

**AGENDA**  
**ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2023 @ 6:00 P.M.**  
**OLD CITY MARKET, 131 W. BELLEVUE ST.**  
**OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA**

- I. CALL TO ORDER**
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & INVOCATION (Councilman Dexter Brown)**
- III. ROLL CALL**
- IV. CONDOLENCES**
- V. PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL**
- VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
  - **Regular Meeting: September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023**
- VII. PARISH PRESIDENT’S REPORT**
- VIII. NEW BUSINESS:**
  - \*Items passed through committee.
  - 1. Authorize the Council Clerk to re-advertise for four appointments to the St. Landry Parish Planning Commission Board.
  - 2. Vote to re-appoint Lastie Cormier for one appointment for a one- year term to Fire District No. 7. and authorize the Council Clerk to re-advertise for one appointment for a one year term to Fire District No. 7. (11-18-2023 – 11-18-2024).
  - 3. Authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for three appointments to Hospital District No. 1 (Acadian Medical Center) for a six-year term. (12-08-2023 – 12-08-2029).
  - 4. Vote to re-appoint Trey Stanford and Chris Leblanc for two appointments for a four- year term to East St. Landry Consolidated Gravity Drainage District No. 1. (11-18-2023 - 11-18-2027).
  - 5. Authorize appointing a committee to work with the present committee to put policies and procedures together and come back with an ordinance creating a commission that is in charge of operating the Ag Arena.
  - 6. Authorize the sale of the adjudicated property under the ruling that we have now and we put something in place for the next sale or the sale after that.
  - 7. Authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for two appointments to Fire District No. 1 for a two- year term. (12-20-2023 – 12-20-2025).
  - 8. Authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for one appointment to St. Landry Gravity Drainage District No. 14 for the remainder of a four- year term. (06-21- 2021- 06-21-2025).
  - 9. Vote to accept Ms. Bambi Polotzola, Ms. Lena Charles, and Mr. Kenneth Dejean as members selected by Councilwoman Nancy Carriere to sit on the board to discuss the fate of the statue.
  - 10. Authorize the Preliminary and Final Approval of a proposed subdivision located on Sunflower Road, Opelousas, LA showing a partition of a 10.350 acre tract Lots A-T (20 lots) situated in Section 10, Township 6 South and Range 3 East.

11. Authorize the Parish President Jessie Bellard to sign a Disbursement of American Rescue Plan Act Funds to Washington Garden Club Inc., and Steamboat City Association, Inc., in the amount of \$2,500.00 each for a total of \$5,000.00.
12. Authorize the Council Clerk to contact a representative from Acadian Ambulance Service to come and address the council.
13. Authorize the Parish President to re-implement the burn band back in St. Landry Parish.

**IX. ORDINANCES TO BE INTRODUCED:**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2023-022**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 18-85 OF CHAPTER 18 OF THE ST. LANDRY PARISH CODE OF ORDINANCES TO CHANGE THE WORDING IN SECTION 18-85 (c) TO READ “50 lots or 5 acres, whichever is less....”**

WHEREAS, Article I, Section 1-06 of the St. Landry Parish Home Rule Charter states that the parish government shall have the power to pass all ordinances necessary to promote, protect, and preserve the general welfare, safety, health, peace, and orderly conduct of the parish, and this includes the power to pass ordinances on all subject matters not inconsistent with the constitution or denied by state law;

**ORDINANCE NO. 2023-023**

**AN ORDINANCE TO ENFORCE CHAPTER 18, FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION OF THE ST. LANDRY PARISH CODE OF ORDINANCES**

WHEREAS, Article I, Section 1-06 of the St. Landry Parish Home Rule Charter states that the parish government shall have the power to pass all ordinances necessary to promote, protect, and preserve the general welfare, safety, health, peace, and orderly conduct of the parish, and this includes the power to pass ordinances on all subject matters not inconsistent with the constitution or denied by state law;

**ORDINANCE NO. 2023-024**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ST. LANDRY PARISH ORDINANCE SECTION 28-6, DAMAGING OR REMOVAL OF BRIDGE SIGNS, ROAD SIGNS, GUIDE POSTS, ETC., TO INCLUDE A FINE FOR VIOLATING THAT ORDINANCE**

WHEREAS, Article I, Section 1-06 of the St. Landry Parish Home Rule Charter states that the parish government shall have the power to pass all ordinances necessary to promote, protect, and preserve the general welfare, safety, health, peace, and orderly conduct of the parish, and this includes the power to pass ordinances on all subject matters not inconsistent with the constitution or denied by state law;

**ORDINANCE NO. 2023-025**

**AN ORDINANCE TO REQUIRE ALL PERSONS, ENTITIES, AND/OR CONTRACTORS TO GET A PERMIT FROM ST. LANDRY PARISH GOVERNMENT BEFORE DOING WORK WITHIN A ST. LANDRY PARISH RIGHT OF WAY**

WHEREAS, St. Landry Parish Government shall require all persons, entities, and/or contractors to obtain a permit from St. Landry Parish Government, and pay a permit fee to St. Landry Parish Government, before doing any work within a St. Landry Parish right of way;

WHEREAS, St. Landry Parish Government requiring the permit and permit fee prior to work being performed within a St. Landry Parish right of way protects the citizens of St. Landry Parish and their property;

**X. ORDINANCES TO BE ADOPTED:  
NONE.**

**XI. RESOLUTIONS TO BE ADOPTED:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 030-2023**

**ANNUAL CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE**

**WITH THE STATE OF LOUISIANA**

**OFF SYSTEM BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM**

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

WHEREAS, the responsibility to inspect, rate and load-post Parish bridges is under the authority of St. Landry Parish Government in accordance with standards as delegated by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (herein referred to as DOTD) for the period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024.

1. The Parish will perform all interim inspections on all Parish owned or maintained bridges in accordance with the National Bridge Inspection Standards.
2. All parish owned or maintained bridges, which require load posting or closing, will be posted or closed in accordance with the table in the DOTD Engineering Directives and Standards Manual Directive No. 1.1.1.8. DOTD supplies only load posting information concerning bridges that have been critically reviewed prior to load posting.

These stipulations are requisites to participation by the Parish in the Off System Bridge Replacement Program.

**XII. COMMITTEE MINUTES:**

**Parish President Jessie Bellard was absent for this meeting due to fires in the parish.**

**ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL  
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4th, 2023  
OLD CITY MARKET, 131 W. BELLEVUE ST.  
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA**

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

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

***Councilman Timmy Lejeune joined the Public Works Committee to make a quorum.***

4. **Person to address the Committee:**  
**Ms. Melissa Magee addressed the council.** She stated, "I live at 224 Sunflower Road in Opelousas. I am here about the concern for building 20 houses down our street, Sunflower Road. I am concerned about the infrastructure and the water pressure. The infrastructure will begin at the corner of my property and go down the street. I have been

living on Sunflower Road for 52 years and we already have trouble with the water pressure. I think with 20 more houses we will have more trouble with the water pressure and the infrastructure on that road. They will end up having to put speed bumps on the road and they already come out and patch the road. I feel with 20 additional homes there will be more vehicles traveling down that road.”

**Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated**, “This area is on Sunflower Road. They have a Preliminary and Final Approval of a proposed Subdivision. Ms. Karia Rami signed off on it and Mr. Jarrell sent us a letter.”

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot-Code Enforcement Officer stated**, “She will be sitting in for Mr. Bellard whom is out fighting fires tonight throughout the parish. They do have a letter that was presented from the State and they are waiting on a couple of things from the water system.”

**Councilman Harold Taylor stated**, “So the question would be if we are waiting on information why do we have it on the agenda to send up in two weeks. You should sit on it until you get all the information don’t you think.”

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot stated**, “Well I will pass that on to the Parish President.”

**Councilman Harold Taylor stated**, “You don’t have all the information, is that correct.”

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot stated**, “Yes sir.”

**Councilman Harold Taylor stated**, “I suggest that we table this until we get all the information and have these people that are complaining get with the engineer and see if he can give some confidence in a water system that takes care of them.”

**Chairman Jerry Red Jr. stated**, “Mr. Chairman this is part in District 3 and I have a portion of that in that district. I believe if they waiting on the paperwork and it will be forwarded to the full council. If they will have the information at the full council it’s nothing for us to hold it.”

**Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated**, “Mr. Red, I made that motion and I will ask you what are your wishes?”

**Chairman Jerry Red Jr. stated**, “It’s mostly in District 3 and I’m saying if they already did all of the paperwork and everything was passed by Parish Government then I see no reason to hold up the process. If they waiting on something from the water department, Is that Prairie Rhonde Water?”

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot stated**, “Yes it is. They already have approval from sanitation but they were waiting on that letter from Prairie Rhonde Water.”

**Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated**, “Let me ask this question, out of all fairness to the people that are here and the council members that made that motion do you all want to hear from the people and then we take it from there and finalize it?”

**Chairman Jerry Red Jr. stated**, “I’m thinking it’s fair.”

**Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated**, “I want to hear from the constituents, I think they have a voice here. Let them go ahead and speak and then we will take it from there.”

**Councilman Easton Shelvin stated**, “If we will do an approval to push it to the full council, we not really doing an approval for it to go forward right now but at full council we will go to see if we will go forward with it. I don’t think we should table it. I think we should let it come to full council let community come forward speak their opinions and see if we table it from there.”

**Chairman Jerry Red Jr. stated,** “If we don’t have paperwork that was supposed to be presented from the water company then it would have to be tabled.”

**Councilman Alvin Stelly stated,** “If they have a water problem with the pressure already what will happen if they add 20 more houses somebody will be in trouble.”

**Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “Let’s let the engineer or whomever they have for engineers give us information and we will take it from there. Ms. Magee you have said what you wanted to say, are there any more questions for Ms. Magee or the finance?”

**Joseph Boudreaux addressed the council.** He stated, “I live at 146 Sunflower Road in Opelousas. I haven’t lived there that long, maybe 3 years. This is just our little slice of heaven and we want to try and keep it that way. The roads are fallen apart and water pressure is not great at all. You adding 20 more houses, the water pressure will be nothing. I bought some land in Begg and the Prairie Rhonde Water goes all the way to Begg. If you get all the way to Begg and there is no water pressure I would have to drill a well and all kind of stuff. So I sold the property and bought some land on this side. When I bought land on this side we have pretty decent pressure but if it keeps on adding they won’t have any pressure left. They don’t want to put in new lines because it’s expensive, one of the reasons why they didn’t allow us to tap in Begg. We hope and pray that you all see the way we see and help us out.”

**Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “Any questions for Mr. Boudreaux? No, thank you for your input sir.”

**Brian Boudreaux addressed the council.** He stated, “I live at 206 Sunflower Road in Opelousas. As they stated, water pressure and the road is not very good I have pictures if anyone would like to see them. How high the property is going to be compared to how low the road actually is. If you’re down Sunflower the left side of the property is low and the right side is high. If they build 20 houses with driveways going down then 20 culverts would be needed for the water to slide down. All the water will go onto the road once it goes onto the road and the roads are filled and the ditches can’t handle anymore, the ditches are maybe only ankle deep. Once the ditches and the water can’t hold anymore then it will go onto the properties. We don’t want this to turn into a flood zone. Again I just bought 206 Sunflower Road but my godmother been living down Sunflower for 30+ years. When they did the smooth ride home program with Mr. Bill Fontenot they put maybe a quarter inch on top of the road that was already there and that road was a nightmare. I mean it was very, very bad. They only put a quarter inch of black top and if you look a lot of the road and drainage is already very bad. So we are concerned about putting 20 more houses on top of that. If something would happen to these 20 houses being on top of each other in a ten acre period. If one of these houses would catch fire God forbid we all know there are no fire hydrants. There is no way to put these fires out. Being that close together one fire would turn into the next house and the next house. They have a bean field that will be located right behind these houses that connects to all of our properties Ms. Magee, Ms. Fontenot, Mr. Boudreaux (my brother) they all connect so if this fire spreads like it did on Bertrand several weeks back we are going to have a problem. I just think 20 houses is too much to put in that area not counting if crime gets high. If I call the sheriff department right now sitting in my driveway that’s 30 to 45 minutes before they get there. Same thing for the fire department. Fire department has to come from Lawtell or the back side of Opelousas. We have no immediate fire department in the Prairie Rhonde area. So we are concerned about 20 houses being brought up in our little community. This is our community, this is where we live. He’s wanting to put 20 houses to make money, this is where we live. Imagine that coming to your neighborhood bringing speeding traffic down the road and your kids are out riding their bike on that road. What that’s going to do. I just feel that is just a bit much.”

**Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “Any questions for Mr. Boudreaux. No. Ok. I will read a letter that’s in our package tonight and it is addressed from Aucoin & Associates to Ms. Karia Rami, I have reviewed the preliminary plat for the proposed subdivision for compliance with the Parish Subdivision Ordinance and offer the following comments:

- 1) The name of the subdivision shall be indicated on the plat.
- 2) No elevation contours or elevations were provided to indicate drainage patterns. Review of Google imagery and Lidar indicates the lots may drain in both westerly and easterly directions. A note shall be provided on the plat indicating it shall be the lot owners responsibility to shape and drain the lot to the Sunflower road ditch.
- 3) A letter of Concurrence with methods of potable water supply and wastewater treatment shall be obtained from the Parish Sanitarian.
- 4) A letter from the Prairie Rhonde Water System indicating capacity and willingness to serve the subdivision shall be provided.
- 5) Required driveway culvert sizes shall be indicated on the final plat.

Please advise should any additional information be needed concerning this matter.

Karl J. Aucoin from Aucoin & Associates.

So we have a plat here, we have this letter, and we have letter from the State of Louisiana addressed to Mr. Jessie Bellard.

ATTN: Ms. Karia Rami

Re: Bernice Ledoux Subdivision  
Lots 1-20 (A-T)  
Section 10, T6S, R3E

Nick Quirk-Owner/Developer

Dear Mr. Quirk:

The St. Landry Parish Health Department has no objections to Lots A-T of the above proposed subdivided lots with the stipulation that these lots have at least 16,000 square feet with a frontage of 90 (ninety) feet on each lot and that any approved individual mechanical sewage plant will be acceptable for these lots. The discharge outlets will drain to open ditches located within the utility easement. Also, all water lines must be submitted to the LDH Engineering Department for approval.

Only one (1) home site per lot may be constructed. On the Bill of Sale, it should be written that the purchaser must come to the Health Department Office at the St. Landry Parish Health Unit and apply for permits to build and an application for sewage and water prior to building on said lot.

The surveyor should note when the final plat is issued, it must show arrows indicating the direction of drainage flow.

Justin Clark R.S.

Sanitarian V/ Parish Manager

St. Landry Parish Health Department

We will take it up at the full council meeting and hopefully by then we will have something from the water system.”

**Brian Boudreaux stated,** “The water system is saying as of right now the water line is too shadow. Again we live down there every day we see just with five minutes of rain and water is already on the road. I get that you all have things that you all have to follow with Engineers but we live down there every day so we know what the road does and what the drainage does. Again the ditches are overgrown with grass and trash. The houses that he built on Hwy 104 they dug the ditches before they finish the houses and the grass is already waist high. So grass collect trash which also stops water.

**Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “Listen this whole council wants to do what is right looking out for the constituents and I think we need some more information and I think its forthcoming. You be at the following full council meeting two Wednesdays from now.”

**Brian Boudreaux stated,** “Thank you all so much.”

**Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated,** “Mr. Duplechain, what authority do we have to prevent that subdivision from developing.”

**Legal Counselor Garrett Duplechain stated,** “Council votes to approve or not approve the subdivision that’s why it comes before the council.”

**Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated,** “If the council says no it blocks that subdivision so you do have the authority to block development. I want to make sure I understand that.”

**Legal Counselor Garrett Duplechain stated,** “Right it has to have the green light from the Council before the subdivision can come into existence. Only thing I want to point out if the Engineer attends the council meeting in two weeks they may be some more information that the council might be able to get by having the engineer here to advise and answer questions.”

**Chairman Jerry Red Jr. stated,** “I think it would be a great idea that we get the engineers to come.”

**Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “He had a conflict tonight why he couldn’t attend the meeting.”

**Chairman Jerry Red Jr. stated,** “Can we put him down to come at the full council meeting.”

**Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “Yes he will attend full council.”

**Councilman Dexter Brown stated,** “I just want to make a comment to Mr. Boudreaux we can do whatever we do for the drainage on Sunflower Road but Hwy 104 is strictly Louisiana DOTD. We will do everything in our power to keep the grass down, the trash out the ditches and everything else.”

**Brian Boudreaux stated,** “Myself and a couple of people that live down Sunflower Road went to a meeting with the lady that grants the permits and Morgan Goudeau & Associates and we voiced our concerns with him and he recommended to the owner or whomever trying to build this that he recommend 10 houses not 20 houses. We not saying we don’t want him to build nothing we just saying that 20 houses is just too much for the area that he is trying to put.”

**Councilman Easton Shelvin stated,** “Mr. Bj and the constituents on Sunflower Road, is it any way I can meet with you and see the area that you are concerned about? This is our first time hearing or seeing anything about this.”

**Brian Boudreaux stated,** “Absolutely, whenever you are free let us know we can go down there and show you our concerns. What we feel that would be a danger to us. Like I said again 20 houses that’s a minimum of 40 new vehicles coming up and down that road. My brother has kids that ride their bike up and down the road. The road just can’t handle it. You’re more than welcome anytime you want to go down there just let us know.”

**Councilman Easton Shelvin stated,** “Myself and Councilman Jerry Red Jr. share that area and maybe we can get your number and setup an appointment to come and see the area.

**Brian Boudreaux stated,** “Absolutely.”

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “He mentioned about the 20 houses and I just wanted to know is the developer building the houses and selling them or is he selling the lots and yall hoping he just sells 10 lots.”

**Brian Boudreaux stated,** “To our knowledge he’s building to rent them.”

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “Ok, I thought he was just selling the lot.”

**Brian Boudreaux stated,** “As far as I know he is building to lease them. He bought the 10 acres and he will build houses on them just like he did on Hwy 104 which are DOTD. They have built 4 houses and already another driveway for another one. He also purchased down Sunflower a lot and what he plan on doing is building some more to rent. That’s our thing we own our land back there if you can’t pay your rent then you evicted and somebody new will be there. Another thing is the driveway there’s only two cars per driveway so what will they do when they have company then they will have to park on the road. The road is not very big.”

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “I was reading this and it is just the plat and I was thinking it was just the land. So then he would need to go and get another permit when he has to build. It’s different when you developing a subdivision versus just selling land or lots. That’s what I was trying to understand. What was going on, was he gonna be just selling lots because that’s what he got the permit for, right?”

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot stated,** “From my understanding he want to develop this subdivision and then he will build homes on these lots. He will have to get permits then.

**Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “Mr. Jarrell and Mr. Aucoin, they will have to come to this council.”

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot stated,** “Yes, I will pass that on.”

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Alvin Stelly to forward to Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, October 18th, 2023 to authorize the Preliminary and Final Approval of a proposed subdivision located on Sunflower Road, Opelousas, LA showing a partition of a 10.350 acre tract Lots A-T (20 lots) situated in Section 10, Township 6 South and Range 3 East.

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

Motion forwarded.

5. Public Works Report:

Public Works Director Barry Soileau was absent from the Council Meeting tonight.

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot stated,** “I don’t have anything on Public Works. I know they have these fires going on and they are out at those locations if there is anything that you like for me to pass on I’ll be happy to take that information.”

**Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “No structure in the way of these fires I hope.”

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot stated,** “No structure but the one on Jim Guillory was in the trees and at one time it wasn’t under control. I’m not exactly sure what’s the latest update on that fire.”

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune seconded by Councilman Alvin Stelly to accept the Public Works Report.

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

Motion carried.

6. Authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for two appointments to Fire District No. 1 for a two year term. (12-20-2021 – 12-20-2023).

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Alvin Stelly to forward to Regular Meeting held on Wednesday October 18th, 2023 to authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for two appointments to Fire District No. 1 for a two year term.

(12-20-2021 – 12-20-2023).



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

Motion forwarded.

7. Discuss whom should constituents contact when they have large items for trash pick-up. (Councilman Timmy Lejeune).

**Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated,** “I receive a lot of phone calls and I would like the people of the parish to know who do we call when you have road side bulk waste that you need to get rid of such as mattress, refrigerator, household items that you need to get rid of who do you call? I know that if you put it by the garbage can they will not pick it up and I don’t think that everyone in the parish actually knows who to get in touch with for pickup.”

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot stated,** “If they can not contact anyone in the parish, they can contact me Cynthia Fontenot at 337-948-3688 or 337-594-0566 and I can get their addresses and contact the appropriate party. I know some of the bulk waste they have a contract with Monty Morgan. I will also check with Solid Waste see what they can accept. They are welcome to contact me at the office and I’ll be happy to assist them.”

**Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “Mr. LeBouef, thank you for being here. Would you get up and speak on this matter. You might can give us some clarification.”

**Mr. Richard LeBouef stated,** “Absolutely, I’m Richard LeBouef – Executive Director Solid Waste. There is a big confusion going on right now and the issue is the parish pays this contractor to do his job. The number for that is 337-331-5375 that’s Morgan and Morgan Land Prep. They are the bulky waste contractor for the parish. They know what to pick up and they know what the protocol is for entry into the landfill. The confusion comes about when there are multiple agencies and who to call. The number at the landfill is 337-826-5211. I am normally there from 5:00am to 5:00pm. We ask that people be patient. Imagine if you are in the Krotz Springs area up towards Morrow or out towards Eunice, if you look around it’s a mess. The problem we having is that people are getting into the room of that we are obligated to pick up everything that is there. Somebody will cut a couple of trees and leave it at the road. You trying to fill up a 30 yard truck and you have to leave Eunice and bring it to Begs that’s a 2 hour round trip if you don’t have to stop for fuel. We been working with Code Enforcement in Eunice and Code Enforcement in Opelousas that’s really getting some trash in. I like to thank Mr. Lance Ned really doing a good job for us and Ms. Cynthia Fontenot we been having some dialogue back and forth. The problem we been having is it’s not just an issue of a citizen bulky waste, you have contractors also. The Parish Council has an Ordinance out if a contractor makes a deal or contract with a resident of St. Landry Parish, he’s bond to bring it to the landfill. It’s that simple. We can’t anybody to write a ticket or anything else. I met with captain Shaun Green with Wildlife & Fisheries on Monday night at the meeting for Solid Waste Commission and we will ask the commission to approve buying some cameras and we will have an Intergovernmental Agreement with Wildlife & Fisheries. I’m done. We not a proactive agency, we can’t go out and be the litter police but when you have to take and transport from one house sometimes two loads in one day what happens to the remainder of the people you are trying to serve. That’s a problem. That’s litter, that’s contract fraud. That needs to be addressed. We are trying to get the right entity involved moving forward. I felt the need to come let the council know what’s going on, we two separate entity and we need to work together.”

**Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “Any questions for Mr. LeBouef. Before you leave Mr. LeBouef I would like to commend. I represent part of Park Vista and I have a lot of people that put stuff out especially over the weekend limbs and different stuff and bags because the garage can is full already. I want to commend Mr. John Guidroz for the help he gives me because I will call it into him but what I don’t understand is we have Bayou State doing a great job but why is it they can’t pass it on that we have a situation at 1010 Beverly Street where some limbs down. Two days later they have some pickup being done right there or three days later. Do they communicate with yall?”

**Mr. Richard LeBouef stated,** “Probably not as deep as we should.”

**Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “People in St. Landry Parish are paying their taxes and they are collecting but I think they can go a step farther so then you all will know what you have at a certain address. I called Mr. John Guidroz on three items in Park Vista this afternoon but I can say two or three days later max the stuff is picked up and I appreciate that.”

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “I also want to address the situation which I brought up before about renters when they are evicted. I think I spoke to Mr. LeBouef about that. I wish we had some kind of way, I know I talked about a dumpster if they evict someone but that will be very expensive. Maybe I don’t know if we need to write an Ordinance or something at least they notify us. They evict and they put everything on the road. He and I spoke on how difficult it is to pick up plates, spoons, forks, clothes, and they not putting it in bags. That makes it difficult when you going to evict someone at least if you can call. We talked about you all picking up the bulk, the mattress, refrigerator, the bed but the little items people are just throwing everything out and a lot of times it is the landowner. Another thing people do savage through things and that makes it bad too. Thank you Mr. LeBouef for all you do.”

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot stated,** “Just in reference to what Ms. Nancy was saying the landlords, apartments and rental properties. Since I been in Code Enforcement I been monitoring I made a list and when I see those things I do act upon them and try to contact the landlord and advise you have this waste out by your dumpster.”

**Mr. Richard LeBouef stated,** “What happens if it happens more than once.”

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot stated,** “If it happens more than once than I’ll contact our Investigators in reference to the violation.”

**Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “Have anyone been fined or anything on this kind of matter.”

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot stated,** “A landlord hasn’t been fined as of today. As soon as I contact them they act upon it and get it cleaned up.”

**Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated,** “Mr. Richard I could be wrong but when we changed trash pickup company I thought that when the waste company see a washing machine or refrigerator they would notify the proper authorities in taking the next step to remove that from in front of the residence.”

**Mr. Richard LeBouef stated,** “You are absolutely correct, especially when you have an entity that is getting paid for it. We had a strategy meeting that will start October 15th, 2023. That is called the easy button that actually documents a stop and we asked for that to be taking into which worked really well at first. With the amount of waste that was coming in they turn that in to Morgan & Morgan. Morgan & Morgan runs out and get it but like Ms. Cynthia said people rummage through that stuff and sometimes it’s not there. When you talking about emptying a house, taking a mobile home, or storage unit that’s not what bulky waste is designed to do. That’s where we need to take and get someone involved with litter issue and if you look at the statue there’s about 4 or 5 different complains. After the second time you get tired or do some jail time. If we can light one of them up it will be a domino effect. I think the entities across the parish have taken their necessary precautions as far as the schools and police department. We need to take this parish back. I spent way more money than I wanted to on a house and I’m proud of what I got I’m blessed to have this job and blessed to be here in front of you. The protocol on what to pick up and how to handle it call the landfill, that’s our job.

8. Discuss the Board Committee for the fate of the Statue.  
(Councilwoman Nancy Carriere).

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “Last week I was not present at the meeting for unforeseen reasons. Action was taken without me being here and usually when we have something on the agenda or something that a council member represent we usually table it until they come and that did not happen. I want to see what we can do about it because some decisions were made and a vote was taken and I don’t think that is the way it was suppose to be. I think this situation with the statue has gotten really out of control. We have had Mr. Dejean come here several times. When you first made the motion Mr. Ardoin I was suppose to be chairing a committee. We agreed that it was going to be 6 people. Somehow it has gotten lost about the chairman which was suppose to be me and we allowed all of these other things to happen. When really if we remember as a council we vote to have the statue removed. I accepted that we would do the committee because we could not afford it. Now it has gotten ridiculous because Mr. Dejean had to come here several times and he has taken control of this issue and it is the council’s issue. You made a motion that I chair a committee then I think that is where we should go from. We allowed Mr. Dejean to pick 3 people, last week 4 people were voted on. So what am I, chopped liver, what was my position? Everything was done and I was not here. That is my complaint and concern. If we want to nip this in the bud we need to do it properly.”

**Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “Any committee members have anything to answer Ms. Nancy on this matter? Any other committee members? Now Ms. Nancy, I want to tell you right now and I don’t want to get into a contest with you, I don’t understand why you say you don’t want to be chopped liver. You knew, I have the floor right now, the motion was voted on by this full council that was there that night and you choose not to be here or you had a problem where you could not be here and I think that the council spoke. Four members were chosen and you have 3 members that you need to choose so we will have a 7 member committee. I think that we are 13 members here, if we have an even number we will not accomplish anything. The whole deal is to try to repurpose this statue that is sitting on that north east corner of this courthouse property. I think that is where we need to go where we satisfy everybody. You need to come up with some people because you have 3 people that you said that you wanted to choose and if you wanted to be one of them then let’s do it and let’s move on. We need to move on with this thing.”

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “That is one of the issues. A decision has already been made and a conclusion has been formed that this is just going to be repurposed. There is no discussion if that is what is suppose to happen. Now, yes a committee, why I say chop liver, am I a Chairman of this committee? If I am a Chairman then I have 3 people and 4 people were picked and I just have to pick 3 people, how is that fair?”

**Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “We need to start somewhere. I just think if you have 3 people and you were in agreement if I remember correctly and you were going to bring 3 people up and if you was going to be one of them as a councilmember I am just one vote. I don’t have a problem with that, okay. With that, what is the wishes of this committee? Do you have a motion that you want to make? Does anybody else have a motion? For right now that is where it is at and it think we need to move on and you need to come up with your people that you want.”

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “My motion is this. I chair this committee. We will allow Mr. Dejean to pick 3 people and I will be the tie breaker. I do have 3 people names and he has 3 people names. He wanted a veteran and he had 3 names and we discussed that. I think Mr. Red asked him that and it was discussed. So that is where I want to go with it and that is my motion that I, like you made the motion, that I form the committee. So the committee is 3 people that he is going to get.”

**Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “I think we had agreed also that they would have an extra person be in it a lady or a man from the VFW organization. The other night we decided on that and that gentleman was voted on that night Mr. Don Reber.

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “Again you mentioned that I choose not to be here. Again I said that I could not be here. So it was not a choice of if I could have been here. I did not realize that this was even going to be voted on.”

**Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “So you have a motion, let’s move on with this. What is your motion?”

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “My motion is that I chair this committee like it was first proposed and Mr. Dejean can pick 3 members and I will pick 3 members and I will be the tie breaker if there is one. So it is still 7 people.”

**Councilman Alvin Stelly stated,** “We voted with the full council at our last meeting. They voted that it was all good what we brought up so what is the problem now? You have 3 of them and Mr. Dejean has 3 of them so what is the problem?”

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “The problem is there were 4 people picked by Mr. Dejean. Does anybody else have anything else to say?”

**Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “The council picked Mr. Reber. Ms. Sherell do you have the minutes from the last meeting?”

**Council Clerk Sherell Jordan stated,** “I do have the minutes from the last meeting but I don’t have them on me.”

**Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “You know that this item was on the agenda tonight I think that you should have been prepared with it so that we can go ahead with this thing. Ms. Nancy you have made a motion and with this committee here I have a quorum I feel do I have a second to Ms. Nancy’s motion?”

**Council Clerk Sherell Jordan stated,** “Mr. Chairman, the motion that was made at the last meeting was three members by Mr. Dejean and three members by Ms. Nancy and one member by the council. Last meeting the council picked their one member which was Mr. Don Reber. He was presented by Ms. Lynn Lejeune.”

**Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “Yes, that was the motion. Do you want to bring your three people up tonight and put it in your motion? How do you want to do it? I think that it is time for us to move on.”

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “I agree, this has gotten twisted.”

**Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “Do you wish to go ahead and put your three members in tonight and go along with the situation?”

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “I have three people names.”

**Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “Would you name them tonight so we can move on. You can put them in your motion and we can move on and bring it to the full council to name your three members.”

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “Ms. Bambi Polotzola, Ms. Lena Charles and Kenneth Wayne Dejean.”

**Public Works Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “Do I have a second to Ms. Nancy’s motion. She has nominated 3 people. She has brought 3 people forward to put on the committee in reference to item #8 which is: Discuss the Board Committee for the fate of the statue.”

**Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated,** “That was agreed on by the council that she would pick 3 people. She has done here job. I will second that motion.”

A motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy Carriere, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to forward to Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, October 18th, 2023 to accept

Ms. Bambi Polotzola, Ms. Lena Charles and Mr. Kenneth Dejean as members selected by Councilwoman Nancy Carriere to sit on the board to discuss the fate of the statue.  
On roll call vote: YEAS: Nancy Carriere, Alvin Stelly and Timmy Lejeune. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy and Jimmie Edwards. ABSTAINED: None.  
Motion forwarded.

9. Preliminary and Final Approval of a proposed subdivision located on Sunflower Road, Opelousas, LA showing a partition of a 10.350 acre tract Lots A-T (20 lots) situated in Section 10, Township 6 South and Range 3 East.

Voted On Item At The Beginning of Meeting.

10. Authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for one appointment to St. Landry Gravity Drainage District No. 14 for the remainder of a four year term. (06-21-2021 – 06-21-2025).

A motion was made by Councilman Alvin Stelly, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to forward to Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, October 18th, 2023 to authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for one appointment to St. Landry Gravity Drainage District No. 14 for the remainder of a four year term. (06-21- 2021- 06-21-2025).

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

11. Discuss any other business brought before this committee.  
NONE.

12. Adjourn.

A motion was made by Councilman Gil Savoy, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to adjourn the Public Works Committee.

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

Parish President Jessie Bellard was absent for this meeting due to fires in the parish.

**ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL  
ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4th, 2023...  
OLD CITY MARKET, 131 W. BELLEVUE ST.  
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA**

**ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

1. Councilman Easton Shelvin called this meeting of the Administrative/Finance Committee of the St. Landry Parish Council to order.

2. **Roll Call:** Easton Shelvin, Harold Taylor, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune and Lynn Lejeune. **Ex-Officio:** Jerry Red Jr. **ABSENT:** None.

3. Person to address the Committee:

- **Mr. Buddy Helton updated the council on the Ag Arena.** He stated, “Good afternoon ladies and gentleman. I think everyone knows me, I am Buddy Helton. I come here to represent the Ag Arena Commission. I have been on this Commission for 12-15 years. Ever since I have served on that board I have served to Chair that commission. In the past we have struggled through thick and thin and over the years we have kept the Ag Arena usable going forward. We came up to the COVID years where we struggle like

everyone else. We had post COVID and 10 months ago Mr. Jerry Red inquired why we did not meet on a monthly basis. We did take heed to you and all of your concerns. We did our due diligence and we have been meeting on a monthly basis. There is a lot of activity going on as far as improvements and there is also a lot of problems that still exist. The problems exist on the management and the decisions made by the people in charge. There is no oversight. We have a windfall, it became Christmas. COVID money came in, we all enjoyed it. ARA money came in to the Ag Arena and it was offered to us and we most graciously took it. We were asked to put together a list of priorities for improvements and we did it in an order of importance but we were not steadfast on it. One of the things that we were steadfast on is not having a band stand at that Arena. You ask why? From time and memorial every time that there was one of these venues at the Arena it was left in horrid condition. There is no oversight to start with, there is broken glass, beer cans and other type of refuse that gets ground up into the soil. Imagine putting a two dollar horse much less a \$30,000.00 horse riding and tip towing around glass and aluminum cans. You have kids competing in this ground and they are in that same environment. We did get a lot of improvements. The one thing that the council unanimously was against was a bandstand, Mr. Bellard put a bandstand anyway. The bandstand created a problem with the proposed improved wash racks. The wash racks we have there presently are dysfunctional, totally dysfunctional. We got a design on some that was functional and they were going to be placed where the bandstand would up being. Mr. Bellard probably spent north of \$100,000.00 and that is a conservative estimate, extending the building even further, putting up a bandstand and all of the utilities to support it as such. He also nixed the wash rack in that area and he went and built new wash racks next to the old wash racks that were exactly like the old dysfunctional wash racks. Now we have twice as much dysfunctionality that have also compounded the ability to work live stock in that area. It is just compounded even more, it just doubled. Other problems that we have are fans, we place big old fans in there to keep the spectators comfortable. It interfered with the sprinkler system. There is a plan to modify the sprinkler system but it has not be enacted. You have guys that are working for the parish that are pulling around 200-300 feet of fire hose. You pull around 200-300 feet of fire hose by yourself it is tough. You have one man that have a hurt back already and you will hurt another man doing that when it can be a very easy fix. The fencing is not completed on the west end of the arena where he nixed the wash racks. There is rental abuse going on. If someone comes and rent the arena tonight from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and I get there at 5:30 and stay until midnight I am stealing from the parish. Whenever this commission brought it to light and explained to him what was going on they decided to do nothing about it. That tells me that they are culpable, that is my opinion and I am not a lawyer and it continues to happen. I will tell you how pathetic it is. Right now you can go to the Ag Arena and go to the mechanical room because it is not locked and you can turn on every light in the place. You can go in the bathrooms and turn on all of the water and it will clog the drains and it will flood the place. You can go in the arena and do what you want because it is not locked. I bet the ranch on it that we can go there right now and that is what is there. People will rent it and there is no oversight. Let me tell you how easy it is, there is a timer that we had installed on the lighting system and you rent it for two hours, from 6:00 to 8:00. We put together a set of policies and procedures and I say we, this Commission and the previous administration toward the end of Mr. Bill's Administration, we put a complete set of policies and procedures that included prices, leases, pre-rent and post rent check list. If you rented from 6:00 to 8:00 on of the policies that we put together is: You will have personnel go and access the timer and the lights will come on at 5:30, this will give you a ½ hour grace before and they will go off at 8:30, ½ hour afterwards. We felt that was more than fair but you all may not but that is in place and it is not being utilized. We did not meet in August because it was the end of the summer and school started and we had scheduling conflict and everybody could not get together but we have meet monthly before that but we missed August. At our July meeting Mr. Bellard sent his representative, Ms. Diane Anders, if I remember correctly. She presented herself as his delegate and explained her position as the person who does the booking for the Ag Arena and I am assuming the marketing component of it. At the end of the day she is not very knowledgeable, I am not blaming her, I think that she was probably thrown into the wolves instead of being given some training on policies and procedures prices and such. We missed the August meeting but for our September meeting he sent Mr. Barry Soileau, our lustrous Public Works Director. He should have not been there, he does not know anything about the Ag

Arena. That was his representation. Following that meeting Mr. Bellard sent a group text to everybody on this commission and it reads: I want to thank everyone for your service on the advisory board. In the future please send me your minutes for the meetings and I will take them under advisement and consider them for the future of the St. Landry Parish Ag Arena. Well he does not do that, he just take it under advisement. I don't know why we are here and that is the center of the whole commission. If we are going to give you advice and you will not take it and you will do what you want anyway, what is our purpose? He goes on to say: The operations of all parish facilities are under my control and we will determine the best for our parish. I will tell you all a little secret. We were not talking about all of the properties of St. Landry Parish, I don't know why he brought that up but we were talking about the Ag Arena. We don't need to know what he is over. All our concern is the Ag Arena, I don't need him telling me what he is over or what he is not over, I just need reference to the Ag Arena. He goes on to say: If you have any questions or concerns you may contact me but I will not attend any meetings nor will any of my staff. We are moving forward with the plans that are in place for everyone in our parish. Now, what is our purpose? I will tell you another little caveat, he sent a separate text out to three of the other four members which said: I can't take anymore of Buddy, which is me. If you need anything or have suggestions, please let me know. Guys I am just going to tell you all this, this is my sentiment, that is not a leader, that is a coward. I stand here in public before God and everyone else and I will stand by it. If you have a problem with me, you come to me, if I have a problem with you, I will go to you. I will tell you that my term on this board will be ending this January and you will not see my name back on the list. You will not see me call another Ag Arena Commission meeting because I am disgusted and nobody else on the Commission is interested in it. They pretty much have the same sentiment that I have. You can ask them and they will be glad to tell you. Years ago we had trail ride problem, you all remember that, now you have a deal with a trail ride fee. Is there a permit that you have to get and pay a fee? If I have a trail ride at my farm do I have to have a trail ride permit?"

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot, Code Enforcement Officer stated,** "I don't have the ordinance in front of me. I don't have all of the rules and regulations. I am aware if there are so many horses it is considered a trail ride and you do have to come and apply and get a trail ride permit."

**Mr. Buddy Helton questioned,** "Is that \$500.00? Correct Caryn? It is not a trick question. It is \$500.00. It is not important right now but where should those funds be deposited? If it is at the IFBS Lodge in Leonville should it still go to the Ag Arena? It never did before but then all of a sudden it started. I don't know if it is right or wrong."

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot, Code Enforcement Officer stated,** "I will make this suggestion, if you have any questions you can call our office tomorrow and we can answer that question."

**Mr. Buddy Helton stated,** "It is nothing personnel. I am done. I appreciate that. I thank you. I know the little games they play. I will say one other thing in closing. I want you all to know that they need policies set and followed as it relates to renting that arena. You cannot just arbitrarily change the price or let anybody use that arena because it is parish property without charge. You can't choose who you will give more or less to or work some package deal. I will say there is one entity that has the right to use that facility free of charge, legally. It is the Louisiana Agricultural Extension right here at LSU Ag. They are a government entity as per the law, they have an intergovernmental agreement, CEA that says that they can do that. They are the only one to my knowledge that exist in this parish. Furthermore I have equipment in that arena that is there for the use. If it would not be there you could not have a regular full rodeo. I want it to be on record that there are two set of buffing shoes, the left hand and the right hand, two holes each on mine. I leave them there out of courtesy. They also have a Time Cattle D Rigging Shoot, you all may not be familiar with it but I just want it to be on record. If someone wants to contest the ownership you all have my number name and address and e-mail. I am very accessible and I don't run and I don't hide."

**Councilwoman Lynn Lejeune stated,** “Mr. Buddy, thank you for your services. Anytime you take on a project you do a very good job of it. Is there a project manager or anyone out there that maintains the arena on a day to day basis like booking the gigs and setting prices?”

**Mr. Buddy Helton stated,** “The booking have been problematic for years. There were several occasions on which the Arena got double booked for very major venues. Can you imagine advertising a major venue and then two weeks out they say they have somebody booked before you and you will have to cancel. That is not fun. Do you think people will come back to that? Is there a project manager? No Ma’am, to my knowledge, no. It is done through Public Works and they send the man power to say there is a project manager, Jessie likes to say he gets it done, he pretty much ramrods everything to my knowledge.”

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot, Code Enforcement Officer stated,** “I can answer that question for you. According to the Parish President we have it under control. I do know that they do have someone that manages the parish properties, the Ag Arena and the Delta. They can contact our office for that and that is under control. They implemented some procedures and they can contact us and we manage that. They can call 337-948-3688. The parish government office and ask for Ms. Brittany.”

**Councilman Harold Taylor stated,** “You mentioned polices that you all had in existence quite some time. Do you know if those policies are put into ordinance form which is law?”

**Mr. Buddy Helton stated,** “No. sir. To my knowledge I would say no.”

**Councilman Harold Taylor stated,** “That would be one of the things that we would have to take a look at.”

**Mr. Buddy Helton stated,** “Yes Sir. Maybe you all need to put into ordinance the Ag Arena Commission making it a true Commission.”

**Councilman Harold Taylor stated,** “Let’s talk about that. My research on the Ag Arena was put together and funded by a grant from the Department of Agriculture perhaps. One of the requirement is that it would have a commission set up. Do you have something fresh in our mind that you can explain to us on how all of this came to pass?”

**Mr. Buddy Helton stated,** “It predates me to a degree. I was probably 17 or 18 back in 1979, 1980 or 1981 when the arena was built. It came together probably through some state monies, I don’t know if it was the Department of Agriculture or not but there was a state law, a state provision, state ordinance, state statute that put the burden on the parish to create an Ag Arena Commission and they would have control and they would set a budget and it would be funded by the whole parish. Whether that statute is still valid and good, I don’t know. I have researched it the same way that you have back in the day and that is when it started. That have changed over the years and it started out with nine. The property is actually owned by an estate. It is long termed leased from the Louisiana Yambilee Association. As long as they existed they had a long term lease with the estate. The Ag Arena had a 40 year lease that just ended recently. Now that the parish leases all of that it has gotten kind of confusing and crossed up. I don’t know the legalities of all of that quite honestly. If everything was going smoothly I would not be here today. If you think that it is just me you can ask around. I get phone calls all the time whenever the place needs to be rented and still lie. A phone call that the place is filthy or they did not wet the arena. I had a person call me Monday at 7:00 a.m. They said that they passed by the Arena at 5:00 a.m. and all of the lights are on. They had a function there over the weekend and all of the lights are on and we are paying money for nothing, wasting it. I don’t think that we have money to waste. Even if we do have money to waste I can show you a better way to waste it. It is just my thoughts.”

**Councilman Alvin Stelly stated,** “I want to thank you for your services. I think that you have been doing a very good job. I have had problems with people from Arnaudville that



rented the Ag Arena and when they got there it was rented already. They had to go back home. I have had problems with that three or four times.”

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot, Code Enforcement Officer stated,** “I know that they previously had some issues with that. It changed hands on who is managing it and making the schedule. I know that we did have some previous issues but all of that have been taken care of and everything is under control. As far as the Ag Arena Commission I know that it is an Advisory Board and they make recommendations to the Parish. That was implemented under the Police Jury Days. Just to make a note of that.”

**Councilman Alvin Stelly questioned,** “Who is running it? Who gets the calls?”

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot, Code Enforcement Officer stated,** “Ms. Brittany Babineaux. She is in charge of scheduling for the Ag Arena.”

**Mr. Buddy Helton questioned,** “Where is Ms. Diana? What component is she at in this?”

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot, Code Enforcement Officer stated,** “She is not overseeing the scheduling anymore.”

**Mr. Buddy Helton stated,** “Two months ago she was. This month she is not. Do you all see a problem of continuity there?”

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot, Code Enforcement Officer stated,** “They just made some adjustments. In happens in every organization Mr. Buddy.”

**Mr. Buddy Helton stated,** “It has been problematic on a steady basis.”

**Administrative Finance Chairman Easton Shelvin stated,** “Are you finished with your presentation Mr. Helton?”

**Mr. Buddy Helton stated,** “I am done sir. Are there any questions? By the way let me tell you all this. Nobody will get locked out anymore. Mr. Alvin we can go over there tonight and we can race trucks in there and we can turn on the lights and turn on the water and do what we want.”

**Chairman Jerry Red Jr., questioned,** “How many years have you served?”

**Mr. Buddy Helton stated,** “You will have to ask the council. I really can’t tell you. My involvement with the Ag Arena goes back to 1984 or 1985. It used to be just an Arena with some Hap Hazard Fence. The roping shoots in there when you drive up on the southwestern corner there are some roping shoots that feed cattle in and you can rope and you can do calf roping that come out of the box and stuff, my father Dr. Ronald LeFleur and I provided all of the labor. My father supplied all of the material and Dr. LeFleur got the pipes donated. That is how far I go back. All of the shoots in there are the shoots that I have built and placed in there. We were putting on some Youth Rodeo’s at the time. My son was in the High School Rodeo for many years and I actually chaired the St. Landry Parish High School Rodeo Association for many years.”

**Chairman Jerry Red Jr., questioned,** “I believe Ms. Alicia was over the Delta Grand and the Ag Arena. Is she still with the parish?”

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot, Code Enforcement Officer stated,** “She is in Eunice. She is no longer working for working for Parish Government. That was her decision to leave Parish Government.”

**Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated,** “Mr. Buddy, we thank you for your time. I hate to see you go because of the knowledge that you have.

**Mr. Buddy Helton stated,** “Not to brag but I have been from the 30 thousand foot level down to the grass roots in different aspect. Being a competitor, being a spectator, being a

producer, and actually helping in the running of these arenas. The other people on this board out of the other four have some of the same experience and we have been all over the country. We have been to all different types and sizes and models and venues. The other one is an Ag Extension Agent and she has a pretty good working knowledge too. I appreciate addressing you all guys. I will be moving on. I am not fighting this fight anymore because I will do something that I will regret and it is time to move on.”

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “Do you think there is any way that you all can settle this where we could put in an ordinance what your position is or we could look at the policies and you all could work together and you all can resolve this?”

**Mr. Buddy Helton stated,** “The only way to resolve this would be to put it into an ordinance form making this a true commission. I don’t want compensation, I would do this for free. I go to Java Square and tell them I am the head of the Ag Arena Commission and I tell them that I want a cup of coffee they will say that is real good but I will have \$5.00 or I will not get that cup of coffee.” If it would be put into a true commission that could be put in a budget and oversee it and not just be taking.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “Is there a possibility that we can do an ordinance before you exit? Maybe someone could forward it to the full council. My next question is for Ms. Cynthia, do you know anything about the Ag Arena being unlocked?”

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot, Code Enforcement Officer stated,** “I am not aware of that. I will pass on. As soon as we get out of this meeting I will make that call and inquire about it.”

**Mr. Buddy Helton stated,** “Let me tell you where I went for giggles and grin. Guess where I went and it was not Java Square. It was out there to the Yambilee Grounds and the Ag Arena and it was open. They have cameras but what good is a camera if the lights are on all night long and nobody has oversight and says the lights are on. Now we are getting equipment installed out there that is open to being damaged because there is no oversight, nobody put a couple of \$10.00 pad locks on doors something that will slow them down. It would be up to the council to put together that resolution into an ordinance and forming that committee and they can get a set of bylaws and move forward.”

**Councilwoman Nancy Carrier stated,** “Whether Mr. Helton exits or not I think this is something that the committee should take into consideration for the next people that may come in so this problem could be resolved.”

**Councilman Harold Taylor stated,** “I would like to make a motion to send this to full council. A motion to appoint a committee to work with the Present Committee that is in place to put policies and procedures together to form this commission into an ordinance where they will have control of operating the Ag Arena.”

**Councilwoman Vivian Olivier stated,** “I second.”

**Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated,** “Before you vote. The reason why I say we do this you order put it in an ordinance because it carries more weight than a resolution. That Advisory Board is not as much weight as an ordinance.”

**Councilman Harold Taylor stated,** “In other words, we will work with them with policies and so forth and come back with an ordinance creating a commission that is in charge of operating.”

**Mr. Buddy Helton stated,** “That is fine. That is where it needs to be at the end of the day. We did not start out as the Ag Arena Commission Advisory.”

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilwoman Vivian Olivier to forward to Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, October 18th, 2023 to authorize appointing a committee to work with the present committee to put policies and procedures together and come back with an ordinance creating a commission that is in charge of operating the Ag Arena.

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

**Councilman Dexter Brown stated,** “Mr. Buddy, I want to thank you for your years of service, we go way back. I just wish that you could work something out with the Parish President and the committee that we are going to get. I just hope that we all can work together to make St. Landry Parish Ag Arena an exciting place to come and be beneficial to all residence of St. Landry Parish. Thank you for the job you have done and I hope that you continue to help benefit St. Landry Parish.”

**Mr. Buddy Helton stated,** “Thank you. If anyone have any questions you all can contact me, I am easy to get a hold of.”

**Ms. Alexia Matthews addressed the council.** She stated, “My name is Alexia Matthews. I am here on behalf of the property at 11138 Hwy 190, Opelousas, La. I am the owner and operator of the Club Sugars. I have been in business for 1 ½ years. Upon the first week of me opening I started receiving tickets for loud and unnecessary noise and that is what the tickets were for. From August of last year for my grand opening until March I have been in the Parish Courts. Late March I was going to trial for loud and unnecessary music tickets. Judge Alonzo Harris dismissed the charges. Within that time Mr. Miller and I whom I lease the property from made arrangements to go to the person house who was making the complaint to discuss the issue with him. Upon us getting there he was more excited to have the State Representative on his patio than the issue at hand and that is all he bragged about. When I have different events I have rotating DJ’s. I stop them from bring in the big base speakers to make peace in the community which is what I thought was the problem. I go to the person, I am not saying his name, I don’t know if I should, but I would go to him personally and invite him to these different events that I have at the place of business, free of charge just to make peace. He would say, oh sweetie I will see if I can make it then later on that night he calls the cops. Lately he started up again and he was supposedly forming a petition for the people in that area to get the club shut down. I have received accolades from Bobby Guidroz himself for not having any disturbances where the cops had to come out for fighting, shooting, stabbing or killing, none of that, it is a legit business. I am not going through the neighborhood in my vehicle banging music in front of this man’s house, I am running a legit business. I make the music to where it is loud enough for the people inside to hear and not affect those out. The person who is doing all of the complaining he is a distance down the way. I have people behind me, on the side of me and all around me that does not complain. When he saw nothing was being done and they were not issuing me citations all over he started recruiting other people to call. For instance, last weekend I thought I would make it a point to go when the club is jumping and there are a lot of people and the music is playing I will leave and I will go and record. My drive from the club to his street and pass in front of his house and hold my phone out of the window, all you hear is crickets. You hear the cars zooming by on Hwy 190. I sat there for a minute just to listen to see what he is hearing or not hearing and I drove back to the club. I have this on recording. If you would like to hear it I can play it. It is date stamped and everything. This is Saturday night at 12:38, something like that. Sunday I am in a VIP Round-up where it is six clubs involved and we all support one club every Sunday. Sunday that just passed was my VIP and this is in the day time. He started calling in the daytime, he can’t sleep. It is ridiculous. A supervisor from the Sheriff’s department cam and sit on my property in front of my door. He was having a conversation with Mr. Citizen. They are talking to where they can hear each other in front of my front door. The man started calling again saying the music is to loud, he just had a lot of complaints. The supervisor told him that he was sitting at the club right now, I am in front of the front door, he said, oh disregard the call. It is like a game that is being played and it has gotten to the point to where it is harassing. Every weekend as soon as I open up my doors and the DJ starts playing he starts calling. I have seen the call log, it is long and nothing but calls, constant, constant. It is getting out of hand. I have been to Mr. Guidroz and I have talked to him several times and he is not even worried about the music. Some of the officers that come in on the weekend they are not aware of our meetings to where he is okay with what is going on because he know of the measures that I have taken and also Mr. Miller have taken. Mr. Miller has taken down

the back wall in the club that faces the side where the man is complaining. He has taken it down and reinstalled more insulation in the building. We have put insulation around the building to try to keep the peace and nothing is working, he is still complaining, again I have a recording myself that I did when I let the club. I am taking time away from my business to go and address this situation just to keep the peace with this person. I am noticing that there is no loud music back in that area whenever I drove back there. All night that night he called and it is getting out of hand and I just don't know what else to do. I have been in court every month since I have been opened."

**Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated,** "This is in my district. My only question is: You say this have been going on for about one year or a year plus. The only thing that I have to say on this is: You said that the Judge threw it out of court, you also said that the Sheriff have given you accolades. What about The parish president?"

**Ms. Alexia Matthews stated,** "Yes, he stood in court with me."

**Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated,** "He stood in court with you? Okay, you also said that you had a supervisor from the sheriff's office that was at your place when you got a call from the constituent that was making a complaint, but he was there at the time, so after he told them that he was at the place he said to disregard the call."

**Ms. Alexis Matthews stated,** "Yes, he is a witness. Mr. Citizen is a witness to it."

**Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated,** "The only thing that I can tell you: If you are getting these praises from these people just keep doing what you are doing but don't allow your DJ's to play the loud base. The loud base will bring more volume. Ms. Cynthia, have you all been getting many calls?"

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot, Code Enforcement Officer stated,** "Not a whole lot sir."

**Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated,** "From anybody else other than this constituent."

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot, Code Enforcement Officer stated,** "No, we have not sir, not that I am aware of, no sir."

**Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated,** "That is the only one. Do you know of anyone else that is making calls?"

**Ms. Alexia Matthews stated,** "Lately he said that it was a lady that was calling but she is related to him, they live next door, she was not calling before. His thing is that he wants me with more citations because that is what he is requesting the officers to give me. Give her a citation, give her a citation, well they have done that. I have accepted them and I have talked to him. We were texting each other, we exchanged numbers. I told him that I am about to open up a club, if it becomes uncomfortable for you text me and I will go to the DJ and I will tell him to lower whatever he has because I am stopping him from bringing the base in there. He want no music, he wants the music to the sound of the TV and I am not going to do that. I am running a legit business, I am not on the street, I am not outside I am inside of these doors. If it was a big issue to where all of the community in that area was complaining then I need to make some adjustments but this person is more fascinated with the idea of getting attention."

**Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated,** "I can say this much, they have another place of business on the north end. I believe it is off of Prudhomme Lane. I know if it was loud like they are carrying on over there the Parish President would not be in support and he would not sit with you in court. Apparently you are doing something right."

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** "I understand that you are running a club that plays music and this club was previously owned is that correct?"

**Ms. Alexia Matthews stated,** "Yes."

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “And they had music, a matter of fact they had a club next door to that club before is that right?”

**Ms. Alexia Matthews stated,** “Yes.”

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “Maybe it was occupied at the same time, two clubs right?”

**Ms. Alexia Matthews stated,** “Yes.”

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “You are coming here and you sound very frustrated and I am very surprised because that is what a club does. I am surprised because you made all of those adjustment which is very good because a lot of people own clubs and that is what you do, you go and listen to music. I understand if your base was loud and the immediate neighbors are not complaining. I will address a question to Garrett. I think because everybody else is not having a problem with it can she in turn file a complaint of harassment if it seems like that? If someone constantly gets calls if a dog is barking and you are not happy with it. If he has been living next to those two clubs I cannot see what the issue is.”

**Legal Counsel, Garrett Duplechain stated,** “On the Civil side if there is any kind of harassment or harassment from you in appearance of your club on the civil side if you consult an attorney and hire one you can file a lawsuit if you actually have a solid case on the civil side. On the criminal side it gets a bit more interesting because I am actually one of the prosecutors in the misdemeanor department. You are charged and they come through the misdemeanor department, unnecessarily loud noise so I am aware of that. The charges were not brought against you they were dropped as you know. I don’t know if anymore charges against you would come through. You don’t own the club, right?”

**Ms. Alexia Matthews stated,** “I don’t own the property but the club name is mine, it is my business.”

**Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated,** “I can’t really advise you on that because I am in that department at the DA’s office. You might want to consult with an attorney on that. I don’t want to tell you that you don’t have a problem but you know.”

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “The parish really don’t have a stance in it. We really can’t do anything because there is no ordinance that he can use. I don’t think there is nothing that we can do.”

**Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated,** “Someone else will prosecute it. You are here today and I am talking to you and I don’t want to have a conflict of interest with that but I am aware of what you are talking about, those charges, they are parish ordinances actually, they are not using the state tax they are using the parish ordinance for unnecessary loud noise. Those are misdemeanors and I am aware of your situation that you were not prosecuted.”

**Ms. Alexia Matthews stated,** “It is becoming a harassment because some of the calls that he is making. If I have an event there and it is a zydeco band he is calling and complaining about the cars that I have in the parking lot. If you are disturbed at your house how do you know what I have in the parking lot? It is like he is purposely picking and poking and finding something to call and complain about and it is not fair, it is not.”

**Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated,** “Whenever our law enforcement goes out there they do have discretion, you know that, whether to give you a citation or not.”

**Ms. Alexia Matthews stated,** “Yes but some of the officers, well it was two of them in particular.”

**Councilman Harold Taylor stated,** “Point of order Mr. Chairman, the lady time have expired.”

**Administrative Finance Chairman Easton Shelvin stated,** “We will just advise you to get you some legal advice and go forward or ask the sheriff to speak with his deputies that is coming on shift and see how he can help you with that.”

**Mr. Joey Richard addressed the council and stated,** “Good evening everybody. Joey Richard, 135 Barbados Lane, Sunset La. I am a candidate for District 8, Number 67 on your ballot. I have 3 kids that are all going to school in the district and a beautiful Fiancé. A lot of people ask why am I running but it is simple, I want to make a better St. Landry Parish not only for my kids but for your kids and their kids. So I will end with that. My phone number is 337-739-5658. If anyone have any questions feel free to contact me. Thank you.”

4. Parish President & Finance Report:

Parish President Jessie Bellard was absent for this meeting due to fires in the parish. “

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot, Code Enforcement Officer stated,** “The first thing I want to present is the list of adjudicated property sales. You will see in your packet that I provided you all a copy of the 21 properties that was sold on September 27, 2023. You will see the parcel numbers, physical address and whom it was awarded to and the amount. One property that was on the adjudicated property list for sale had no bids on that property so that property will be placed back on the list. Are there any questions?”

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “We never set a time limit and that was one of the things at the bid opening that we discussed. We need to set a time limit on how long they have to complete that sale. I spoke to Mr. Bellard today about the issue of the employees buying property and he informed me that he wrote a letter to get an opinion on that. I was going to ask us to vote whether we agree on that. That was some of the things that was delayed on why a time limit has not been set. Ms. Cynthia, one of my constituents asked me if there is an application that you have to fill out to bid. I know that we have to fill out a bid sheet but someone asked why I have to apply to see if I am qualified to bid.”

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot, Code Enforcement stated,** “What this application does is that you are placing your deposit and your application that you are interested in purchasing this property. That way it gives the office and myself time to research the property and make sure that it is available, the years have passed and it is available for sale and that is what that application does. That starts the process.”

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “Are they pulling the property or you are pulling the property? I thought that you had started pulling it.”

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot, Code Enforcement stated,** “I have the list. I provide that to anyone that comes in. I have a list that is provided to me. If they say they see one on there that they are interested in they will pull that parcel number and they will come and fill out an application and bring in their deposit and that starts the process. That is the only way that I will know that that property will be placed on the list. We can’t place every property that is on the adjudicated property list only the ones that someone or a resident have shown interest in.”

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “I know that is how we use to do it. I could go through the thousand and pick but I thought that you had started picking from the thousand. That is fine because that is better that way. If they pick from the thousand they will know what they are interested in. I just wanted to understand that.”

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot, Code Enforcement stated,** “I just want to make a comment. I spoke to you about that at the bid opening. We do need a time frame place. We have properties, and I know that we tried to introduce an ordinance before for that because they get awarded the property and three or four years down the road that property is still on hold and I can’t place it back on the adjudicated property list because it was awarded to someone. I would appreciate it deeply and it would make my job easier if you all would consider putting something like that into place.”

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “Not only that it is not completed, there is nothing collected on it.”

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot, Code Enforcement stated,** “So it is just sitting there and we have to try and take care of that property.”

**Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated,** “Now that the adjudicated property have been bided on we are at the stage now where the successful bidders authentic the sale. I know that you are familiar with that right

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot, Code Enforcement stated,** “Yes sir.”

**Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated,** “There is the affidavit and you attach it to the back stating everything that was done and the letters sent out giving them the time period, 60 days to redeem it.”

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot, Code Enforcement stated,** “Sixty days if it is three years and if it over five years it is 60 days. If it is under 3-5 it is 6 months.

**Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated,** “If it is over 5 years like most if not all of them are, then they have 60 days. So that letter was sent out to all of them. Of course the affidavit is attached to the back of the conveyance on each one. Then they sign the conveyance, non-warranty cash sale, notarized and everything and recorded with the clerk of court and they pay all the fees for that. There is the check list and we just go down for each one.”

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot, Code Enforcement stated,** “What I will do is send them out an award letter next week. Then I have made a check list to make sure that all of the ‘I’s’ are dotted and the ‘T’s’ are crossed just to make sure that all of the affidavits and everything is attached.”

**Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated,** “Right, you send out the award letter, you take your time and make sure each one is done right for all of the successful bidders and they will sign it and record it and the whole process of authenticating the sale so the title will pass to them in an non-warranty cash sale for all of the successful bidders on the property. There is no time limit right now but that is okay we will have one later, but for now we are at the stage where we just authenticate the sale and each one is done the same way.”

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot, Code Enforcement stated,** “I was trying to advise you if 21 people were awarded they could wait 5 years before they do something so we need to put something in place. They have a year to authenticate their non-warranty cash sale but give us an update after 60 days or 90 days, just let us know where they are at on that process.”

**Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated,** “Right and there is no time limit yet. I suspect that we shall have one at some point but for now we are at the stage where we take these successful bidders and the non-warranty cash sale and a few months from now, I think that we tell them 3-4 times per year right.”

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot, Code Enforcement stated,** “it will be every quarter or 4 times a year.”

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “These sales and pending sales haven’t been determined because we haven’t set a date. It is not just these sales. What she is asking is that we did not finish our ordinance, we had started but we did not agree. I think we want to do 9 months or a year.”

**Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated,** “I think what we are saying is that it is not passed yet.”

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “No and I am agreeing but this is what she is asking. Even if we sell these are we still in the same position because we have not set anything. When you said 3 or 5 years is that a redemption period that he just mentioned?”

**Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated,** “So if it is over 5 years they have 60 days to come forward and redeem it.”

**Councilman Harold Taylor stated,** “Mr. Chairman, can we take this off line? You all are talking to each other, you all are administration, you all get your stuff together and bring it to the council and we will consider it. How about that.”

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “Mr. Taylor, the only thing I have to say is because we have to agree on this tonight. By us agreeing and voting to accept these sales and not having a time limit, that is the issue. That is what this is for to ask if you all will forward it after we accept the bid.”

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Harold Taylor to forward to Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, October 18th, 2023 authorizing the sale of the adjudicated property under the ruling that we have now and we put something in place for the next sale or the sale after that.

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

Motion forwarded.

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot, Code Enforcement stated,** “In you packet they have a St. Landry Parish Government General Budget. The Parish President ask me to pass this on so you all can review it. If you all have any questions you can contact him or Ms. Caryn Fulop on tomorrow at your convenience.”

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilwoman Lynn Lejeune to accept the Parish President & Finance Report:

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

Motion carried.

5. Forward to Regular Meeting all applications received for four appointments to the St. Landry Parish Planning Commission Board.

**Councilman Harold Taylor stated,** “We have no applicants at this time. I will offer a motion that we extend the period for application for 30 days and re-advertise.”

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor seconded by Councilman Dexter Brown for forward to Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, October 18th, 2023 to extend the period for the application for 30 days and authorize the council clerk to re-advertise.

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

Motion forwarded.

6. Forward to Regular Meeting all applications received for two Appointments to Fire District No. 7 for a one year term. (11-18-2022 – 11-18-2023).

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to forward to Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, October 18th, 2023 all applications received for two appointments to Fire District No. 7 for a one year term. (11-18-2022 – 11-18-2023).

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

Motion forwarded.



7. Authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for three appointments to Hospital District No. 1 (Acadiana Medical Center) for a six year term. (12-08-2017 – 12-08-2023).

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Harold Taylor to forward to Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, October 18th, 2023 to authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for three appointments to Hospital District No. 1 (Acadian Medical Center) for a six year term. (12-08-2017 – 12-08-2023).  
On roll call vote: YEAS: Harold Taylor, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune and Lynn Lejeune. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.  
Motion forwarded.

8. Forward to Regular meeting RESOLUTION NO. 030 of 2023.

**ANNUAL CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE STATE OF LOUISIANA  
OFF SYSTEM BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM.**

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilwoman Vivian Olivier to forward to Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, October 18th, 2023 to Adopt Resolution No. 030 of 2023.  
**ANNUAL CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE STATE OF LOUISIANA  
OFF SYSTEM BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM.**  
On roll call vote: YEAS: Harold Taylor, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune and Lynn Lejeune. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.  
Motion forwarded.

9. Forward to Regular Meeting all applications received for two appointments to East St. Landry Consolidated Gravity Drainage District No. 1 for a four year term. (11-18-2019 – 11-18-2023).

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Harold Taylor to forward to Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, October 18th, 2023 all applications received for two appointments to East St. Landry Consolidated Gravity Drainage District No. 1 for a four year term. (11-18-2022 – 11-18-2023).  
On roll call vote: YEAS: Harold Taylor, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune and Lynn Lejeune. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.  
Motion forwarded.

10. Discuss having applicants do background checks for Boards and Commissions.

**Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated,** “It was brought to my attention that we have so many voluntary boards. To do a background check it cost \$18.00. The question is that we want them to pay it and right now appointing people to our planning commission because nobody applied and now we are doing a background check on people who don’t get paid. How do we handle that?”

**Councilman Harold Taylor stated,** “I can’t tell you, I don’t know. I will give you an example. I have two folks that applied for Fire District 7 and they told me the same thing. I told them, would you like to have a convicted felon serving. So you all will have to put up your \$18.00 and you are in and he did and he is clear.”

11. Authorize the Parish President Jessie Bellard to sign a Disbursement of American Rescue Plan Act Funds to Washington Garden Club Inc., and Steamboat City Association, Inc., in the amount of \$2,500.00 each for a total of \$5,000.00

A motion was made by Councilman Dexter Brown, seconded by Councilman Harold Taylor to forward to Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, October 18th, 2023 to authorize the Parish President Jessie Bellard to sign a Disbursement of American Rescue Plan Act Funds to Washington Garden Club Inc., and Steamboat City Association, Inc., in the amount of \$2,500.00 each for a total of \$5,000.00.  
On roll call vote: YEAS: Harold Taylor, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune and Lynn Lejeune. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.

Motion forwarded.

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

**Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated,** “It was brought to my understanding that Acadian Ambulance bought out St. Landry EMS. If they bought out St. Landry EMS it would bring it down to 2 ambulance services in St. Landry Parish. I would like to see if we could make a motion to have them come back to our full council meeting and explain this to us because the ordinance have not been passed yet. We will have them come back and discuss what their plan is because we have that ordinance that we are still dealing with. Do you know what the timeline is before it will come back to us.”

**Administrative Chairman Easton Shelvin stated,** “No, we don’t have a time line. It was still in the air for discussion. We did not discuss names, we discussed numbers.”

**Councilman Harold Taylor stated,** “Here is the thirty thousand foot view of what happened. The city of Opelousas and Eunice passed an ordinance which was the original ordinance that the 3 companies put before us which simply says that there will be no more than 3 operators in the parish. If one of them goes out of business the other 2 will be given an opportunity to pick up the slack. I am being callous about this but that is what it says. So presently the parish has no ordinance on the books. We have no requirements for how many can come or go or play or whatever it is. Anybody that wants to come they can come.

**Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated,** “That is in un incorporated areas.”

**Councilman Harold Taylor stated,** “Here is our dilemma. We have two-thirds of the population being served. The other one-third maybe, maybe not. I think perhaps we order invite those services that are still here to come in and tell us how they will handle the rest of it. I agree with that. If we need a motion I will make a motion for them to come and visit with us at our next meeting.”

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to forward to Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, October 18th, 2023 to have a representative from the Acadian Ambulance Service to come and address the council. On roll call vote: YEAS: Harold Taylor, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune and Lynn Lejeune. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None. Motion forwarded.

**Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated,** “I would like to know if the Parish President can opt back in on the Burn Band. Since we had fire issues going on in the parish. That is something that we may have to look at just to bring it to his attention. I am saying that because we have some burn issues going on right now.”

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot, Code Enforcement Officer stated,** “I will bring that to the Parish President’s attention. He just text me, they are still out there. I will contact him as soon as I walk out in reference to the burn band.”

**Councilman Harold Taylor stated,** “Just for the record Mr. Chairman, I would like to offer a motion that we request that the Parish reconsider the Burn Band to be put back in place.”

**Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated,** “Just for the record and I am going to support you but just for the record I spoke to Mr. Bellard a little bit earlier before the meeting started and I think that is his intention.”

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot, Code Enforcement Officer stated,** “There are two fires that is going on.”

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to forward to Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, October 18th, 2023 to authorize the Parish President to re-implement the burn band back in St. Landry Parish.

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

13. Adjourn

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

**XIII. ADJOURN**

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