

**ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL
ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7th, 2023
OLD CITY MARKET, 131 W. BELLEVUE ST.
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA**

ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

1. Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier 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, Timmy Lejeune and Coby Clavier. **Ex-Officio** Jerry Red Jr. **ABSENT:** Dexter Brown.
3. **Person to address the Committee:**
 - **Mr. Robert Wolf addressed the council** regarding their support for his re-appointment to the Hospital Board.
 - **Mr. Harlan Kirgan addressed the council** regarding their support for the Eunice News to continue as the Official Journal for the St. Landry Parish Government.
4. **Parish President & Finance Report:**
 - *Update on the Lease and Operating Agreement with Aerotech at our St. Landry Parish Airport*

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “At the last meeting you all asked about the insurance. None of our Leases have insurance in them however I think that we need to put something there to notifying us and let us know that we are part of the insured plan or put something in place for the future. I think that we can do that by the council vote to put it in our Leases.

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilman Easton Shelvin to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, June 21st, 2023** to add insurance to the Lease and Operating Agreement with Aerotech and require all future leases with Parish Government to include an insurance plan.

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

Motion forwarded.

- Update on the Racino Allocation of \$100,000.00 to the Opelousas Police Department.

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “The request for the \$100,000.00 is to buy cars and the Parish Government is responsible for leasing them for the Opelousas Police Department.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “We would pay the lease but it would be done through the City of Opelousas Police Department.”

Councilman Harold Taylor questioned, “Why would we get into that situation. Why don’t we just give them the money and let them do their own thing and we are not liable for anything?”

Opelousas Police Chief Graig LeBlanc stated, “Major Guidry and I have discussed the situation with the \$100,000.00 and the leasing of the cars. The \$100,000.00 can be allocated to different equipment that the Opelousas Police Department needs. It does not have to be for cars. The Parish Government could purchase that equipment for the Opelousas Police Department and that would alleviate the lease of the cars. I feel the City of Opelousas should provide cars for the Police Department. The \$100,000.00 would be for equipment such as Body Cameras and updated Tasers.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “We would have to get with the City Council to get this approved but would it be okay with you if we would just give the money back to the City? We can earmark it for the Police Department.”

Opelousas Police Chief Graig LeBlanc stated, “I am not opposed to what you are saying if the wording goes back to the original verbiage that was in the ordinance when the money was dedicated to the city police department. We need to make sure that this goes to public safety. We don’t want it to get earmarked to the city and goes elsewhere.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “Six percent is the magic number. If 6% comes up to \$90,000.00 would you be happy with that? We can make sure that you get your contribution monthly.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “It is monthly. The funds bring in about \$150,000.00 to \$160,000.00 a year. We were keeping that \$50,000.00 to take care of the city inmates in the jail and the \$100,000.00 goes to them.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “We will just cap it at \$100,000.00 and go forward with it. It you would get us that language that you are talking about we can put it on the agenda in two weeks.”

Opelousas Police Chief Graig LeBlanc stated, “If you go back to the original ordinance the language is already there. We would just have to go back and approve it with that previous language and whatever percentage we will go with.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Can we just forward it to the full council. At the full council meeting we can come up with a final answer and we can have some side bar discussions.”

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, June 21, 2023** to approve documentations to grant funding to the Opelousas Police Department from the Racino Allocations.

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

Motion forwarded.

- **Update on Clifford Moore’s damaged property.**

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Through Light Source they are in negotiations. We don’t have anything more.”

Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “Mr. Moore informed me that he did speak to them. It is still on hold and it is like they don’t want to pay. He was suppose to be here tonight.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, ““I was told that they received a letter from Mr. Moore and they are negotiating with him. I think it may turn into a civil issue.”

- **Discuss placing a 3-way stop sign at the intersection of N. 8th Street and Murphy Richard).**

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “This is in Mr. Clavier’s District. The Sheriff ask that we put this on the agenda because of the wrecks that we have been having at that location.

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Harold Taylor to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, June 21st, 2023** to approve introducing Ordinance No. 2023-013. An ordinance to place a 3-way stop sign at the intersection of N.8th Street and Murphy Richard.

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

Motion forwarded.

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Easton Shelvin to accept the Parish President and Finance Report.

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

Motion carried.

5. **Forward to Regular Meeting all applications received from Hospital District No. 2. (Opelousas General). All applicants must live in Ward 1. (Districts 1, 2, 3, 9 10).**

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilman Easton Shelvin to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, June 21st, 2023** all applications received for two appointment for a six year term to Hospital District No. 2.

(Opelousas General). *All applicants must live in Ward 1. (Districts 1, 2, 3, 9, 10.)* (07-17-2017 – 07-17-2023).

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

Motion forwarded.

6. **Discuss the over population at the St. Landry Parish Animal Shelter. (Councilman Coby Clavier).**

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier stated, “Mr. Bellard, I read an article about three weeks ago that mentioned that there were an over-population problem. Is that still the case?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Our number is seventy now. We put a cap on it so we can manage it better. We are at 70-75 but we are shipping out every week so it is going down. It is just like the jail across the street, we get some out and we get plenty coming in but we are not going over that 70 or 75 mark so we can manage it better unless it is some type of emergency.”

7. **Forward to Regular Meeting a vote to appoint an Official Journal for St. Landry Parish Government. The Eunice News or The Daily World. (Both have submitted their rates).**

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, June 21st, 2023** to appoint an Official Journal for the St. Landry Parish Government. The Eunice News or The Daily World. (Both have submitted their rates).

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

Motion forwarded.

8. **Update on Broadband and the GUMBO Funds. (Chairman Jerry Red Jr.).**

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I can give you a little update. When it come to the GUMBO Funds that is from the state directed to the companies so we don’t have any insight. On the Broadband and the NITA Grant, on June 30th, 2023 they will release the money so that part will start moving faster.”

9. **Authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for three appointments for a four-year term to Lawtell Water District No. 1. (08-12-2019 – 08-12-2023).**

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday June 21st, 2023** to authorize the Council Clerk to Advertise for three appointments for a four-year term to Lawtell Water District No. 1. (08-12-2019 – 08-12-2023).

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

Motion forwarded.

10. **Discuss updates and changing the verbiage to Ordinance No. 2023-009.**

(Councilman Easton Shelvin).

An Ordinance to establish an Emergency Medical Service Advisory Board and terms and conditions for a permit for Ambulance Service Providers in St. Landry Parish.

Councilman Easton Shelvin stated, “We have been having meetings with Mr. Jude and different other agencies. We will be meeting again next week. In a couple of weeks we will come back to it.”

Administrative Finance Chairman Coby Clavier asked to be enlighten on the purpose of the advisory board.

Councilman Easton Shelvin stated, “According to Mr. Jude it is advised by him that we create an advisory board in accordance with the ordinance.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “Presently we don’t have any ordinance that regulates ambulances. If we adopt an ordinance, which I think we will, that advisory board will be handling complaints from citizens and others that have complaints about the ambulance service. They would try to mitigate the issue if they can’t mitigate the issue it would come to us. Otherwise it would all come to us. This is composed of people that are in the EMS business, the Fire Department and others in the medical field. It is being worked on.”

11. **Is there an ongoing investigation by the administration in reference to the Attorney General Findings? (Councilman Wayne Ardoin).**

Councilman Wayne Ardoin stated, “Mr. Bellard, are there any investigation going on at this time? Are there any warrants for any employees?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “No Sir.”

Councilman Wayne Ardoin stated, “Thank you sir.”

12. **Resolution regarding Historic Washington American Legion Hall.**

(Councilman Harold Taylor).

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “I have been requested by the town of Washington to ask the council to pass a Resolution to assist them to declare the American Legion Hall as part of their Cultural District Extension. The 5.1 acre that they want to include in the district is outside of the city limits and it is in our parish and the only way we can do it is have an agreement to do this.

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, June 21st, 2023** to adopt a Resolution for the Town of Washington to declare the American Legion Hall as part of their Cultural District Extension.

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

Motion forwarded.

13. **Discuss Security: Are they Commissioned? Who are they Commissioned by?**

(Councilman Wayne Ardoin).

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Yes, all of them are commissioned through the Opelousas Police Department.”

Councilman Wayne Ardoin questioned, “Can you furnish us a copy of the Commissions.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Yes, as long as there is no personal information on it we can.”

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilwoman Vivian Olivier to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, June 21st, 2023** to authorize the Parish President Jessie Bellard to present the council with a copy of all Commissioned Security for the St. Landry Parish Government.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Easton Shelvin, Harold Taylor, Vivian Olivier and Timmy Lejeune.

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

Motion forwarded.

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

None.

15. Adjourn

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

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

Motion carried.

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