making application to the State Bond Commission and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

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 the Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), that:

SECTION 1. Election Call. Subject to the approval of the State Bond Commission, and under the authority conferred by the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974, including Article VI, Section 26 thereof, the applicable provisions of the Louisiana Election Code, and other constitutional and statutory authority, a special election is hereby called and ordered to be held in the Parish on **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2023**, between the hours of seven o'clock (7:00) a.m. and eight o'clock (8:00) p.m., in accordance with the provisions of La. R.S. 18:541, and at the said election there shall be submitted to all registered voters qualified and entitled to vote at the said election under the Constitution and laws of this State and the Constitution of the United States, the following proposition, to-wit:

**PROPOSITION
(MILLAGE RENEWAL)**

Shall the Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), continue to levy a 2.17 mills tax on all the property subject to taxation within the Parish (an estimated \$1,626,200 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year), for a period of 10 years, beginning with the year 2024 and ending with the year 2033, for the purpose of maintaining and operating public health units in the Parish?

SECTION 2. Publication of Notice of Election. A Notice of Special Election shall be published in the official journal of the Parish once a week for four consecutive weeks, with the first publication to be made not less than forty-five (45) days nor more than ninety (90) days prior to the date of the election, which Notice shall be substantially in the form attached hereto as "Exhibit A" and incorporated herein by reference the same as if it were set forth herein in full.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, prior to the publication of the Notice of Election, the Chairman of

the Governing Authority is authorized and directed to make any amendments to the foregoing proposition that may be required to comply with any state or federal regulatory agencies.

SECTION 3. Canvass. This Governing Authority shall meet at its regular meeting place, the Old City Market, 131 W. Bellevue Street, Opelousas, Louisiana, on **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2023, at SIX O'CLOCK (6:00) P.M.**, and shall then and there in open and public session proceed to examine and canvass the returns and declare the result of the said special election.

SECTION 4. Polling Places. The polling places for the precincts in the Parish are hereby designated as the polling places at which to hold the said election, and the Commissioners-in-Charge and Commissioners, respectively, will be the same persons as those designated in accordance with law.

SECTION 5. Election Commissioners; Voting Machines. The officers designated to serve as Commissioners-in-Charge and Commissioners pursuant to Section 4 hereof, or such substitutes therefor as may be selected and designated in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1287, shall hold the said special election as herein provided, and shall make due returns of said election for the meeting of the Governing Authority to be held as provided in Section 3 hereof. All registered voters in the Parish will be entitled to vote at the special election, and voting machines shall be used.

SECTION 6. Authorization of Officers. The Clerk of the Governing Authority is hereby empowered, authorized and directed to arrange for and to furnish to said election officers in ample time for the holding of said election, the necessary equipment, forms and other paraphernalia essential to the proper holding of said election and the Chairman and/or Clerk of the Governing Authority are further authorized, empowered and directed to take any and all further action required by State and/or Federal law to arrange for the election.

SECTION 7. Furnishing Election Call to Election Officials. Certified copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Secretary of State, the Clerk of Court and Ex-Officio Parish Custodian of Voting Machines of St. Landry Parish and the Registrar of Voters of St. Landry Parish, as notification of the special election, in order that each may prepare for said election and perform their respective functions as required by law.

SECTION 8. Application to State Bond Commission. Application is made to the State Bond Commission for consent and authority to hold the special election as herein provided, and in the event said election carries for further consent and authority to continue to levy and collect the special tax provided for therein. A certified copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the State Bond Commission on behalf of this Governing Authority, together with a letter requesting the prompt consideration and approval of this application.

RESOLUTION NO. 011 OF 2023

WHEREAS, the St. Landry Parish Council has resolved to repeal Resolution number 005 of 2023 which calls for the Non-Warranty Cash Sale recorded under Act number 1236966 to be declared invalid by the St. Landry Parish District Court.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the St. Landry Parish Council hereby

repeals Resolution number 005 of 2023 which calls for the Non-Warranty Cash Sale recorded under Act number 1236966 to be declared invalid by the St. Landry Parish District Court.

XII. COMMITTEE MINUTES:

ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL
ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1st, 2023
OLD CITY MARKET, 131 W. BELLEVUE ST.
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA

ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

1. Ex-Officio Jerry Red Jr., called this meeting of the Administrative/Finance Committee of the St. Landry Parish Council to order.
2. Councilwoman Mildred Thierry led the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "I just want to remind everyone as we move on, if anyone would like to speak before the council we would ask that you fill out a speaker card and you will have 5 minutes to speak. I will ask that you put your cell phones on silent so we won't have any interference. We will begin with the Administrative Finance Committee. Roll call."

3. Roll Call: Easton Shelvin, Harold Taylor, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune and Coby Clavier. ABSENT: None.
4. Elect Chairman:

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "Item No. 4: Election of a Chairman."

Councilman Dexter Brown stated, "Mr. Chairman, I would like to nominate Mr. Coby Clavier."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "Mr. Chairman, I would like to nominate Mr. Harold Taylor."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Mr. Chairman, I would like to withdraw and yield to my friend Mr. Coby Clavier."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "I would like to close the nominations."

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "Are you seconding that motion Mr. Timmy?"

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "Yes."

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "Nominations are closed, can we have roll call please?"

A motion was made by Councilman Dexter Brown, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to nominate Coby Clavier as Administrative Finance Chairman for 2023.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Easton Shelvin, Harold Taylor, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune and Coby Clavier. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None. Motion carried.

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "Congratulations Mr. Clavier."

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, "Thank you Mr. Chairman. I will now call this committee meeting to order. It is my pleasure to lead this committee and I appreciate your confidence in me. As we get started the first item is No. 5 persons to address the committee. I did not get any names, do we have anyone that filled out a speak card to address the Finance Committee?"

5. Person to address the Committee:
None.

6. Parish President & Finance Report:

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "You all should have a copy of the Finance Report in your packet, any questions you all are welcome to ask me."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Mr. Chairman, I have a couple of questions. Mr. Bellard, I see that Ms. Fulop is not here, on the Profit and Loss for January 2023, Ad Valorem Tax shows that we received \$1,650,109.45 out of a \$2,259,905.00 budget, my question is Ad Valorem Tax is not sent out until November, how did we get \$1.6 million?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Our biggest month collecting taxes is in January of every year."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "That was for 2022 sir. Accrual basis right?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "No we changed it to fit you all so you all can see what is coming in on a cash basis."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Okay, we were on a cash basis last year right?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Last year you all were on an accrual basis up until November."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "So it says on an accrual basis this year."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "No sir."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "We that is what it says on the paper."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "No sir."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Do you have a copy in front of you?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "I am looking for my copy right now."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Look at the left hand corner right under 22423 accrual basis. It is under General Fund, Profit Loss January 2023. It says Ad Valorem Tax under Fund 4100100, \$1,650,109.45 was taken in in January out of a \$2,259,905.00 appropriations from last year. 2023 notices for Ad Valorem Tax won't be sent out until November, how did we get \$1.6 Million when the tax notices have not been sent out?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "This is collections that came in to the Government in December and January of this year."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Impossible that is for 2022 sir."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "You see that is the problem we did it in accrual basis last year to fit the narrative."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "No you did it in a cash basis last year."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "No sir. We did not. We ended the year on a cash basis."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Could you check with Ms. Fulop?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "I am telling you what it was on, I am explaining it to you."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Jessie, you are absolutely wrong on this."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Okay, if you think I am wrong that is okay. You can think what you want."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "I have another question. On the last page, Other Income. Transfer Fund 96: \$100,000.00 that is the savings that we put together so we would not have to borrow money to cash flow the parish until we get our ad valorem tax in. Why did we use \$100,000.00 already?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "I will look at it tomorrow and give you an answer."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Okay, thank you."

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier questioned, "Are you finished Mr. Taylor?"

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Yes, I am finished."

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, "Mr. President is that all you have?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "No sir. In your packet you have a request from Allen's Cable to do a Pilot Program to help them out with their program that they are putting into the parish. If we do it for them we will have to do it for all so my recommendation is that we don't. They are already getting subsidies from the Federal Government to put the Fiber into the ground so I think that they should pay the taxes that is owed. That is a decision for you all and you all have the request in your packet."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Do you want to put that on the agenda for the Regular Meeting or no action necessary?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "I am making the recommendation that we don't but it is whatever you all want to do."

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, "Would this committee like to pass this to the full council?"

Councilman Harold Taylor questioned, "Where would we get the money to do this?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "What he is asking for is that he does not pay all of the Franchise Fees and all of the extra taxes that comes along."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "I think the sales tax that he referred to in the letter, we would have to give up the sales tax on the stuff that he buys. We have no authority to do that."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "That is what he wants to do. A Pilot Program basically. Every Cable Company is getting a subsidy from the Federal Government already to install this. My recommendation is that we don't give them the Pilot Program and let them just pay the taxes that is owed."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Let me ask you this question. Would it be feasible to maybe send this up to SLED and let Mr. Rodier check on this and report back to us?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "We can do that."

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilman Dexter Brown for forward to Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, March 15th, 2023 to forward Allen's Communications Request to SLED for Mr. Bill Rodier review and report the findings back to the council.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Easton Shelvin, Harold Taylor, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown and Timmy Lejeune. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.
Motion forward.

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "That is all that I have."

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., questioned, "Mr. Chairman, before we move on with this motion I have a question, Mr. Bellard, will Ms. Caryn be at the full council meeting for discussions?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "No sir."

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., questioned, "Any reason why?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "I will not allow my employees to come in here and be disrespected. I am the only one that is required to be here. I am here. My employees won't come."

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "So this is our Finance Director and she can't come and give us the information that we need."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "She can, but I am not allowing her to come."

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "Even with a \$9,000.00 raise she is not coming before this council?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "She is not coming in front of this council. You all are welcome to call and ask questions that is not a problem."

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "That is a bad attitude Mr. Bellard."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "No, it is taking care of the employees."

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "You are asking for support from this council and you can't get your Finance Director to come."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "She would come, I am telling her not to come."

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "And that is your reason?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "That is my answer, yes."

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier questioned, "Mr. Red, are you finished?"

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "I am not finished. I am not finished at the moment but it will go a long way from here. I want you to remember I am the Chairman for 2023."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "We can see that you are the Chairman. That is good."

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "Okay, I want you to remember that."

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere questioned, "Mr. Bellard, I think that this council voted some years ago that if we requested a head of a department to come and address the council they would come and address us. Even in Executive Session you will not allow her to come."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "They do not work for you all, they work for me. The thing is this, the employees will not come in this council meeting and be disrespected by some council members and expect them to come back to next meeting. It is not going to happen. I am sorry. It is not going to happen."

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, "Are you finished Ms. Nancy?"

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "Yes."

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, "Mr. Taylor, you had a comment?"

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "No, I am scratching my neck."

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, "Mr. Bellard is there anything else?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "No."

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, "We have a motion on the floor and a second to accept the Parish President's Report."

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "Mr. Chairman, I see no reason to accept the Parish President's Report. I see no reason."

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier questioned, "I understand where you are coming from but we will let the committee vote on it so they will have the choice to vote."

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: Easton Shelvin, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown and Timmy Lejeune. NAYS: Harold Taylor. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.
Motion carried.

7. Update on Removal of Statue. (Councilwoman Nancy Carriere).

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "Mr. Bellard, I have been poked like a bear for almost a year now. The last you told me that it would be that Sunday after, I am so lost and confused because I have heard it so many times. What I should have asked you is to be specific on which Sunday. At this point what is the conclusion, what is going to happen? I asked you before and we voted to have that statue removed. Considering we just got out of the month of February which if you are aware is Black History Month, and I just find this totally offensive. I don't know about the rest, I am speaking about myself. We have been talking on this for one year, and we voted to have this statue removed. It was painted on, I thought that it would be removed and it has been cleansed, I guess with the tax payer dollars.

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Nope."

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "I guess you must have paid for it yourself. The Daughters of the Confederate, are they still willing to take the statue?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "So the update on the Statue is: In January, on a Saturday they came out to remove it. The Crane was here and everything was here. Whenever they latched onto the Statue, the attorneys showed up and threatened to sue them if they damage the statue. As everybody knows nobody wants to spend any money on removing the statue, so the guy that will remove it for free said I will not touch it because he is not getting sued. So right now it is up to the council to see what you all want to do next."

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "I also presented you with a Proposal and you refused to take it. That someone would remove it for free and store it."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "It will cost \$15,000.00."

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere questioned, "Would you accept that persons proposal to remove it for free?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Whatever the council wants to do. The statue right now is owned by the Sons and the Daughters because you all gave it to them. That is what the Resolution calls for, right now it belongs to them. I don't think you can have anyone go and touch it with the threat of it being damaged and getting sued, but if that is the case and you all want it. We tried to do it the easy way and we were threatened a lawsuit. I will tell you right now I will entertain anyone that would want to move it.

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "Will you accept the proposal?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "I will call Mr. Bellard tomorrow and talk to him about it. If he wants to do his part even though with the threat of a lawsuit then that is all that I can do."

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "That is in essence that it gets damaged. You were getting professional people that deal with granite all the time to take it down. You stressed several times on how careful they were going to be taking it down and they have to take it down in so many pieces. I am surprised if these people do this kind of work every day they still felt threatened."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Because it is 103 years old. They know that whenever they will latch onto it, it is going to be damaged."

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "If Mr. Bellard does not agree to take it after you speak to him because he did have a proposal that he proposed to us back then, I am going to ask the council if we can

take another vote on not giving it to the Daughters of the Confederate and we deal with it ourselves. We remove it and it put it in some storage. We voted to have it taken down.”

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, “Do I have anyone on this committee wanting to make that motion?”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “I would like to have a conversation about it. Mr. Bellard, did we contact the members of the Confederate?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Yes.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “Did we send them a letter letting them know that this commotion was going to start again?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I advised them what was happening on the phone.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune questioned, “When did that happen?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “That happened sometimes February and we have been talking ever since.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “I wonder if they were brought aware that this was going to come up on the agenda in the Committee?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “We have Mr. Gremilon here from the Sons of the Confederacy. If he wants to address the council.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “Mr. Duplechain, who owns that statue?”

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, “The Parish Government.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “So if the Parish Government has a contractor to come in and it falls to pieces will we sue ourselves?”

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, “No we won’t sue ourselves.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “The Resolution that was passed gave it to the Sons and the Daughters of the Confederacy.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “We can give it to them in pieces. For crying out loud what is the problem here? What is the problem? Tell me the problem. We own it, we will take it down or will we hire someone to take it down. Whoever wants to take it down will take it down, if it falls apart and they want it in pieces they can have it, if they don’t we will bring it to the dump. What is the issue? Thank you Mr. Chairman.”

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, “What will this committee like to do?”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “I was not finished. I would like to know if members of the Confederate Sons and Daughters looked at another avenue and tried to get it removed. We gave it to you all, it is your property despite what the attorney just mentioned. We do understand that we handed it over to you all. I just want to know before we take any other actions toward that. Are you all prepared to take some action in going in the direction to get somebody to move it?”

Mr. George Gremilon addressed the council. He stated, “Please bear with me because I had a stroke and it is hard for me to process information. Back in April, yes, you all did donate it to the Sons and Daughters of the Confederacy. The UDC as we refer to the ladies said basically to us, you all can have it. Officially we refer to as the General J. J. Alfred A. Mouton Camp 778 of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. That is our official moniker, I guess you could say. It was April 20th, at your council meeting that you all voted to donate it to us. We did not know until April 20th what the outcome would be. So come April 20th, of last year it was donated to us which we do appreciate. Since it was donated to us we try and find private individuals in this parish to work with them on donating land to us so we could move it to private property.

After several attempts of reaching out to people which took 1-2 months up to 3 months and no one accepted our offer. In July the Sons of Confederate Veterans reached out to Camp Moore Museum located in Kentwood Louisiana. We worked out a contract to where the Sons of the Confederate Veterans would be able to have this monument placed at Camp Moore Museum. I don't have the exact date but I believe that was in early August. Starting in early August our local camp with the medium funds that we have, we collected \$2,500.00 and we had a base constructed at Camp Moore Museum, at 10' x 10' x 10" concrete base for it to be placed on and ready for it to be moved, that was delayed by rain. Concrete that is that thick needs sit. It was not ready for placement until the first of December or so. I don't know the exact dates. You can say In December my camp members got in touch with Mr. Bellard and explained that we have this base ready and poured and ready to move it. You can't snap your fingers and move and item like that, I hope you all understand. A date was set for Saturday, I don't have the exact date because I did not know about this meeting until 5:30 today. That was in mid-January where basically I was told Saturday is a go ahead at 8:00 o'clock we will move this monument. Saturday comes, the contractor who showed up, the first thing that he said when he gets to us was, I don't know what I am doing, I have never done anything like this before. I am not sure of his name, I believe he is with Morgan and Morgan Contractors, he did tell us that he had been doing some research, a lot of research and study on this monument. This monument is made out of marble, not granite. Marble is a very brittle rock. When he got up top close to it, I am sure that most of you all did not notice the scaffolding placed around the monument back in December and January, when he got through looking at this monument closely that is when he informed us that this thing might break upon moving it. They built this monument, I know I am going over my 5 minutes but the more information that you all know the better. When they constructed this monument 100 years ago they put it together in pieces. They built it from the base up like a puzzle. Granite monuments can be made in one piece and set in place but being as brittle as it is we told him if this thing breaks you have liability insurance and you are responsible for it. He chose not touch it and he chose to stop his work. That is information that we did not know and I am pretty sure that most people in this audience knows the difference now between Granite and Marble Statues. I had no idea and most of us had no idea what can happen to the fragility of monuments like that. We the Sons of the Confederate Veterans have reached out to a moving company, Wingate Moving Company, if I am not mistaken, we have reached out to them and Mr. Wingate have been out to this monument and he is working out and estimate to see how much it will cost to have the monument moved. I think that is all that my brains can spit out right now. Are there any questions? I will try to answer them."

Councilman Dexter Brown questioned, "Thanks for coming. I had a question about the location, you said Kentwood."

Mr. George Gremilon stated, "Kentwood Louisiana."

Councilman Dexter Brown questioned, "Is that the same area as Denham Springs, the Kentwood area?"

Mr. George Gremilon stated, "It is near Amite City. It is off of Interstate 55 approximately 40 miles north of Hammond."

Councilman Dexter Brown stated, "I know you said that the weather had hindered the construction process, correct."

Mr. George Gremilon stated, "Correct, we got the go ahead in August from Camp Moore to pour the concrete base. That is when it took us a couple of weeks to find a contractor to pour the base. We had to get approval from Camp Moore Museum to get a contractor that they were satisfied with to pour an adequate base. We had the base poured in early November then the rain came. Anyone who works in concrete with a 10' x 10' outside slab, you have to let that thing cure and stand. Like I said, we let it cure and stand and we were basically giving it the go ahead to move it in early December. Camp Moore said yes bring it on and that is when our contacts told Jessie that Camp Moore Museum have the base poured and it cost us \$2,500.00 to get this base poured out of our pockets, out of the local camps pocket. We had to raise the funds and we got this base poured and it is ready to be moved."

Councilman Dexter Brown stated, "I want to thank you for coming to give us that information. You said that you had a stroke, I know how you feel because I also had a stroke 2 years ago and our memory is sort of shaky at times but I want to thank you for your information."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "This will be my final question for you. I would like to know approximately when you think you will have an answer from this Wingate Company so we can make a decision in the direction in which we have to head. Ultimately it has to be removed from the property

because that is pretty much the decision and the agreement that we came upon. I know that it has been 12 months or nearly approaching the 12 month period and I understand all of that but we need you guys to come up with a date very shortly so we can make a decision in moving forward.”

Mr. George Gremilon stated, “Yes Sir.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “So how much time do you need before you can come back to this council? It cannot be months, we need an answer soon. Can I give you 6 weeks?”

Mr. George Gremilon stated, “Oh yes Sir.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “I will make a motion that we give him 6 weeks and they come back to the council with a complete plan and a time of action of removal.

Councilwoman Vivian Olivier stated, “Second.”

Councilman Easton Shelvin stated, “I would like to say 6 weeks to have it moved. It is a year already.

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, “Are you offering a Sub-Motion Mr. Shelvin?”

Councilman Easton Shelvin stated, “Yes, I will offer it as a Sub-Motion.”

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier questioned, “Do we have a Second on the Sub-Motion? The Sub-Motion states to have it moved in 6 weeks. Do I have second? We do not have a second, sorry Mr. Shelvin. The first motion stands. We have a second by Ms. Oliver. Roll call please.”

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilwoman Vivian Olivier to forward to Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, March 15th, 2023 to grant Mr. George Gremilon 6 weeks to return to the council with a complete plan and a time of action for the removal of the statue. On roll call vote: YEAS: Easton Shelvin, Harold Taylor, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune and Coby Clavier. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None. Motion forwarded.

8. The St. Landry Parish Government Planning Department is requesting the Preliminary and Final Approval for Showing Northwoods Cove Subdivision Lots 1-7; situated in Section 49, Township 8 South, Range 4 East located on Suncan and Boagni Road, Sunset, LA 70584.

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “Ms. Vivian that is in your District.”

Councilwoman Vivian Olivier stated, “Yes it is. I will make a motion to approve it.”

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “Mr. Chairman, before we move on this, Ms. Sherell, is this the same one that we received information on at 4:25 p.m.?”

Council Clerk Sherell Jordan stated, “Yes it is.”

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “My question is, Mr. Bellard, is everything turned in on this?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Yes.”

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “To my understanding I believe they are scheduled to turn in something tomorrow to complete their application.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “To my knowledge everything was turned in. Mr. Jacob Jarrell did not have the letter ready. He was out of the office so he sent us an e-mail verifying everything.”

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “For future references, it is the job of that department to make copies for the Public Works, not for our Council Clerk. I mean they should already have the copies to turn into us. When she got this at 4:25 p.m. she had to go and start making copies to make sure that they had it for the meeting. I am asking that they turn in everything and make sure that everything is documented and we are not waiting on anything else.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "You all got it as soon as we got it."

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "My only question is, we want to make sure that everything is properly turned in."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "I agree."

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, "Are you finished Mr. Red?"

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "Yes."

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, "We have a motion on the floor and a second for the approval of Northwoods Cove Subdivision."

A motion was made by Councilwoman Vivian Olivier, seconded by Councilman Dexter Brown to forward to Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, March 15th, 2023 to approve the Preliminary and Final Approval for Showing Northwoods Cove Subdivision Lots 1-7; situated in Section 49, Township 8 South, Range 4 East located on Suncan and Boagni Road, Sunset, LA 70584.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Easton Shelvin, Harold Taylor, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown and Timmy Lejeune. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.
Motion forwarded.

9. Discuss adding Road District 2 Ward 1 of the Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana (the 'District') levy a Special Tax of ten (10) mills on all property subject to taxation in the District (an estimated \$326,450.00 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year) to the ballot for the November Election.
(Councilwoman Nancy Carriere).

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "This was a tax that was in my District approximately 8 years ago. We tried to pass it 4 years ago to get it back. It is not a renewal but it is in existence but it had expired. It did not pass so I am asking for us to try again in November. This is money that would help me in my District."

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "My question is; how are we going to pay for this Ms. Nancy? We put this on the agenda I believe about a year and a half ago and it did not pass. My question is; where will the funds come from to pay for this tax?"

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "First of all we called Baton Rouge. If I had to put it on the ballot, because we have two other taxes that are going, it would be a lot cheaper to do it now. The same place that the money is coming from for the other two this is the same place."

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "No Ma'am. The other two taxes are coming from their own Districts. Your District does not have funds to pay for this tax. So I am asking, where will the money come from? Mr. Bellard do you have funds set aside to pay for this tax?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "No."

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, "Are you talking about to pay for the election?"

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Mr. Chairman, if this will be on the November Ballot will it be the General Election is that correct Counselor?"

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "You are talking to me?"

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Yes, the General Election, is it in November for Governor and Senator?"

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "The General Election should be in October. The Road District 11 is set for November runoff. The Health Unit one is set for November the runoff I believe. As far as Nancy's road tax of course that have not been set. So, we have October and we have November so we have to pick one of those months for that election if you want to have the election."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "I understand. But since it is a General Election, the state is going to pay one half and we will pay the other half normally."

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "Generally it is cheaper if you are going to go at the same time as the Governor."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Nancy do you have a number on what the cost is."

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "No I do not. Ms. Sherell, would you happen to know because I had to call and get the information for me."

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, "Why don't we hold off to find out what it will cost us first maybe, this election. Then we can come back to it. How about that?"

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Can we get this information by the next meeting in two weeks."

Council Clerk Sherell Jordan stated, "Yes, I can call."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Then maybe we can just send it up for full consideration."

Councilman Dexter Brown questioned, "Will we have the amount of time to place it on the ballot?"

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "You will have time."

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, "We will find out what it will cost and we will bring it back up."

10. Forward to Full Council RESOLUTION NO. 009 OF 2023

A resolution ordering and calling special elections to be 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, to authorize the continuation of special taxes therein; making application to the State Bond Commission and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Dexter Brown to forward to Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, March 15th, 2023 to approve Resolution No. 009 OF 2023. A resolution ordering and calling special elections to be 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, to authorize the continuation of special taxes therein; making application to the State Bond Commission and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Easton Shelvin, Harold Taylor, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown and Timmy Lejeune. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.
Motion forwarded.

11. Forward to Full Council RESOLUTION NO. 010 OF 2023
(HEALTH UNIT MILLAGE RENEWAL)

A resolution ordering and calling a special election to be held in the Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana, to authorize the renewal of a special tax therein; making application to the State Bond Commission and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Why is this a Special Election?"

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, "That is a good question. I was thinking the same thing Mr. Taylor. Who can answer that?"

Council Clerk Sherell Jordan stated, "It is not a Special Election. It is just a Health Unit Tax."

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, "It states calling a Special Election, Ms. Sherell, we have to watch that."

Council Clerk Sherell Jordan stated, "We are not calling a Special Election. It is on November 18th.

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, "It says a Special Election. Can we re-word that? We don't want to vote on it incorrectly."

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "Sherell, both of these Resolutions are listed as a Special Election. These Resolution, where did you get them?"

Council Clerk Sherell Jordan stated, "From Foley & Judell."

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "What are the requirements? Do they require a Special Election? Can you change that wording?"

Council Clerk Sherell Jordan stated, "That is the wording that come from Foley & Judell by Melissa McCarthy."

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "They absolutely require it to be listed as a Special Election or can you change it."

Council Clerk Sherell Jordan stated, "That is how they listed it."

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "So will you check with them to see why it is listed as Special Election and see if you can change the wording or if it has to stay the same. But it is for the General Election."

Council Clerk Sherell Jordan stated, "Okay and it is for the General Election."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "So where are we with this Mr. Duplechain? What are you seeing?"

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "The Resolution is worded exactly the way it needs to be. Our Clerk can check on that word, 'Special Election' and see if it can be changed and see what is the meaning of it. This came directly from Foley and Judell. She will check with them to see if they can change the wording of 'Special Election' and she will ask them why it say Special Election. This is the exact language that we needed."

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to forward to Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, March 15th, 2023 to approve Resolution No. 010 OF 2023. Council Clerk will advise the council on the wording 'Special Election.'

(HEALTH UNIT MILLAGE RENEWAL)

A resolution ordering and calling a special election to be held in the Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana, to authorize the renewal of a special tax therein; making application to the State Bond Commission and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Easton Shelvin, Harold Taylor, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown and Timmy Lejeune. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion forwarded.

12. It has been called to my attention by several parish employees who have been terminated allegedly without just cause and because of the potential liability for termination I would like to offer the following motion. Motion to retain an Independent Human Resource Specialist to investigate the Human Resource Department and any other Parish Government Department, to determine that proper protocol was followed and that the terminations were justifiable.

(Councilman Wayne Ardoin).

Councilman Wayne Ardoin stated, "I realize that this Parish Council adopted Disciplinary Policies a couple of years ago. In that policy there are some wording in there that says: The Progressive Disciplinary system explained in this policy provides St. Landry Parish Government with a fair, consistent and systematic approach to employee discipline. While counseling and supervisory instruction are the preferred approach to unacceptable performances, St. Landry Parish Government may take disciplinary action up and including termination, without prior counseling when the nature of the employee's offense is particularly serious or constitutes gross misconduct.

Discipline, removals and separations and letters of reprimand can only be invoked by the Parish President or designee. Additionally, the Parish President or designee, and Department Heads may issue improvement letters (Letters of warning, counseling, coaching, supervisory plans, etc.) in an attempt to improve an employee conduct.

That is my concern that some employees have contact me as Councilmember and I think if some of you all want to admit they have contacted you all in reference to they were not called in and disciplined, they were just terminated. So that is why I am asking, and according to the Home Rule Charter, I am asking for an investigation on some of these matters with some of these employees. We are dealing some of these people lives, they come to work here and they think that they have a future. The purchase a house, purchase a car and the next thing they are terminated.”

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, “I have a motion on the floor by Mr. Taylor.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “Mr. Bellard, you want to speak on this matter at all.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Not really. Well yes I do. I am just going to inform the council that an Ordinance was passed in May of 2004 that put a Policy and Procedure book in place, Wayne was on the council at the time, it was done by an Ordinance. Everything that you all did after that was done by Resolution so therefore the ordinance that was put in place in May 2004 is what stands today. The next thing is this, everything that Wayne just talked about says ‘May’ everything is ‘May’ nothing that says ‘Shall’ so therefore it does not make a difference. People who work in this Government come to work and they do their job. If they don’t do their job either they will get the progressive discipline that we think is best and we will ask them to do better. Whenever some people do something that is so wrong that I cannot overlook it or face the possibility of myself being held accountable through malfeasance charges, it does not matter what the book says, they will not work for me and that is not going to change. It is just that simple. I have a job to do and my job is taking care of day to day operations of this government. That is my job. I do it like I need to do it. So not everybody gets the opportunity to move from one department to the other but some do. Those that does not have the opportunity is because their misconduct is so gross that I cannot allow them to stay on the payroll.”

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, “Mr. Timmy, does that complete your question.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “Yes.”

Councilman Dexter Brown stated, “Mr. Bellard, we as Parish Council Members are over two employees. Our Council Clerk and our Part-time Council Clerk.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Yes sir.”

Councilman Dexter Brown stated, “Now the two key words here are unacceptable performance. I notice that you have the final say so. I know it is the Human Resource Director and then you have the final say so, correct. You are saying that everything and all of your paperwork and all of your disciplinary forms and everything else are in order whenever you made that kind of decision to terminate your employees?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Exactly.”

Councilman Dexter Brown stated, “That is all that we need to know.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Make sure that we keep in mind that we are an ‘At Will’ State.”

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “I understand that we are in an ‘At Will’ State. I did get some calls by people that were terminated. I think that it is real sad when you are serving as a Human Resource Director and you call people on the carpet and say that because you are talking about me as a Human Resource Director that is sad that you are going to fire somebody. All due respect, rules and procedures were set by this council, regardless of what you call it a Resolution, not an Ordinance there should be a written reprimand first.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Nope.”

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “That is your prerogative.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “And it is my choice.”

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “That is your choice.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "That is correct."

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "It may not be right. Number 2, days off without pay and last but not least, if a person is still doing something detrimental to their job then you let them go."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "That is your opinion. But unfortunately you all are not in the position."

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "I have the floor, I have the floor. Mr. Bellard it leaves me no choice but to go along with this investigation what they want to call. You can say or do what you want but we are here as a council and we are here for the people of St. Landry Parish. If you sitting in the department and you are not doing your job right, you should be reprimanded just like anyone else. At the same time you are the President of St. Landry Parish. I want you to understand these people of St. Landry Parish need to be heard by the people that they represent and the people that represent them. I think that it is only fair if this council so chooses to have the Human Resource Director under and investigation so be it. We have 13 Councilmembers here. Everybody have a mind of their own but I think that they need to do what is right. I am finished with that."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Ladies and Gentleman, what harm would it do to look and make sure that we have everything in order. We could be sued for this. We are talking about a Federal Statue. What harm is it to send it up to Full Council and we will check the details out with the Resolution or the Ordinance or whatever. I am not sure about that but I will know tomorrow about it because I will find out. I would like to send this up to full council for consideration."

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "On Mr. Wayne's request is not only for Human Resources. It is to investigate any other Parish Government Department also. So let's just understand that, it is not just going to be one department. It consist of more than just Human Resources."

Councilman Wayne Ardoin state, "Another question that I have is; why is it that we even adopted this disciplinary policy. If we are not responsible why was it that we were asked to adopt it and leave us as councilmembers? I thought that we were the Legislative body of this council. I think that we need to look at this situation. I feel sorry for these employees. Where are they going to go? Their record is tarnished because you did not do one little thing or you may have made a remark about your job or something like that. So I just think that we need to look at this whole situation. I think that our Home Rule Charter stipulates that the council may order an investigation into the affairs of Parish Government and related conduct of any Parish Government Official Officer Employee Department Office or Agency. The investigation shall be for specified purposes which much be reduced to writing before beginning the investigation. Mr. Bellard you have gotten up here at a council meeting and said, and I have two little ladies that are standing in the back, and you have said that they are under investigation. How long are they going to be under investigation? It has been 6 months, so how long are they going to be under investigation? Are you going to terminate them? What are you going to do?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard questioned, "Who are you speaking of?"

Councilman Wayne Ardoin stated, "I am speaking of Brooke Wagley. She has her hand up right now."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "She does not work for us."

Councilman Wayne Ardoin stated, "She worked for you. She handled the Animal Shelter for you."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "She does not work for us now. In your Home Rule Charter, if you read it specifically, it says that when you pass a policy it is done by an ordinance. We did that in 2004 and that was done by ordinance. It has never been changed by ordinance since then, they were done by resolution. It is not my fault that whoever was advising you all to do something and it was not done right. The next thing is this, investigations can be done for specific reasons. You have to be specific into the nature of the investigation, you cannot just do others and everything all included, it cannot be broad, you have to be specific. The next thing, when it comes to HR and Personnel Records this council does not have the authority or have the right to subpoena neither does an independent HR Specialist. So therefore anything in personnel records will not be given to anybody other than HR Director or myself. I am just giving you all a heads up before you all start."

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "I know that you said that there several investigations going on. Right now, how many investigations of the employees do we have going on?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "We have and investigation in Animal Control that wrapped up this morning. Arrest warrants are going to be done by next week. We also have another investigation that started about one month ago and it will be done within the next 30-45 days."

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere questioned, "Are any of these people still employed with Parish Government? Are they still being paid?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "One of them is still employed. I am not sure about the pay yet because there is a limited amount of time that we can leave somebody on leave."

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere questioned, "When are you all going to make a decision as far as how long a person will be on leave?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "That person is going to be on leave until the investigation is over with. But probably without pay."

Councilman Harold Taylor questioned, "What is this: without pay and with pay? We give some fired employees pay and some no pay."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "No, investigations. Administrative leave with or without pay."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "So how do you determine who gets what?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "An investigation that is ongoing we leave that person get on leave with pay."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Is that what happened to this young lady that spoke up? She has been under investigation for a long time, right? No, you have told us that several months ago."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "I said Animal Control was under investigation."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "But she was not."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Animal Control was under investigation."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "But she was not, is that correct?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "I am not quite sure who was all involved in the investigation."

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "I guess that would come on the investigation about the pay and no pay. Now I am confused about it. The last thing is to Garrett, is it possible that we can amend this ordinance to reflect some of these modern views. Evidently it is not written to benefit. We have just so many employees that have been fired."

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "Are you referring to the ordinance of 2004?"

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "Yes."

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "Just generally, what does it pertain to."

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "I am talking about the one that he spoke of that we don't have any say-so or authority that was written as far as employees."

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "Any ordinance can be repealed or amended or you can leave it alone. Those are the three choices that the council have for every ordinance."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Mr. Chairman. I have an answer for Ms. Nancy. It is not the ordinance that says that the authority for employees are under me. It is what the Home Rule Charter calls for. That is the nature of the Beast, the Jury System did not work in this parish which is why we are here

now. So the Home Rule Charter says that I am the Executive Branch and I dictate what have to happen with everything on the Executive Side of the Government. That is what the people voted on and that is how it is ran.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “In the first four years, if some of you can remember, I had ask that we relook at this Charter. It is sort of old and we can make some changes but that was voted down, another story.”

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “I do want you to understand if anything that the council would like to change in the Home Rule Charter we can make the changes but it won’t take place until the upcoming year.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “No, it has to be voted on by the people. It has to be voted on the by the people.

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “I understand but it won’t take place until the next election year. This is election year.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “No, if the council votes to bring something to change on the Charter they can do that and then bring it to the election. It does not change because of another election year. The only thing that changes is my salary if that is changed, it will go into the next cycle. If the people vote to change the Charter then it is applied once the people vote. It don’t wait.”

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “It will take place in 2024. It will go on the ballot.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Right, if it goes on the ballot this year.”

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “That is correct.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “I think we should discuss this even further. The Charter needs to be looked at in a lot of areas.”

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, “We have a motion on the floor to retain that Independent Human Resource Specialist for an investigation that is mentioned, do I have a second.”

Councilman Easton Shelvin stated, “You need a second to forward it to the full council, right? I will second it.”

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilman Easton Shelvin to forward to Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, March 15th, 2023 to retain an Independent Human Resource Specialist to investigate the Human Resource Department and any other Parish Government Departments to determine that proper protocol was followed and that the terminations were justifiable.

A motion was made by Councilman Dexter Brown, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to adjourn the Administrative/Finance Committee Meeting.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Easton Shelvin, Harold Taylor, Dexter Brown,

NAYS: Vivian Olivier and Timmy Lejeune. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion forwarded.

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

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “Mr. Chairman, I have a couple of things. Last meeting when we elected our Chairman and speaking to him we will be looking at the budget in detail. I asked Mr. Bellard and I have actually submitted a list of question in preparation after looking at the 2023 budget. I would like to read and direct the questions that I asked this afternoon at 3:00 p.m. The Finance Director forwarded to us the answers to the questions although they are not all answered. This is the question: In order for the council to consider the proposed 2023 Proposed Operating Budget I am asking for the following information on the Budget year 2022 and 2023.

1. All Louisiana State Bond Commission Documentation confirming the request from Parish Government to convert a 2020 COVID-19 Letter of Credit to an 8 year loan.
2. All documentation of authorized signatures of those who signed the request to convert the letter to credit to a loan.

3. All written documentation notifying the council of the conversion of the Letter of Credit to a Loan.
4. Copies of all Washington State Bank transactions regarding drawdowns of funds from the converted Letter of Credit to the 8 year loan and the purpose for which these drawdowns were used.
5. Copies of invoices and all purchases which were made with the 2020 COVID-19 and a list of the proposed purchases for the 2023 Budget.

As I have said we have received a file and you all have it on your desk which I would like each one of you to look at and consider so we can talk about it in the Budget Hearing. Mr. Bellard, the only thing after browsing through this that we have not received is a written documentation notifying the council of the Letter of Credit was converted to a loan and official action that was taken by the council. Would you please check and see if you can find that sir. Thank you.

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, "Are there any other business that is brought before this committee?"

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "One more question. I was informed at the earlier part of the meeting by Counselor that the Resolution we passed two weeks ago asking for a Declaratory Judgement on several items in the Home Rule Charter. I assumed that our distinguished Counselor would be representing us but he tells me that he has a conflict of interest and we will have to retain our own attorney to do this. I would like to forward to the full council a motion to consider retaining an outside counsel to represent us in a Declaratory Judgement."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "I have a question for Mr. Taylor. Who will you all be filing a suit against?"

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "What we are asking for is Clarification of the Home Rule Charter."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "In order for that to happen you will have to have 2 parties."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "We can file it against you. Is that alright with you?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "I am not objected to anything that you all are talking about. You have to have 2 parties."

Councilman Harold Taylor questioned, "Counselor, do you want to give us some advice that is not outside of your jurisdiction."

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "No, I think that you have covered it all perfectly Mr. Taylor. You did a good job explaining it."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Do you want to answer his question, the president's question, who are we suing?"

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "So the choices are: You can have someone from the Council sue the Government, President sues the Council, Council sues the President and the Council sues itself, you have choices there. There have to be a Plaintiff and there have to be a Defendant."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "So if it is uncompromising to you can you suggest what we do."

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "They are equally good options. There is no option that is better than the other. It all arrives at the same destination Mr. Taylor."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "You did not answer the question. He is asking who are we going to sue and I am asking you, who are we going to sue?"

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "That is up to you."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "So what you are saying is that you have a conflict of interest and you cannot advise us. So what do we have you here for? I am asking a question. If you can't advise this council then what are you doing here."

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "What is your question?"

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "I am not going to repeat it if you don't remember. Who do we sue?"

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "You can file suit against the Parish President."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Okay, Option 1. You said there were 3 Options."

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "You could have someone from the council sue the Parish Government or the Parish could sue you all, although that is not going to happen."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "So my motion would be that we retain an attorney and let him advise us as to how we proceed with this."

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "Right."

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, "We have a motion on the floor, do I have a second? Everybody heard his motion, do I have a second? I will remind you this is one of the items that we are trying to find out and clarify. When there are 7 votes and there are 7 members are here for a meeting. Can those 7 members get anything done? That is the main part of this. I want to remind you all of that. That is kind of important, do I have a second?"

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "Is it separate?"

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, "It is all in there."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune questioned, "Is it separated?"

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, "That is not my motion. What do you want to separate?"

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "So we don't have a second, is that what you are saying Mr. Chairman?"

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, "As of right now I don't have a second."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "We don't have a second to send this up to the full council so all 13 of us can vote on this."

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, "I will say again. One of the things is to clarify, right Mr. Taylor if we only have 7 members here for a meeting, can we get something done with those 7 members, right, that is part of it."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "There are several more parts, would you like for me to read them?"

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, "Yes Sir it would help."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Resolution 006 of 2023

WHEREAS, the St. Landry Parish Council would desire definitive resolution by the St. Landry Parish District Court on interpreting the St. Landry Parish Home Rule Charter Sections 5-02, Section 5-04, Section 2-10 (D), and Section 3-10 (5) of the St. Landry Parish Home Rule Charter.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the St. Landry Parish Council hereby authorizes any and all lawsuits and litigation to have the St. Landry Parish District Court render a Declaratory Judgment on whether or not Section 2-10 (D) of the St. Landry Parish Home Rule Charter mandates that the St. Landry Parish Council must have seven votes in the affirmative to pass an Ordinance, Resolution, or any other action.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the St. Landry Parish Council hereby authorizes any and all lawsuits and litigation to have the St. Landry Parish District Court render a Declaratory Judgment on whether or not Section 3-10 (5) of the Home Rule Charter requires Parish Council approval of contracts signed by the Parish President.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the St. Landry Parish Council hereby authorizes any and all lawsuits and litigation to have the St. Landry Parish District Court render a Declaratory Judgment on whether or not Section 5-02 mandates that the operating budget shall finally be adopted no later than the second to last regular meeting of the fiscal year in which it was submitted. Whether or not Section 5-04 (A) of the St. Landry Parish Home Rule Charter mandates that supplemental appropriations are to be adopted by an Ordinance in the same manner required for adopting the original budget. i.e.: shall be finally adopted no later than the second to last regular meeting of the fiscal year in which it was submitted.”

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, “Is that all Mr. Taylor?”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “Yes.”

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, “Okay, that was a good explanation. I think there are some important things that we need clarity on. Do I have a second?”

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., questioned, “Can I second it.”

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, “I don’t think so, you are not on the committee.”

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, “As an Elected Official, he can break a tie.”

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “Can I second it.”

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, “I think the Ex-Officio is there only to break a tie or to make or break it.”

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, “Do I have a second by this committee? Anyone. Everyone understands what Mr. Taylor read? This is to forward it to the full council.”

Councilman Easton Shelvin stated, “I will second it to forward it to the full council.”

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilman Easton Shelvin to forward to Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, March 15th, 2023 to consider retaining an outside Counsel on how to implement Resolution 006-2023 passed by the St. Landry Parish Council to get a Declaratory Judgement from the court to interpret the Home Rule Charter.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Chairman Jerry Red Jr., Easton Shelvin and Harold Taylor and Coby Clavier.

NAYS: Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune.

ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion forwarded.

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “I vote yes. I can vote to create a tie.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “In a committee meeting? Put that in the Declaratory Judgement also.”

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, “An Ex-Officio can vote to make or break a tie. That is the only thing that an Ex-Officio can to. Our Clerk will tally it up.”

Council Clerk Sherell Jordan stated, “If Mr. Red votes, it will be 3 to 3.

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, “We have a tie. As Chairman of this committee do I break the tie?”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “He did not announce that he was voting at the beginning of the meeting. You can’t pick and choose the items you are going to vote for.”

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “This is the end of the meeting.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "You can."

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "Yes I did, I voted."

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "Mr. Clavier is the Chairman. Mr. Clavier can vote only to make or break a tie."

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, "I vote yes to break the tie."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Mr. Chairman, I look at each of the 6 of us sitting on this committee and wonder why they would not want to get clarity on what the document says. It is our bible ladies and gentlemen. Do you all not read the bible?"

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, "What is the count Ms. Sherell?"

Council Clerk Sherell Jordan stated, "It is 3 to 3."

Councilman Jerry Red Jr., questioned, "So you are saying that I cannot vote to make a tie?"

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "The Ex-Officio can vote only to make or break a tie."

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "Okay then, I am voting to break the tie."

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "That is why it says Ex-Officio there."

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, "So what is the tally Ms. Sherell?"

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "I voted to bring it to the full council."

Council Clerk Sherell Jordan stated, "So now it has passed. It will be forwarded to the full council."

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, "It will go to the full council. Do I have any other items to bring up before this committee?"

Councilwoman Mildred Thierry questioned, "Mr. Bellard, since I have some constituents in my district who were terminated, I would like to know once the investigation has been completed should it be proven that there were no wrong doing by such employee if they have a desire to want to re-enter would they be allowed to come back to work?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "When a person is terminated, they are terminated. The investigation that went on at Animal Control was done because of activities that took place at Animal Control. They were terminated not due to no investigation so therefore, no."

Councilwoman Mildred Thierry stated, "Thank you."

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, "One more try, do we have any other business properly brought before this committee? If not, do I have a motion to adjourn."

14. Adjourn.

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

On roll call vote: YEAS: Easton Shelvin, Harold Taylor, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown and Timmy Lejeune. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion carried.

ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1st, 2023
OLD CITY MARKET, 131 W. BELLEVUE ST.
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

1. Ex-Officio Jerry Red Jr., called this meeting of the Public Works Committee of the St. Landry Parish Council to order.
2. Roll Call:
Nancy Carriere, Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy. Wayne Ardoin and Jimmie Edwards.
ABSENT: Alvin Stelly.
3. Elect a Chairman:

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "I would like to nominate Mr. Wayne Ardoin as Chairman for the Public Works Committee."

Councilwoman Mildred Thierry stated, "Second."

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "We have a motion and a second to make Mr. Wayne Ardoin Chairman of the Public Works Committee. Are there any other nomination? Nomination are closed."

A motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy Carriere, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to nominate Councilman Wayne Ardoin as the Public Works Chairman for 2023.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Nancy Carriere, Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy and Jimmie Edwards. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Alvin Stelly. ABSTAINED: None.
Motion carried.

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "Mr. Ardoin, congratulations."

Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Thank you and I appreciate you all vote of confidence. I will try and conduct this meeting in the proper manner. At this time we have had the roll call and we will proceed with persons to address the committee. Some of you all, it may have been a while and you all were here waiting. I have a gentleman here that walked in and handed me a slip. Mr. Michael Fontenot, are you in the audience? Do you want to speak? I will take you first."

4. Person to address the Committee:

Mr. Michael Fontenot addressed the council. He stated, "I want to thank you for recognizing me, my name is Michael Fontenot. I live at 479 Landreneau Road in Eunice. I was here in January for a problem that I am still having today, drainage. I thought by now I would have had some kind of help, people calling me or something being done on that but absolutely nothing has been done. Mr. Bellard you said that you would have a meeting with Cory Williams, did that take place that Monday?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Everything took place up until today. They are telling us 7-10 days to get the Dottie. They want us to put some board road down in the ditch and they won't allow us on the tracks. There are certain stipulations that we have to adhere to but that process have started. It took us over a year just to get them to call us back. So whenever people are saying we are no doing anything we are doing what we can but we can't go on their property and dig the ditch."

Mr. Michael Fontenot stated, "Well I understand because Mr. Williamson called me personally and he said that you do have permission to go on there. The thing that is stopping right now and this has been about three weeks ago is that they need to get a whole of some protectors. They have to have protectors anything there is any kind of work done by the railroad. Is that correct?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Correct."

Mr. Michael Fontenot stated, "And you said that it took you all one year."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "We even got Mr. Garrett involved to send some legal notices to them."

Mr. Michael Fontenot stated, "I made a phone call to Mr. Phillip Caulkins. He answered on the second ring. He is the supervisor of Cory. I don't know, apparently you all did not try to call him because I got instant. They called me and Mr. Henry Hidalgo of the Bridge Department came. He and I met and he looked at it and everything was good on his side of everything. I did not ask Mr. Cory about how long it would take to be able to get these protectors for the work. I have this question, since it has been dug have you gotten an engineer or anything to check on that culvert that goes under Landreneau Road next to it. Is it at the level or the grade that will flow the west side of Landreneau Road? I can understand the east side by them digging, it will drain but the west side has to go under this pipe. If the grade is not, it won't go."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "We have had two different people go and check it for us."

Mr. Michael Fontenot stated, "Two people, what kind of credential people?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "One was an Engineer and the other one was the guy that will be digging the canal on the ditch along the railroad track to make sure that the water flows in that direction."

Mr. Michael Fontenot stated, "They both agreed that once it is dug that water on me will go off, guaranteed."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Well of course they will not guarantee nothing. But I can tell you this, the water will go to the train tracks and then drain towards 190. That is how it is suppose to be. That is all I can tell you."

Mr. Michael Fontenot stated, "I hope it does. The pipes have to be set right."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Yes, the pipes in front of your house are draining toward 190."

Mr. Michael Fontenot stated, "Because they were dug that way. You all started in the middle."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "I am talking about the pipes in front of you house."

Mr. Michael Fontenot stated, "From the original time, whenever they were originally set. My second driveway if one foot higher than what it should be. Barry and Jay came and shut the grade on it. I don't know what kind of credentials they have but they told me that this one was too high."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "The second one by Willie Young the water is going towards 190 and not towards Willie Young."

Mr. Michael Fontenot stated, "That second driveway, then you have Willie Young road right there, that one there is one foot to high."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Water is going toward 190. It is not going toward the canal."

Mr. Michael Fontenot stated, "The water drains along Willie Young Road and it has to turn that way. It can't because you have it elevated. They did an elevation job that is wrong. You people went over there and shot the grade and came and told me that."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "They told you from what I am understanding that if you want to change your culvert they can change it for you and set it however you want it set. But right now it is set to go toward 190."

Mr. Michael Fontenot stated, "Okay, that is what you are saying but I don't know why all pipes that you are saying have to go towards the railroad tracks and that is towards 190. Water cannot flow through it because it is too high."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "I will have to go and meet you at your house and see what you are talking about. From what I am being told from in front of your house all the way to the railroad track is the way it is suppose to go."

Mr. Michael Fontenot stated, "That is the way it is dug, I will agree but I disagree with the way the water goes. I hope that it does to go under that culvert. It is a good possibility once they relieve the pressure off the water."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "That is what we are being told."

Mr. Michael Fontenot stated, "You told me last meeting that you were going to come by. I even stopped by your office and left a message. You were in a meeting which I know that you are a busy man but I left my phone number. I said to have him stop by because I see you passing by several times. Maybe we can look at it. I have to come in front of the council to ask for this. I just wish you would take just a few minutes it would have meant a lot."

Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Mr. Mick, he said that he is going to go by and talk to you. Mr. Bellard, will you go by and talk to him?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Yes."

Mr. Michael Fontenot stated, "You said it will be about 7 days."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "They said 7-10 days before the Dottie Ticket comes back."

Mr. Michael Fontenot stated, "I did see Dottie come and mark it already but they may have to come back and recheck it."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "They just said 7-10 days to get the Dottie Ticket confirmed."

Mr. Michael Fontenot stated, "If it does not flow, what are we going to do? What is plan B.?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Let's look at what is happening right now. Everything points in that direction."

Mr. Michael Fontenot stated, "Is there another plan in case that does not work?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "If it does not flow towards 190 which that is what everything shows, then I don't know what we will have to do other than dig the other side lower to catch that water to go across to the canal."

Mr. Michael Fontenot stated, "I hope we don't have to go there. I do hope that it does go there. I appreciate it if you would give it a little bit of your time and we can look at it. Thank you all for giving me the time."

Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "I hope Mr. Bellard takes care of your situation."

Mr. Henry Thomas addressed the council. He stated, "I brought the adjudicated property in Leonville. I have been watching the meetings."

Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "First of all let's back up. What is your address and your phone number? I don't have it on your slip. I just want to have it for the record. Would you tell us what you are here far?"

Mr. Henry Thomas stated, "Grand Point Hwy, Breaux Bridge. I don't want to put out my address. I will write it down for you if you need it."

Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "I just don't have it on your slip. I just wanted it for the record. Would you tell us what you are here far? It is being recorded."

Mr. Henry Thomas questioned, "Do you want my address?"

Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "I want your address and your phone number. And tell us what you have here with the Adjudicated Property. I am familiar with the name."

Mr. Henry Thomas stated, "I live in Breaux Bridge Louisiana. At the last meeting you all asked if everybody was notified."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Mr. Chairman, before we go too far I just want to make sure you all are aware that we got served yesterday. We are being sued. Maybe Garrett can elaborate on that before we go too far. I am not sure if we can even discuss it."

Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Mr. Duplechain I am going to ask you to intervene here and give us your view on this thing."

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "St. Landry Parish Government has filed no lawsuit in this matter. A lawsuit has been filed by Mr. Lee and his attorney against Mr. Thomas and against St. Landry Parish Government. The St. Landry Parish Government will have to respond to that lawsuit which we will. I am sure Mr. Thomas will have to respond to it also. It will go from there."

Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "At this time you are advising that Mr. Thomas does not need to speak here on this item because it is in litigation."

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "It is in litigation right now."

Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Mr. Thomas, you have an attorney I would presume?"

Mr. Henry Thomas stated, "Yes."

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "My question is: At our last full council meeting I asked you the question three times. It is verbatim in our records and you told me all parties were contacted."

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "You had asked me if Mr. Thomas had been contacted about the last meeting."

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "Hold on, I asked you if all parties that were being dealt with in the situation, Mr. Lee, the person who had the first opportunity to purchase the property and Mr. Thomas, the guy that purchased the property that Mr. Lee did not purchase and had it recorded in the courthouse. You even told this council because he recorded it into the courthouse he was the owner of the property. I asked you the question because you and Parish Government asked the council to sign a Resolution so that you all could withdraw the property from Mr. Thomas. I asked you if all parties were contacted and you told me yes. This man said he was never contacted. So tell me how can this council sign a Resolution or take the words from our Legal Counsel or Parish Government when this man was never contacted. Number one, I think we need to withdraw that Resolution and don't do anything with it. We were going on a hearsay that was never done and that is sad. If you are going to ask this council to do something make sure that it is done right. If it is not done right please don't ask us to do it. That is sad. Now this man is standing before us today because he got a letter in the mail because Lance Lee said that he is filing a lawsuit against him. So what are we suppose to do?"

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "I did not ask the council to pass the Resolution. As far as being contacted about the last meeting I thought all parties were contacted. The council may pass the Resolution, the council can withdraw or not withdraw. That is completely up to the council. It is you all decision."

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "I think that it would be the best thing in the council decision to withdraw that Resolution because all parties were not contacted. I am saying that the only fairness on the council when we were not told the truth and we took action because Parish Government needed the council to do something for them and it was not done properly, so withdraw the Resolution."

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "Actually Mr. Red it was me that asked you if all of the parties were contacted. You assured me that all parties involved were contacted. I abstained and I made the comment that I was not going to go to jail. I had spoken to several attorneys that said that we could not declare this an invalid sale and asked if all parties had been contacted and you did assure me. I have asked you that several times and you said everybody that is involved had been contacted. I also got a call from Mr. Thomas. He had not known nothing until he heard it last week. We had some technical difficulties and I don't what is going on with that so he saw it on this Animal thing, whatever, sight. That is the problem that I have, the parties were not contacted. The council voted on something that was kind of misleading. I

don't know if we can rescind it, I hope that we can because we were not fully aware that he had no idea that he is going to be sued and he brought property. I just don't understand how that can be fair."

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "Parish Government did not sue Mr. Thomas."

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "We are declaring it as an invalid sale you said."

Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "At this time, what do you advise Mr. Duplechain?"

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "It is not up to me whether the council pass the Resolution or rescind the Resolution. It is up to the council what they want to do. This time a lawsuit has been filed against Parish Government and a lawsuit have been filed against Mr. Thomas. Parish Government will have to respond to the lawsuit and Mr. Thomas will respond to the lawsuit. Parish Government never filed a lawsuit. The lawsuit have filed by the other side."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "We are getting sued."

Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "We as Parish Council?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Parish Government."

Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Parish Government, but the Parish Council is the one that passed the Resolution the other night, am I correct?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "You all passed the Resolution but before any action could be taken by the attorney we were sued by Lance Lee. That is where it sits as of yesterday. So this council took action on a Resolution but nothing was done by the Legal Advisor. Lance Lee filed a suit against us and Mr. Thomas. That is where we sit right now. You all can rescind your resolution but it is not going to do anything because we are getting sued."

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "If you all had not passed the Resolution we would have been sued anyway."

Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Mr. Duplechain, out of all due respect to you the questions were asked. They were asked by Ms. Nancy Carriere, they were asked by Mr. Jerry Red and we are sitting here tonight and we are caught in the middle of it again as a Parish Council. Just like we are caught again in the middle with some of these employees that are here tonight. Where do we go from here? You tell us where we go? You are our Legal Advice."

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "As far as the lawsuit the rest is up to me. It is my initiative to take it from there and respond to it. As far as the Resolution it is up to the council. The council can rescind the Resolution if they want to. It is up to the council. As far as the lawsuit, it is up to me to deal with it."

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "I am going to agree that we rescind this Resolution. The Resolution stated, if I am not wrong, that it was an invalid sale. By us resending it, is not taking that responsibility."

Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Mr. Duplechain I am going to ask you, are we going to be in order by accepting a motion by this committee to rescind that Resolution and bring it before the full council for a vote and you will take care of the matter after we vote whether it goes through or it does not go through."

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "Right, the council can forward that if they want to the full council meeting if they want to pass a resolution rescinding the resolution."

Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Do I have a second for Ms. Nancy Carriere's motion?"

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "It will have to be someone other than Ms. Nancy because she abstained. Someone else will have to make the motion. Someone that voted yes."

Councilwoman Mildred Thierry questioned, "Since we were told that it is already in litigation will rescinding it benefit anything?"

Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "That I cannot answer because we have an attorney that is sitting here and he has advised us to do it this way. So let's do it by his advice."

Parish president Jessie Bellard stated, "I would like to make a comment. Rescinding that motion is not going to stop the lawsuit that was filed against us. I just want to make sure that we are clear on that."

Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "That I can't answer Mr. Bellard but you know what, we are caught in the middle and I will make a statement. You as Parish Government walked outside of this building and made a statement to a certain councilmember, I will take care of this matter. Talking about Mr. Thomas's matter. I just feel that some of these sales that were done, you know and I know that some of them should have never happened. That is my feeling as a councilmember."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "I am just making the comment, just because you all rescind the resolution does not stop the lawsuit."

Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Mr. Duplechain, are you advising us?"

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "A resolution expresses the will of the council. The council can change its mind if it wants to and pass a resolution rescinding the last resolution."

Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "It has to be brought before the full council on the third Wednesday of this month."

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, seconded by Councilman Jimmie Edward to forward to Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, March 15th, 2023 to Rescind Resolution 005-2023. A Non Warranty Cash Sale.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Nancy Carriere, Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy and Jimmie Edwards. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Alvin Stelly. ABSTAINED: None.
Motion forwarded.

Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Thank you Mr. Thomas."

Ms. Chasity Davis-Warren addressed the council. She stated, "My name is Chasity Davis-Warren. 1904 S. Washington Street, Opelousas. 337-308-1373. I am here to speak on Ms. Mary Fontenot. Ms. Mary Fontenot is one of the employees that was fired. She is a dedicated woman. Like everyone I know she has flaws but who is perfect? I developed a relationship with Ms. Fontenot when she enrolled her grandbaby into my child care facility. Let me repeat that, she enrolled her grandbaby in my child care facility. She has custody of 3 of her grandkids and one has special needs. Do you all know how hard it is to take care of a child with special needs? I know because I have doing it for 12 years. Let me tell you how dedicated she was to this job. On January 17, 2023 there was a power outage in Opelousas. I had to close my center down. All the kids in my daycare were gone. Ms. Fontenot told me that there is no way that she can come and pick up her child because she was at work. The lights eventually came back on but he was the only child left with one of my employees because she was that dedicated that she put the job before coming to pick up her grandbaby. For hours he stayed there with one employee so that way she can work but now she is fired. She also asked us if we can open the daycare early so she can go out and help with the commodities. So if you are looking for perfection you won't find it in anyone but God. So if this decision of termination is final I hope that everyone that is involved never sleep a peaceful night for the rest of their life. Let this woman continue to do the job that she was hired to do. I am going to say this, Mr. Bellard, I have the most respect for you, we have a great relationship and I think that you are doing an awesome job as our Parish President but this right here done drop the ball. I still respect you but I think that some of these employees were wrongfully terminated. Thank you."

Mr. Denis Brown addressed the council. He stated, "The last time I was here, I was here for zoning out in the country. When I first came to this great State of Louisiana I fell in love with it. When I left here you did not see me for a year. I went to a PTSD Academy for a year. I could have got out in 6 months but when I went to the door I could not leave. I told my family when I come out, they turned us on the street and we were killers. I was attached. I had 150 men, I am speaking in self as a leader. I led in front, I love my men. They were all white, I was a black captain but they loved me. It had nothing to do with skin color, a man is a man. Not only did I have to lead because my skin was black I had to prove a point that

they were safe and that they could be led by a man of color. I carried flags for 75 men, all white. I made it. I said that I would never leave them and I did not. I delivered all pieces and a flag that we fought for. Now that is the PTSD stuff. I will move pass that. In that place I surrendered, I said, I can't control anything anymore. I got rid of all my flock and I did an inventory for myself. Something happened there, a very wealthy man who was a sponsor choose me out of the blue and said I will take you. Out of Lafayette, 15 men, I am now one of the 15 men that he had chosen because he is a leader. You have some leaders that are made for this one thing. I am sitting here listening to you guys lawsuit. Listen, we all have to humble because one day Catholics, Jews and Protestants, we will all have to fall down on our knees and bow before God. Now you are looking at a man, I have never been an Uncle Tom and my daddy performed 1,200 acers in the state of Tennessee and we walked the walk and we talked the talk. He said we put our pants on the same way and we make decisions together. When my father got caught up in a combine and I was holding his hand and I started praying and I just so happen that my mother loved my father so much that and she was so religious that she felt something had happened. I have dealing with trauma all of my life but my father said lead the men Denis, don't cut corners, be firm but be fair. If I made a decision because one person made one mistake, if they did that I would not have a squad, I would not have a platoon, I would not have a squad with me leading them and chasing bullets because we ran towards the bullets. We never retreated. We made a dedication to die so you, the president could have your job and go home and sleep easy at night. I just got off of a plane in Utah just for this lady right here. I am a Spiritual Leader and when you mess with my Flock and you accuse her of something of who she is not, I was outspoken this far but I was very humble and respectful, wasn't I but this this white collar means more that Marine Corp Uniform and it is still hanging in glass in my house, God has been good to me. God has shielded me, I take home \$8,000.00 per month pension. I answer to no one. I am a self-made man but I will tell you this, the storm is brewing. This parish is being talked about in Salt Lake City Utah and Memphis Tennessee. Remember what I said, what is done in the dark will come to the light. Bishop L. Quarter has one of the biggest black churches of God in Christ Church in the nation, I am one of his descendants and I said that I will never have his collar on but never say never. But what I don't want is for this parish that I love so much over a simple thing that can be fixed among men, woman and minds. I don't want to be in front of the newspaper. I don't want to be there but I will fight a good fight. If you ever look in the history books that black man that was standing behind Martin Luther King with the Afro with his hand on him, that is my uncle and he owns the famous Bar-B-Que place in downtown Memphis Tennessee. I sold myself out for that flag. I have nothing else to give, I am just a nobody trying to tell everybody about somebody who loves everybody and that is Jesus. Please, please, we don't have to do this. We don't need another black eye because you know that color is going to come out. I don't believe in that, what I do believe in is fairness. We don't need this because they send out the dogs, the war dogs is what they call it and they do their investigation because they are coming if this is not resolved and this is not a threat. My job as a Pastor, I have to walk the line and all I want is men to be men and people to be people, love your neighbor, black, white, blue or green it does not matter. Agree to disagree. That is just like that confederate guy, if he would have caught me some years ago we would have had problems. He had rights to for what he believe in. If people don't believe in God believe in a tomato as long as it makes you be a good person to your neighbor.

Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Mr. Brown, I will have to ask you to wrap it up. Your five minutes is up."

Mr. Denis Brown stated, "I am done. I touched this building before I came in and I prayed. Do you know everything that I wanted you all to do, God answered and I did not have to say a word. I thank you for that and I pray that all of us be on good ground and this go away. Thank you."

Mr. Donald Broussard addressed the council. He stated, "Donald Broussard, 625 West Hyrum Street, Opelousas. 337-351-7417. Good evening Ladies and Gentleman of the council and Parish President Bellard. I am here to speak on the item that was on the committee agenda, the termination of Parish Government Employees. I will open this up with a word. In the book of Proverbs 16:18 says: Pride goes before destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall. Mr. Wayne Ardoin, I would like to thank you sir for bringing that item up because out of the individuals that have been recently terminated I have a personal relationship with quite a few of those individuals. I can speak about their charter, their dedication and their commitment to St. Landry Parish Government. Now Jessie, I supported you the last election financial and with my voice in my community but from the reports that we have been receiving about some of these terminations they have been done Johnnie on the Spot. In any business organization and in any Governmental Agency Organization the way and the natural order of doing business and doing things is that you have employees and some of them have to be coached along in their day to day operations. When Policy and Procedure is implemented such as St. Landry Parish Government has Policy and Procedure on

the books it has to be followed. Sometimes employees may deviate from Policy and Procedure Parish President Bellard and what the councilmen and women are saying. I have worked in many different agencies and entities where there were 3 levels of reprimand. The first level would be verbal reprimand, where you would call them in and warn them about not following Policy and Procedure or a written reprimand in writing, documentation. The second level of disciplinary action would be to suspend that employee without pay for whatever amount of time the council and the president would suggest. The third level of disciplinary action would be termination. In speaking with Ms. Maggie Fontenot and speaking with a personal friend of mine, someone that I have eaten off of his table and he has eaten off of my table and you gave him an opportunity, Mr. Baxter Iford, they were fired and I know for a fact that Baxter never received any paperwork regarding his termination. Ms. Candace called him in and told him that he was no longer employed with St. Landry Parish Government. Same thing that happen with Ms. Maggie and it got to a personal level. So all I am saying Parish President Bellard, I supported you, I supported you and I donated to your campaign. I am not just speaking for the black employees that have been terminated I am reference all employees of Parish Government. Because the organization that I represent, we are a color blind organization dedicated to fight injustice and racism anywhere in the world. I am not saying that what was done to some of the employees is racist but I am saying it is unjust and I think it would be a travesty if this council does not at least consider what Mr. Wayne Ardoin said about doing an Independent Investigation of the Human Resources Director for the past several termination. From what we have been hearing it has been more personal related than business related. When you are running a business entity funded by Mr. and Mrs. John Q. Taxpayer, me being one of them, we have a voice and that voice is at the ballot. So I will let my chips fall where they fall. Like the Pastor said, he served and I appreciate your service, I am a Desert Storm Vet and we ran towards the bullet to, we don't run from them. So all I will say is I have spoken to some of the employees and the grounds and the means for termination is personal. He say, she say, they said and you can't have that in a Government Agency on any level ladies and gentleman. The second situation that I want to talk about, Mr. Richard Lewis from my understanding have been placed on Administrative leave with pay. I am representing my Uncle Hilvin Semien and my Aunt Wilma Semien and my first cousin, more like a brother, Eric Durousseau and Patrina Durousseau. They live off of Jim Guillory Road. There is some Blighted Properties, grass that is 12 feet tall, Parish President Bellard, Mr. Lewis is on paid Administrative leave is there a time frame that you can tell the people and the constituents of St. Landry Parish, the parish councilmen and women when this administrative leave with pay is going to end? So that this problem that my uncle and my cousin had been coming up her for the past year and one half to two years to get this situation addressed. They have rats that are big as raccoons coming out of there, they have snakes big as pythons coming out of there and it is a hazard. They have a three way stop sign at the Y, when the people get to the stop sign they can't see the oncoming traffic in either direction of the 'Y'. It could potentially be a legal issue against the Parish Government for that blighted property. I have all of the documentation, all the names of the property owners, the parcel of land and the pictures of the blighted property down Jim Guillory Road. Ladies and gentleman, I thank you for your time. Parish President Bellard, I was with you last time, I am with you this time as long as the right things are done and the people that were wrongfully terminated be rightfully reinstated if that is a possibility. Sometimes we have to look in the mirror and we have to listen to the voice of reason and the voice of reason is with the people. A lot of these people that were terminated were supporters. That is all that I am going to say. Thank you all."

5. Public Works Report:

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "I don't have anything to report."

Councilwoman Mildred Thierry stated, "Mr. Bellard, last meeting we had been promised that we would meet at some point to look at the different precincts and the polling places. Not just my district but we are all aware there are a lot of areas that we need to fix it. We were told that we would be having meetings to look at this and I don't want us to be caught saying that it is too late. Do you know when?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "I am not the one that is doing that."

Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "He is telling you that he is not the one. Mr. Hefner said he was going to get back in touch with us. And I will reach out to Mr. Byron Stelly in the Registrar of Voters Office."

6. Forward all applications received for one appointment to Ward 3 Consolidated Gravity Drainage District No.1 for the remaining of a four- year term. (12-21-2020 – 12-21-2024)

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, seconded by Councilman Gil Savoy to forward to Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, March 15th, 2023 all applications received for one appointment to Ward 3 Consolidated Gravity Drainage District No.1 for the remaining of a four- year term. (12-21-2020 – 12-21-2024).

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

Motion forwarded.

7. Forward all applications received for one appointment to South St. Landry Community Library District for a five year term. (04-01-2023 – 04-01-2028).

A motion was made by Councilman Jimmie Edwards, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to forward to Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, March 15th, 2023 all applications received for one appointment to South St. Landry Community Library District for a five year term. (04-01-2023 – 04-01-2028).

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

Motion forwarded.

8. Authorize the beginning process for the study of Speed Bumps on: Belmont and Plantation Road. (Councilwoman Nancy Carriere).

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "I have my constituents requesting speed bumps."

A motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy Carriere, seconded by Councilman Gil Savoy to forward to Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, March 15th, 2023 to start the beginning process for the study of Speed Bumps on Belmont and Plantation Road.

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

Motion forwarded.

9. Discuss adding a sign stating No Trucks and Speed Limit on Harmon Lane. (Councilwoman Nancy Carriere).

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "Harmon Lane has just been resurfaced. Upon request of Mr. Soileau he ask that I place this on the agenda and we can get some 'No Trucks and 'Speed Limit signs installed on the road because it is a new road and it won't be damaged. This is from Mr. Barry Soileau."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "I will need to make sure that it is one of those 'No Thru' traffic before we do that. We just can't place a sign. I will find out about that. The speed limit sign will not be a problem but the 'No Trucks' sign, I think we may have to pass an ordinance for that."

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "I think that we have an ordinance with the 'No Trucks' and 'No Thru' if it is not on there we can add it to that ordinance which list the roads with 'No Truck' or 'No Thru Traffic.' Unless someone knows something different I think the speed limit on that road is 20 MPH. I looked at it before I came here today and I saw that it indicates 20 MPH unless someone knows something different."

Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Mr. Duplechain to speed up the process would you look into the speed limit and if you need to tweak that ordinance so that we can go with the process that Ms. Carriere is asking for."

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "Right, it there is no speed limit signs and there should be one. I looked at it before I came here and it appears to be 20 MPH. I will look at it again. As far as No Trucks there is an ordinance that lists the roads with no trucks then we can add it to that."

Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "So you are going to bring it up at Full Council Meeting.

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, "It will be ready for the Full Council Meeting."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune questioned, "What kind of trucks are you talking about Ms. Nancy?"

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “18 Wheelers because there is no farming going on. I will let them decide. I am only requesting it because they are requesting it.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “I understand what you are saying but the reason that I am asking that question is because at one time we had some signs on multiple roads within the parish about ‘No Trucks’. Then The Department of Agriculture came and said that we could not post those sign because it was Farm to Market Road. So I just wanted to make sure that we can. I would like to see us do that throughout the parish because a lot of these heavy equipment are destroying some of these roads.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Just to clarify Mr. Lejeune, if we say ‘No Thru Trucks’ Agricultural Vehicles are exempt from that. I think that we will be good. I think what we are talking about are these big box trucks and 18 wheelers. But the Farm Vehicles are exempt.”

Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “You will come back to us Mr. Duplechain with the findings?”

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, “Yes if the council passes it to the full council meeting. There is two parts to this. The first part is: Speed Limit – 20 MPH and a speed limit sign would just need to be installed if it is not already there. As far as the No Trucks I will look at that ordinance. If there is not one in place already then it will be ready in two weeks from now.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Regarding Mr. Hefner, He just text me back March 9 is what he is shooting for. He said he will be working with Sherell on that.”

Councilman Jimmie Edwards stated, “On March 9 is when we go to our Convention. That is when it starts.

Councilwoman Mildred Thierry stated, “I also have a function on March 9.

Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “Ms. Sherell, would you contact Mr. Hefner and tell him that we may have a conflict but some councilmembers may be able to meet with him. Not everyone is going to the convention and I don’t think that everybody have something committed on the 9th. Maybe some of us can get our business straight.”

A motion was made by Councilman Jimmie Edwards, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to forward to Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, March 15th, 2023 to discuss adding a sign stating ‘No Truck’ and a ‘Speed Limit’ sign on Harmon Lane.

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

Motion forwarded.

10. Authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for one appointment for the remainder of a three year term to the St. Landry Parish Tourist Commission. (02-19-2022 – 02-19-2025). Mr. Lincoln Savoy has resigned.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, seconded by Councilman Jimmie Edwards to forward to Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, March 15th, 2023 to authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for one appointment for the remainder of a three year term to the St. Landry Parish Tourist Commission. (02-19-2022 – 02-19-2025) Mr. Lincoln Savoy has resigned.

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

NAYS: None. ABSENT: Nancy Carriere and Alvin Stelly. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion forwarded.

11. Authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for one appointments to the St. Landry Waterworks District No. 3. (No Set Terms) Harry Marks has retired.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, seconded by Councilman Jimmie Edwards to forward to Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, March 15th, 2023 to authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for one appointment to the St. Landry Waterworks District No. 3. (No set Terms) Harry Marks has retired.

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

Motion forwarded.

12. Authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for two appointments to Fire District No. 2 for a two year term. (05-15-2023 – 05-15-2025).

A motion was made by Councilman Jimmie Edwards, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to forward to Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, March 15th, 2023 to authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for two appointments to Fire District No. 2 for a two year term. (05-15-2023 – 05-15-2025).

On roll call vote: YEAS: Nancy Carriere, Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy and Jimmie Edwards. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Alvin Stelly. ABSTAINED: None.
Motion forwarded.

13. Forward to full council to appoint Lieutenant Ryan Young to serve on the St. Landry Parish Communications District E-911 Board recommended by Chief Kyle LeBouf.

A motion was made by Councilman Jimmie Edwards, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to forward to Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, March 15th, 2023 to appoint Lieutenant Ryan Young to serve on the St. Landry Parish communications District E-911 Board.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Nancy Carriere, Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy and Jimmie Edwards. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Alvin Stelly. ABSTAINED: None.
Motion forwarded.

14. Update on the ditch along the tracks off of Landreneau Road.

Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Councilman Coby Clavier stated this item was discussed earlier in the meeting by Mr. Mike Fontenot. Mr. Bellard will get with Mr. Fontenot regarding the ditch on Landreneau Road."

15. Discuss the Condolence List being sent out to local Funeral Homes. (Councilman Wayne Ardoin).

Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "I ask that this be placed on the agenda. Last month Ms. Sherell brought it to my attention that one of the Funeral Homes advised her that they were not going to sending any of these letters out when we offer condolences. When she called me I happen to be at one of the funeral homes here in town which is Sibille and they advised me that they will continue doing what they had been doing also Lafon-Ardoin said they were. Melancon Funeral Home advised that they are not going to send the list anymore. The young lady, her name is Ms. Gaspard, she advised for us to put something in an e-mail whereas they would get the condolences from the Parish Government instead of it being done the way that we do it here. I am asking that maybe Ms. Sherell re-contact them and see how they want to handle that.

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "So far that is only one. Did you ever get any response from Ford and Joseph and Williams?"

Council Clerk Sherell Jordan stated, "Williams said that they are not going to forward the letters. But Ford and Joseph will forward the letters to the deceased family."

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "For the ones that will continue to do it we can continue to use their services. The ones that decided that they are not going to do it which is about three funeral homes, I personally don't mind doing my own for those funeral homes that don't want to participate."

Councilman Dexter Brown stated, "What did the Funeral Homes say?"

Council Clerk Sherell Jordan stated, "They said that the constituents don't go and pick up the letters. They don't pick up the death certificate and they don't pick up the letter and they don't mail it out to them. They can't give us their personal address."

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "The Funeral Homes that are not doing it can our council office mail it back to the people. As long as we are getting it back to the constituents."

Council Clerk Sherell Jordan stated, "We don't know their address."

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "Once you get the address you could forward that information back to the people."

Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "That is where the address comes from the Funeral Home because the people come and pick up their certificate or any other paper work. She advised what one had said and I did not know about the others. Ms. Vivian advised that she would take care of that item when she was the chairman. At this time I am open for any suggestions."

Councilwoman Mildred Thierry stated, "I would suggest that we read all of our Condolences as we normally do, they are head on live Facebook and mail to the ones who said that they would send them out."

Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "How about addresses. We will have a problem there."

Councilwoman Mildred Thierry stated, "I was referring to the Funeral Homes who said that they were going to see that the person gets it. The ones who don't at least we have done it on live Facebook for the ones that do listen they can hear the names on the live video."

Councilman Dexter Brown stated, "With the live Facebook can we put something on our Facebook Page from Parish Government basically stating that we have a letter that we send out for condolences to the family members and they can come and pick it up if they want a copy."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "Can we make a Condolence Facebook Page and attach it to what we currently have? It would eliminate all of that process. We would have like a Condolence Section. They can click on it and look at it and we could list all of the people every month or every quarter just take those down and put another set of them up."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "I think that we can put a page on our Website as well for condolences and add it there as well. We can do it in a couple of areas."

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "I will agree with Ms. Thierry besides the Facebook thing. We have some people in Texas that we are giving condolences to and at a different funeral home that is not in St. Landry Parish so the Facebook is nice. I think that it would be good for the funeral homes that will continue, let them continue and we can go that other route for those that are not willing to participate."

Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Sherell and the Parish Government will take care of that situation."

16. Discuss where the Parish Line is located on Jack Fox Road outside of Grand Coteau. (Councilman Wayne Ardoin).

Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "I ask that this be placed on the agenda. We have a situation where the City of Grand Coteau and the City Limits Stop. Then you have another section where the City limits start again. I would ask because I know on some roads we have it where we have a sign saying Parish Maintenance. I would ask that it be marked. I had a situation in my area and people called me from Abbeville. They needed a Culvert put down. Is it in the city limits or is it out of the city limits. I would ask that that be taken care of. It is right behind that plastic company on I-49. The ditches are full of trees. If it is ours then we try and clean those ditches up. Thank you sir."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "I will text them right now."

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

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "I am sorry that nature called. I did not hear what was the conclusion with Mr. Hefner."

Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "He is going to get back with Ms. Sherell. He set up a date on the 9 and maybe some councilmember will be able to meet with him. We also have to coincide with our Registrar of Voters and we have the Clerk of Court that we have to coincide with. I think there is a convention that is going on in Shreveport."

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., questioned, "Mr. Bellard, can you give me an update on J.M. Lafleur Road."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "No but I will find out tomorrow. Are you talking about the overlay?"

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "Yes, I believe Barry was suppose to give me an update on that last week."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "That was already done as far as the P.O. is concerned. We are waiting on a contractor but he did talk to them. I was thinking about that other one."

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "Yes that one and Hilton."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Yes, all of that circle. That is coming up. The. P.O. is signed so we are just waiting on the contractor."

Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Mr. Bellard, I have a question. You mentioned the other day that you all were looking into purchasing a piece of equipment that would spread limestone on the side of the road have we purchased that equipment?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "We did get the P.O. for it. They are telling us within 30 days it will be in. So hopefully."

Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "I have a problem on Country Ridge Road where the shoulder is dropping."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "I have to do Beck Miller first because it has been asked several times. As soon as it comes in it will be done."

18. Adjourn

A motion was made by Councilman Jimmie Edwards, seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Carriere to adjourn the Public Works Committee Meeting.

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

Motion forwarded.

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

XIII. ADJOURN