

**ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023 @ 6:00 P.M.  
OLD CITY MARKET, 131 W. BELLEVUE ST.  
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA**

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

The Council of the Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana, convened in a regular session on this 19<sup>th</sup>, day of July, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

- I. Chairman Jerry Red Jr. called the meeting of the St. Landry Parish Council to order.
- II. Councilman Alvin Stelly led the Pledge of Allegiance & Invocation.
- III. **ROLL CALL:** Nancy Carriere, Easton Shelvin, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, Vivian Olivier, Wayne Ardoin, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Coby Clavier. Ex Officio Jerry Red Jr. **ABSENT:** None.

IV. **CONDOLENCES:**

*Councilwoman Nancy Carriere:* Deacon Francis Dwayne Boudreaux, Cornelia Ann Mayfield, John Mason Alsandor Jr., Alvin Freeman, Roderick Jones Jr.

*Councilwoman Mildred Thierry:* Bryan Collins, Ruby Tezeno Harrison, Joseph Broussard, Roderick Dewayne Jones, Jr., Alvin Freeman, Juanita Bertrand Messer, Brock Anthony Hebert, James Jim Lastrapes, Tonia Marie Shantell Antoine, Ricky Gilbert Rosette, Dianne Faye Jefferson, Kennon Brad Richard Sr. Willie Anthony Oakley, Gilbert Oliver Jr., Bertha Thibodeaux Guidry, Kenneth Taylor, Kenneth Andrew Thibodeaux, Christopher John LeBlanc, Lilla Mae Jack, Lula Thierry.

*Councilman Alvin Stelly:* Lucille ‘Dale’ Melancon Brisco, Pamela Marie Brisco.

*Councilwoman Vivian Olivier:* Jeremi Anthony Richey.

*Councilman Wayne Ardoin:* Woodrow “Ted” Theodore Salling, Anna Lagneaux Soirez, Kameron Jude Comeaux, Rachal Monette Mistic, James “Jim” Lastrapes, Emma Grace Guillory, Janys Elise Huntington Schexnader, Theresa Sue Kirpatrick, John Mason Alsandor Jr., Decan DeWayne Boudreaux, Ronald Aaron Lafleur Jr., Kenneth “Gumbo” Taylor, Gerald Dale Chachere, Lena Mae Forenot Dupre, John Phillip Burleigh.

*Councilman Dexter Brown:* Gabriel Shaw, Cornelia Ann Mayfield, John Mason Alsandor Jr.

*Councilman Coby Clavier:* Deleno ‘Del’ Marcantel.

*\*Chairman Jerry Red called for a moment of silence for the families that lost their loved ones.*

V. **PERSON TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL:**

- *Mr. Larry Pinkney* addressed the council to let them know that he is in compliance with the cleaning of his property on Mahogany. He thanked the council for the time that they gave him to get his property cleaned up. Mr. Pinkney praised Ms. Cynthia Fontenot for offering her assistance and offering him shelving from her home to place his items.”
- *Mr. Cullen Curole* of South Central Planning addressed the council regarding restoring small business programs. He stated this is for small business that were impacted by Hurricane Laura and Delta. He stated that they have been given \$37,000,000.00 and they need to find small business that were impacted by Hurricane Laura and Delta. This will give them the opportunity to restore their business. He has a map that reflect all of St. Landry Parish but the eligible portion of the parish is the 70570 zip code. That is the zip code that the businesses need to be in to be eligible for the program. He anticipates by the end of the year they may open it up to the rest of the parish but it is a decision made by the state. Businesses that are eligible needs to have at least one employee and no more than 50 employees. The business had to be operating during the storms of Laura and Delta and they are still operating. If they have closed their

business but would like to reopen they would come in with a business plan and he will see if this money can help their business reopen. They have to have a minimum of \$25,000.00 Gross Revenue, counting 2019. The eligible requirement is that the business had to have \$10,000.00 in physical damage or 20% decline in revenue comparing 2019 to 2020. He is sure that businesses will be eligible based on the shutdown of COVID in 2020. Small Businesses are eligible for a loan between \$10,000.00 - \$150,000.00. If a business lost equipment this program can replace or repair the equipment. If a business replaced something that was damaged it can potentially be reimbursed. If a business can describe and justify a piece of equipment that would have made his business stronger or more resilient you will need three quotes and this program can potentially fund it. It is a loan that will be calculated at 0% interest for seven years. If you pay back 60% and you have done all of your paperwork the last 40% can be forgiven. I will leave additional information with the clerk.

- **Ms. Richelle Simmons** addressed the council regarding Choupique Road. She stated she purchased a home on Choupique Road. Choupique Road intersects with Country Ridge Road and it is about 100 feet or less from her home. Choupique Road was used by friends and family to receive mail, trash pickup, school bus pick up and drop off location as well as emergencies. On September 5, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. I was unable to get to my home because my neighbor put up a fence with a chain blocking the entrance to Choupique Road. This fence have raised a lot of health and safety concerns for my family and my neighbors. The fence blocks a fire hydrant. If a medical emergency arises there is no room for the ambulance to get through. I am asking that you all take over the road and help us to fix it so that the chain can come down and we can have access going to and from Country Ridge Road.”
- **Chairman Jerry Red Jr., questioned,** “Is this a private road?”
- **Ms. Richelle Simmons stated,** “That is the debate, we do not know. The Courthouse stated that it is public. The color of the sign on Country Ridge is removed but the color of the sign further down from Country Ridge is blue.”
- **Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “I will ask that Garrett address this matter. I have been working with him regarding this matter.”
- **Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated,** “Ms. Carriere had contacted me regarding this matter. It is designated by Parish Government as a Private Road. I researched it back to the 1800 and I saw nothing given opposite indication of that.”
- **Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “Some of the maps shows that it is private and some maps will show that it is public. I called Garrett to find out which map do we go by.”
- **Councilman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “I represented that area for a number of years before the reapportionment. Mr. Choupique Laland started that subdivision and he wanted to keep it all private. They have a land owner that faces Country Ridge which is the division between District 2 and District 9 and he is the one that placed the chain up. But it is a private road. They have 2 or 3 roads in that area that are private. You can come from LA 31 to the road but you cannot reach it from Country Ridge because of that chain that was put up. That is why people like Ms. Richelle Simmons have to suffer the consequences. They will have to get a central location for garbage pickup, ambulance and fire truck services. It hinders everyone from getting the proper service.”
- **Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “If it is a private road, the man that put the fence up, it is a private road, it does not belong to him so how can he block her from living on a private road and using a private road to get out. There is a public fire hydrant and the fire trucks won’t be able to access it.
- **Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated,** “I drove down that road a few year ago to look at it. I think that the chain might be located on that person’s property who put it up. That is just my memory of it from a couple of years ago.”
- **Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “Does the whole road belongs to the man or does some of the road belongs to Ms. Richelle Simmons?”

- *Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated*, “Only the part where the chain is.”
- *Ms. Richelle Simmons stated*, “I have pictures. It is wooden poles that is linked with a chain. It covers from one side of the grass road to the other side of the grass.”
- *Parish President Jessie Bellard stated*, “Let me send Barry and Code Enforcement out there tomorrow to look at it and get a better understanding of where the chain is and what property is what. It is a private road, we do know that, we looked into that before. As far as who owns that property where the chain is at is unknown. I will get someone out there tomorrow so we can help her out as much as we can. If it is his property there is really not much that we can do but we will find out.”
- *Ms. Richelle Simmons stated*, “We also have documents stating there is a rite of passage.”
- *Councilman Dexter Brown stated*, “Do you have a Plat of Survey? You may want to show them your Plat of Survey because they can get in contact with Mr. William Jarrell, that way you will know exactly where your property line is with your private survey.”

## VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Councilman Wayne Ardoin, seconded by Councilman Jimmie Edwards to approve **the Regular Meeting Minutes from June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023** as transcribed.

**On roll call vote: YEAS:** Nancy Carriere, Easton Shelvin, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, Vivian Olivier, Wayne Ardoin, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Coby Clavier. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON**, this motion was adopted on this, the 19<sup>th</sup>, day of July, 2023.

## VII. PARISH PRESIDENT REPORT:

- **Approve Adjudicated Property Sales**

*Ms. Cynthia Fontenot stated*, “Tonight we would like to bring an ordinance to amend the St. Landry Parish Ordinance Section 2-289 in reference to a time frame. We have a lot of property that have been awarded and no sale have been done and there is no time frame. I know that this have been brought up previously so we would like to bring this back up tonight. This would help us tremendously to get property off of our Adjudicated Property List. If you all will look in that amendment previously that was presented in section ‘F’ in the Authentication Sale No. 3, the purchaser shall begin the process of the authentication of the sale of the adjudicated property within 90 days of receiving the letter from St. Landry Parish Government notifying them that they have successfully bid on the property. The purchaser shall complete the sale process within nine months of the beginning of the authentication process. The purchaser of the adjudicated property must present proof to St. Landry Parish Government within 90 days of receiving the letter. Once they get awarded at the sale we will send them a letter and within 90 days they will give us some kind of update of what is going on or how the process is going. We will notify them that they have successfully bid on the property. If the purchaser did not begin and complete the process within this time period the adjudicated property shall be sold to the person or entity that was the next highest bidder in the sale of the property. If the purchaser does not begin and complete the authentication process within this time period and the purchaser was the only bidder on the property then the property would go back on the Adjudicated Property List and that way we can attempt to sell it again. We have a lot of property and we want to get them back on the taxable. I would like to ask the council to review it and amend that portion of the ordinance.”

*Councilman Timmy Lejeune questioned*, “Is there a state law that gives them that amount of time.”

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated*, “No, there is no law saying that we can. We are just trying to put a time limit on it so we can proceed with it. This the time that is allotted to the individual.”

**Councilman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “Do we need to amend our ordinance that we have in place right now? I will sponsor the ordinance.”

**Ms. Cynthia Fontenot stated,** “We need to amend the current ordinance so we can include those time frames. We have property that have been awarded since 2021 and nobody have move on them.”

**Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated,** “I have prepared that amended ordinance and I have e-mailed it to Cynthia in a final form. If the council approves of it then it is ready now. The final form of the amended ordinance have been e-mailed to Cynthia. It is up to the council if they want to pass it. You will have to start the process.”

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere questioned,** “What about the redemption process.”

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,** “The reason why we do all the advertisement and send all of those notices is to make sure the person is notified. Once they are notified that is the last effort that is given to them. They have that right to come in and redeem it. That is how the law is. Unless Garrett can tell me something different that is all that we have been doing.”

**Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated,** “That is what the law says. We have to follow it like that unless the legislature changes it, which they won’t, that is the one that we have to follow.”

**Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated,** “Can a family member bid on property? I know that you said family members or people working for Parish Government can bid like anyone else. I just want to make sure that we are right and it is correct.”

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,** “Immediate family member cannot bid on the property. That is kind of circumventing the whole system. As far as the employees of Parish Government the Ethics Board says they don’t think that they should but there is no law saying that they can’t. It is not against the law.”

**Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated,** “If the Ethics Board says that they should not”

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,** “It is not against the law. Unless someone can prove to me that someone is breaking the law and the Ethics Board is not going to give me an opinion on it to say what they are saying.”

**Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated,** “I just want to make sure that everything is correct. When we start selling property again we don’t want any hiccups, we want to make sure that we have everything done properly.”

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “Mr. Bellard, remember you said you would get the Attorney General’s Opinion. You had told me that you had gotten it. Did you get it?”

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,** “He is not going to give it to us. The Attorney General’s Office is not going to get involved in this and the Ethics Board said that they think we should not but they will not render an opinion on it either.”

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “Employees of St. Landry Parish and family members should be forbidden from buying the property.”

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,** “It is a public sale that all of you, not me, but anyone of the council members can actually bid on it because it is a public sale. It is a sealed bid through a public auction, anybody can bid but I can’t. You all just can’t vote on it when it comes in for the sale. You all will have to recuse yourself, it is a public bid. The way it will be done now, nobody will see the bids until it is time to open them up because it is going to a mailbox. Whenever they drop it off they will put it in our office and nobody will see any bids. The bids will go into the mailbox and it will stay there until the time of the sale. That will stop a lot of problems.”

**Councilman Harold Taylor stated,** “Mr. Duplechain, if the council pass an ordinance prohibiting parish employees from bidding on properties will that be sound.”

**Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated,** “At this time I don’t see something prohibiting that but I will have to look into that.”

**Councilman Harold Taylor stated,** “Could you look into it? At least we will have some definitive answer.”

**Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated,** “As far as the payment. When a person is paying the \$500.00 to hold the property, does that go to the office?”

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,** “That is correct.”

**Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated,** “The state statute describes who can bid on the property. We would not want an ordinance to interfere with the state statute and disable it and block it by prohibiting certain employees. That is why I would have to look into it to see if any ordinance the council would pass to that effect or it would disagree with the state statute on adjudicated property sales. We won’t be introducing it today.”

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,** “We have 23 properties from the second quarter of the year that people placed deposit on. The process has changed and we will do an ordinance on every sale whenever we will advertise. Tonight is a special ordinance that is needed to initiate the sale on the following pieces of property which you should have in your packet. It has the parcel numbers, street addresses and a lot of descriptions on it. I would like to introduce it as an ordinance and next month we will pass it. The sale would be on September 27, 2023. After it is passed that is when we will start the advertisements. Every sale that we will do now will be by an ordinance so there won’t be any issues.”

**Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated,** “To get some clarification, the state statute which governs sales of adjudicated property defines an ordinance for the purpose of selling the adjudicated property as an ordinance or a resolution or a vote of the council. That is how it is defined. The council would take a vote on authorizing the sale of these adjudicated properties and that would be the ordinance according to the state statute definition of an ordinance for the purpose of selling adjudicated properties, just so you all will have some clarification on that.”

**Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated,** “To my understanding, we were not going to sell another property until an ordinance was in place. We would make sure before we sell anything we have an ordinance in place and it could define that the parish government is doing everything correctly. If you all want to sell property like that then that is going to be on you all.”

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,** “Everything in our ordinance is exactly what it needs to be. The only addition is because Ms. Carriere brought that up and it is a good issue to solve but it is not a part of law or anything. That is something that we are doing in handset. As far as the ordinance is concerned all we have to do was follow the ordinance. The ordinance that we have in place right now is a good ordinance, it follows state statute, it mirrors the state statute but we just have to follow it. We had problems, I fixed the problems and we will not have that issue anymore I can assure you all that this will be done like it is supposed to be done which is why I want to do it in an ordinance form. Whenever you all pass an ordinance, it becomes law. I would love you all to do it in an ordinance form and not a resolution nor a vote of the council.”

**Councilman Harold Taylor stated,** “Is there an easier way to do this? Maybe we need to get a land attorney to come and tell us a simple way to do adjudicated property sales where we don’t have to get involved in the particulars. I understand there is a procedure to do this, am I correct?”

**Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated,** “Yes, the council authorizes the sale of each adjudicated property. The state statute which governs the sale of adjudicated property defines an ordinance to sell adjudicated property by an ordinance, a resolution or a vote of the council. We could pass a blanket ordinance authorizing the sale of all adjudicated properties by the parish, that is one ordinance or we could pass 20 ordinances each time we sell 20 pieces of property. I met with Ms. Cynthia Fontenot, and all of the steps and requirements for selling adjudicated property is very streamlined now. It is a checklist and

Ms. Cynthia is very familiar with it. She will go down each check list to make sure that all the requirements are met before property goes for adjudicated sales. There is always an affidavit attached to the back of the conveyance instrument stating that all of the requirements have been met.”

**Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated,** “Can we pass a blanket ordinance and amend it to add each time?”

**Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated,** “If you are going to have 30 different batches of sales you can pass 30 different ordinance or you can pass one. You can also do it the way that you have always done it, vote to authorize each time. If you all want it in an ordinance form I can draw it up and bring it before the council.”

**Councilman Wayne Ardoin** presented Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain with a list of prominent attorneys in St. Landry Parish that handles a lot of sales on adjudicated properties.

**Parish President Jessie Bellard** stated the process is correct the way St. Landry Parish Government is handling adjudicated property sales but the person that was working for Parish Government was not doing the job incorrectly. He will take special interest in the new process of handling adjudicated property. He stated the ordinance does not need any changes, it mirrors the state.

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “The only thing that needs to be changed is a time limit.”

**Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated,** “I would like to make a motion to sell the adjudicated property as listed on the adjudicated property list.”

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,** “You will have to have an introduction if you all want to sell the property as an ordinance. Whatever Mr. Duplechain advises.”

**Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated,** “The council can vote in favor of selling these adjudicated properties and it will go forward as the process has been done before.”

**Chairman Jerry Red Jr. stated,** “Mr. Ardoin just wanted to make an introduction to an ordinance so you told him not to make the introduction.

**Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated,** “If we had an ordinance here like this tonight it would be introduced and in two weeks it would pass. The state statue which governs the sale of adjudicated property says that the council has to authorize the sale of these adjudicated properties by ordinance. It defines an ordinance as an ordinance or a resolution or a vote of the council.”

**Chairman Jerry Re Jr., stated,** “So we are going with the ordinance that we already have in place.”

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,** “The first ordinance was to amend our main ordinance for adjudicated property and add those procedures. The second ordinance is to sell the property. He was just handed the State Statue that we were following. The State Statue says ordinance, it does not say resolution. I just want to be clear on that.”

**Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated,** “This won’t be sold until September. We still have time to enhance the ordinance.”

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,** “The reason we are doing it like this is the time frame for the ordinance to pass and then you will have to do the 30 day notices. All of this is in time lines to get to the sale. Once the council approve the sale of the property then we will start the notices. That is how it is written. It is a long process.”

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “I move that we amend the ordinance.”

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,** “That first part of the ordinance that we spoke about earlier is to amend the ordinance as far as the adjudicated property ordinance. This is

a special ordinance which is by itself. So we have two separate ordinances. The first one is tabled until Mr. Duplechain comes back with changes. The second one is the sale of these 23 pieces of property. That is the one that I am asking for introduction tonight.”

*Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated*, “I will introduce it.”

*Councilman Harold Taylor stated*, “I think that we need to take this back to the next Committee Meeting and have a full discussion and understand what we are doing.”

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated*, “I just handed him the State Statue that does not say what Legal Counsel is saying.”

*Chairman Harold Taylor stated*, “I move that we move this to the next Committee Meeting.”

*Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated*, “The introduction does not need a second to introduce an ordinance. So that ordinance is now waiting for next month. At the Public Hearing you can state your concerns. This is only for the sale of the property. The first ordinance is not going to be introduced.”

*Councilman Wayne Ardoin stated*, “It stipulates that no employees will buy the properties. That is my concern in this current ordinance.”

*Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated*, “I withdraw my motion.”

A motion was made by Councilman Wayne Ardoin, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to accept the Parish President’s Report.

**On roll call vote: YEAS:** Nancy Carriere, Easton Shelvin, Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, Vivian Olivier, Wayne Ardoin, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Coby Clavier. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** Harold Taylor. **WHEREUPON**, this motion was adopted on this, the 19<sup>th</sup>, day of July, 2023.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS:**

**\*Items passed through committee.**

- 1. Vote to appoint three applicants to Lawtell Water District No. 1 for a four year term. (08-12-2023 – 08-12-2027). Applicants are: Johnny Timmons, Jennifer Cravins, Curley J. Allen and Larry J. Bernard Jr.**

A motion was made by Councilman Wayne Ardoin, seconded by Councilman Harold Taylor to appoint Johnny Timmons, Jennifer Cravins and Curley J. Allen to Lawtell Water District No. 1 for a four year term. (08-12-2023 – 08-12-2027).

**On roll call vote: YEAS:** Nancy Carriere, Easton Shelvin, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, Vivian Olivier, Wayne Ardoin, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Coby Clavier. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON**, this motion was adopted on this, the 19<sup>th</sup>, day of July, 2023.

*The votes were as follows:*

<i>Councilwoman Nancy Carriere</i>	Johnny Timmons	Jennifer Cravins	Curley J. Allen
<i>Councilman Easton Shelvin</i>	Johnny Timmons	Jennifer Cravins	Curley J. Allen
<i>Councilwoman Mildred Thierry</i>	Johnny Timmons	Jennifer Cravins	Curley J. Allen
<i>Councilman Harold Taylor</i>	Johnny Timmons	Jennifer Cravins	Curley J. Allen
<i>Councilman Gil Savoy</i>	Johnny Timmons	Jennifer Cravins	Curley J. Allen
<i>Councilman Alvin Stelly</i>	Johnny Timmons	Jennifer Cravins	Curley J. Allen
<i>Councilwoman Vivian Olivier</i>	Johnny Timmons	Curley J. Allen	Larry J. Bernard Jr.
<i>Councilman Wayne Ardoin</i>	Johnny Timmons	Jennifer Cravins	Curley J. Allen
<i>Councilman Dexter Brown</i>	Johnny Timmons	Jennifer Cravins	Curley J. Allen
<i>Councilman Timmy Lejeune</i>	Johnny Timmons	Jennifer Cravins	Curley J. Allen
<i>Councilman Jimmie Edwards</i>	Johnny Timmons	Jennifer Cravins	Curley J. Allen
<i>Councilman Coby Clavier</i>	Johnny Timmons	Jennifer Cravins	Curley J. Allen

- 2. Vote to re-appoint Steve Manuel and Stanley Loewer to Faquetiaque Gravity Drainage District No. 1 for a four year term. (08-19-2023 – 08-19-2027).**

A motion was made by Councilman Alvin Stelly, seconded by Councilman Dexter Brown to re-appoint Steve Manuel and Stanley Loewer to Faquetiaque Gravity Drainage District No. 1 for a four year term. (08-19-2023 – 08-19-2027).

**On roll call vote: YEAS:** Nancy Carriere, Easton Shelvin, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, Vivian Olivier, Wayne Ardoin, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Coby Clavier. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 19<sup>th</sup>, day of July, 2023.

- 3. Vote to appoint Ted J. Miller to Ward 3 Consolidated Gravity Drainage District No. 1 for the remainder of a four year term set to expire 12-21-2024. Creighton Dugas has resigned.**

A motion was made by Councilman Alvin Stelly, seconded by Councilman Wayne Ardoin to appoint Ted J. Miller to Ward 3 Consolidated Gravity Drainage District No. 1 for the remainder of a four year term set to expire 12-21-2024.

**On roll call vote: YEAS:** Nancy Carriere, Easton Shelvin, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, Vivian Olivier, Wayne Ardoin, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Coby Clavier. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 19<sup>th</sup>, day of July, 2023.

- 4. Authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for one appointment for a one-year term to Fire District No. 7. (09-19-2023 – 09-19-2024).**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, seconded by Councilman Jimmie Edwards to advertise for one appointment for a one-year term to Fire District No. 7. (09-19-2023 – 09-19-2024).

**On roll call vote: YEAS:** Nancy Carriere, Easton Shelvin, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, Vivian Olivier, Wayne Ardoin, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Coby Clavier. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 19<sup>th</sup>, day of July, 2023.

- 5. Vote to appoint one applicant to Hospital District No. 2 for a six year term. (07-19-2023 – 07-19-2029). Applicants are: Hazel M. Sias, James P. Doherty Jr., and Quincy Richard Sr.**

*Councilman Easton Shelvin stated,* “For our committee meeting it was stated that we would do a research on this before we would vote. I want to ask our attorney if this research have been completed so the council may go forward in voting for a candidate.”

*Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated,* “Yes, the result is that the council will vote to appoint an applicant to the board, the commission.”

*Councilman Easton Shelvin stated,* “Meaning the research that you had brought before us, one of the candidate names is back on the list and we wanted to make sure that we would do our appointing and it is okay? You are saying that it is okay for whom ever we want to vote for?”

*Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated,* “So there is an amendment to the constitution of the State of Louisiana which designates that five years have to pass in between the completion of a sentence for a felony and when a person can be appointed to a commission or a board.”

*Councilman Easton Shelvin stated,* “So it is appointed or elected.”

*Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated,* “Elected or appointed, elected or appointed.”

*Councilman Easton Shelvin stated,* “What is the ‘C’ part of it.”

*Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated,* “Well the ‘C’ part is that a person convicted of a crime in the past can be employed as an employee of a local government. That is not elected, that is not appointed to a board that is an employee.”

*Councilman Easton Shelvin stated,* “So at this particular time you are telling us that it is not legal for us to do an appointment to a person that have been convicted within the five years?”

*Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated,* “Correct.”



*Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “Say that again.”*

*Councilman Easton Shelvin stated, “He is saying at this particular time we cannot appoint anyone who have been convicted for a felony and they have not completed the five years after their time. They have to wait five years after completion of their sentence.”*

*Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “There are three applications. Of the three applications all of these people are qualified to submit their application and they can be appointed? All of these applicants that submitted for the Hospital Board can one of them be appointed? Are there any of them that does not qualify?”*

*Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, “There are three applicants. I believe there was a question as to whether one of them would qualify under the provision of the Constitutional Amendment in Article 1 Section 10.1 A & B of the Constitutional State of Louisiana.”*

**The votes were as follows:**

<i>Councilwoman Nancy Carriere</i>	Hazel M. Sias
<i>Councilman Easton Shelvin</i>	Quincy Richard Sr.
<i>Councilwoman Mildred Thierry</i>	Quincy Richard Sr.
<i>Councilman Harold Taylor</i>	James P. Doherty Jr.
<i>Councilman Gil Savoy</i>	James P. Doherty Jr.
<i>Councilman Alvin Stelly</i>	James P. Doherty Jr.
<i>Councilwoman Vivian Olivier</i>	James P. Doherty Jr.
<i>Councilman Wayne Ardoin</i>	James P. Doherty Jr.
<i>Councilman Dexter Brown</i>	Quincy Richard Sr.
<i>Councilman Timmy Lejeune</i>	James P. Doherty Jr.
<i>Councilman Jimmie Edwards</i>	Quincy Richard Sr.
<i>Councilman Coby Clavier</i>	James P. Doherty Jr.

A motion was made by Councilman Dexter Brown, seconded by Councilwoman Vivian Olivier to appoint James P. Doherty Jr. to Hospital District No. 2 for a six year term. (07-19-2023 – 07-19-2029).

**On roll call vote: YEAS:** Nancy Carriere, Easton Shelvin, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, Vivian Olivier, Wayne Ardoin, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Coby Clavier. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 19<sup>th</sup>, day of July, 2023.

**6. Discuss the removal of the Statue.**

*Mr. Tommy Dejean addressed the council.* He stated, “When I was here last time we wanted to discuss the cost of the removal among other things. Did you all get a chance to look at the sheet of paper with the cost? As you can see it will not be cheap to move it. We don’t have the money to move it. It has to be done in two processes. It cannot be removed and placed back up because it will take a long time to do the first part and the second part. In talking with him he stated that this thing will be very difficult. He is not responsible for the damages and I can’t guarantee if this will fall apart if we start taking it apart. I asked him for an estimate on how much it would cost to replicate that monument and he presented us with a price of \$493,000.00. If you truly want to move this thing we have to figure out how we are going to pay for it. I talked to Garrett about this and it is about what happened in 1910. Garrett is correct in this regard. If I wanted to donate some property you would want to protect yourself from a third party getting the property you would record it in the courthouse. The fact that it is not in the Conveyance Records and you have a valid donation it does not change the relationship between me and you. The fact that you all will not find a document in the Conveyance or the donation books in the courthouse does not invalidate what the Parish Council or the Police Jury did in 1910. The evidence of that is in the Official Journal, since we don’t have the original minute books. We have the Official Journal which clearly indicates the intent of the parish council at that time to donate that corner. They ratified it by allowing them to put the monument on that corner. That ratification have occurred for 100 years. So now to tell the public that you no longer want it on the corner, you are backing out of a valid deal that was made in 1910. I am confident if we had to go to court we would win this case. I don’t know what you all want to do but there are a lot of options.”

**Councilman Coby Clavier stated,** “I would like to state a few facts that we all know about the statue. It started off last year at the time a prominent figure of our parish made some false statements about the parish that was not factual. False statements were made against it and it gave out some bad feelings against the statue and it was not true. We are not even sure if we own the property that the statue is on, that is in question. The statue in no way is a racist statue, it is just honoring soldiers that fought for a cause. It will cost in the neighborhood of \$50,000.00 to disassemble it and reassemble and relocate it. It may not be a statue by the time that is finished, it may be crumbles of rocks. So I think that we just need to take a seat back, take the emotions out of it and think about if it is feasible to move it or if it even worth moving. Who will pay the \$50,000.00? I don’t think that it is fair for our tax payers to pay that. I think that most tax payers will say that they don’t want to participate in paying for that. I just wanted to state those facts.”

**Mr. Tommy Dejean stated,** “I just want to say that \$50,000.00 is not the cost of the crane to move the big block. We have to move everything on a trailer and get it off. That is his price just to take the forty-one pieces down and try to keep them in some type of order. It will be more than \$50,000.00.”

**Councilman Alvin Stelly stated,** “I have a lady that came home Sunday. She said when you all were elected were you all elected to see about a piece of cement that is 20 feet high and has a pelican on top? Or were you all elected to try and help us with our roads and drainage? She questioned why we are spending time on this piece of cement that is 20 feet high. She made a good point. This parish does not have \$50,000.00 to spend to remove this statue. That is out of the question. I have roads that needs to be over laid. I don’t want to spend money on moving this statue or a piece of cement that is 20 feet high with a pelican on top. There is nothing that say about slavery days or nothing like that, you all are wasting time. We have been paying taxes for 10 years on our road and we still have the same the same roads.”

**Councilwoman Vivian Olivier stated,** “Mr. Bellard, if you have \$50,000.00 to move that statue then I have some roads that I need paved.”

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,** “No we don’t have \$50,000.00 to put towards the statue.”

**Councilwoman Vivian Olivier stated,** “Okay so let’s leave the statue where it is. I will offer that as a motion.”

**Councilman Coby Clavier stated,** “I will second it.”

**Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated,** “This was not suppose to be on the agenda. We are discussing something that should have gone back to committee. We are talking about something that we should not be talking about. This needs to go back to Committee and it starts from there because the vote was 4 to 4.”

**Mr. Tommy Dejean stated,** “As I recall Mr. Cravins came and he was not on the agenda. He was not on the agenda and you all took action.”

**Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated,** “This was not suppose to be on the agenda.”

**Councilman Alvin Stelly stated,** “But it was placed on the agenda.”

**Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated,** “It was probably an error. I would like to see it place back on the next committee agenda and we can do the due process.”

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilman Wayne Ardoin to forward to the next Committee Meeting held on **Wednesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023** the further discussion of the removal the statue.

**On roll call vote: YEAS:** Nancy Carriere, Easton Shelvin, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Gil Savoy, Wayne Ardoin, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Coby Clavier. **NAYS:** Alvin Stelly and Vivian Olivier. **ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 19<sup>th</sup>, day of July, 2023.

**7. Authorize the Preliminary and final approval showing A & M Capitol Ventures LLC re-subdivision of 6.295 acre tract lots 1-26 on Edgar Drive. Located off LA Hwy 182, Opelousas.**

A motion was made by Councilman Wayne Ardoin, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to authorize the Preliminary and final approval showing A & M Capitol Ventures LLC re-subdivision of 6.295 acre tract lots 1-26 on Edgar Drive. Located off LA Hwy 182, Opelousas.

**On roll call vote: YEAS:** Nancy Carriere, Easton Shelvin, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, Vivian Olivier, Wayne Ardoin, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Coby Clavier. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 19<sup>th</sup>, day of July, 2023.

**8. Authorize the Preliminary and Final Approval showing Marek Kopeizek Partition of a 12.918 acre tract lots 1-9 located on Marks Road, Opelousas, LA.**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, seconded by Councilman Easton Shelvin to authorize the Preliminary and Final Approval showing Marek Kopeizek Partition of a 12.918 acre tract lots 1-9 located on Marks Road, Opelousas, LA.

**On roll call vote: YEAS:** Nancy Carriere, Easton Shelvin, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, Vivian Olivier, Wayne Ardoin, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Coby Clavier. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 19<sup>th</sup>, day of July, 2023.

**9. Authorize a background check to be done on all applicants that apply for any Boards in St. Landry Parish.**

*Councilman Dexter Brown stated,* “Will these background checks will be free of charge to the parish?”

*Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated,* “It should be done by the applicants. If they are doing the background check they would have to pay.”

*Councilman Dexter Brown stated,* “With all of the boards that we have would there be an extra cost that we will incur?”

*Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated,* “It will not be on the council. It will be on the applicant that is applying for the boards and the position that they are applying for.”

*Councilman Wayne Ardoin questioned,* “Will that be on the application that they will fill out?”

*Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated,* “No. You will have to do a background check and that is coming from the Sheriff’s Office.”

*Councilman Wayne Ardoin stated,* “Will you have on his application that he will be responsible for a background check?”

*Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated,* “You are not charging him. In order to fill out that application to apply for that board you will have to do a background check. The background checks are being done at the Sheriff’s Office.”

*Councilman Wayne Ardoin questioned,* “Who will do that, Ms. Sherell?”

*Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated,* “They have to go themselves and get a background check. They comeback once they do the back ground check and you will have the application for the approval from the council.”

*Councilman Timmy Lejeune questioned,* “Who will pay for the background check?”

*Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated,* “If you are applying for that board you have to pay for it.”

*Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated,* “Do you know how much a background check cost?”

*Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "They have it at the Sheriff's Office."*

*Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "You are adding a cost to the applicants."*

*Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "You want to make sure that they are serving. You want to make sure that you have the background information that they can serve. You just don't want anyone serving on a board that is not proper to serve on."*

*Councilman Alvin Stelly questioned? Is that on all boards?"*

*Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "That what you have down here."*

*Councilman Wayne Ardoin stated, "We have never had this problem until tonight."*

*Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "We passed a background check several years ago."*

*Councilman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Who does the background checks?"*

*Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "The Sheriff's Office."*

*Councilman Wayne Ardoin stated, "If that applicant hide information from you how will you know if it is correct?"*

*Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "So you want the clerk to go and do the background check?" If that is what you want put it in the motion. If that is what the council wants they will vote on it and it will pass or fail."*

*Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "We probably need to gather a little more information as to what these background checks cost. We probably need to codify this instead of putting it into a motion because it carries no weight. If it is the law we will have to make the law. I move that we table this until next committee meeting so we can get more information on how to move forward with this."*

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilman Coby Clavier to Table the discussion of background checks on all applicants that apply for a Board until the next Committee Meeting held on **Wednesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023** until more information is gathered.

**On roll call vote: YEAS:** Nancy Carriere, Easton Shelvin, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, Vivian Olivier, Wayne Ardoin, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, and Coby Clavier. **NAYS:** Jimmie Edwards. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

**WHEREUPON**, this motion was adopted on this, the 19<sup>th</sup>, day of July, 2023.

**10. Authorize the Parish President Jessie Bellard to sign the CEA for CAFA Down Payment Assistant Program.**

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilman Wayne Ardoin to authorize the Parish President Jessie Bellard to sign the CEA for CAFA Down Payment Assistant Program.

**On roll call vote: YEAS:** Nancy Carriere, Easton Shelvin, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, Vivian Olivier, Wayne Ardoin, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Coby Clavier. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

**WHEREUPON**, this motion was adopted on this, the 19<sup>th</sup>, day of July, 2023.

**11. Discuss hiring Attorney Ellen C. Rains, HR Specialist to represent the Council for the Injunction filed by the Parish President.**

*Councilman Wayne Ardoin stated, "I asked that this be placed on the agenda. I am asking that we contact Ms. Ellen C. Rains to begin the process. We had spoken to here but I don't know if we signed all of the proper papers to hire her. We want to contact her to see if she will be available to come back to this council and discuss this matter. If I remember correctly the cost is \$350.00."*

*Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, "Was it \$350.00 or \$450.00? What was it Ms. Sherell?"*

*Council Clerk Sherell Jordan stated, "I thought it was \$400.00 but I will double check."*

*Councilman Wayne Ardoin stated*, “I will make a motion that we contact her and get her back over here to discuss this matter.

*Councilman Harold Taylor stated*, “I second your motion.”

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated*, “I just want to make sure that we are clear. I did not file no injunction. As long as you all know that.”

*Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated*, “Like the Statue this was not in Committee. It needs to go back to Committee and then we will move on.”

*Councilman Wayne Ardoin stated*, “You remember Mr. McGoffin told us to go ahead and proceed. The judge had stated for us to go ahead and start the process with the HR person. That is why I ask that it be placed on the agenda. If you want to bring it back to Committee I will offer a motion to bring it back to the Committee Meeting.”

*Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated*, “Mr. McGoffin did come to the Committee Ceeting. They did mention this.”

*Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated*, “I understand that but it was not on the agenda. I am requesting that it be sent back to the next Committee Meeting and have the proper cost and invite Ms. Ellen Rains to address the council.”

*Councilman Wayne Ardoin stated*, “I will withdraw my motion and I will second Mr. Timmy’s motion.”

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Wayne Ardoin to forward the discussion of hiring Attorney Ellen C. Rains, HR Specialist to the next Committee Meeting dated *Wednesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023* to discuss the proper cost for her services.

**On roll call vote: YEAS:** Nancy Carriere, Easton Shelvin, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Gil Savoy, Wayne Ardoin, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Coby Clavier.

**NAYS:** Alvin Stelly, Vivian Olivier and Dexter Brown. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON**, this motion was adopted on this, the 19<sup>th</sup>, day of July, 2023.

## **IX. ORDINANCES TO BE INTRODUCED:**

### **ORDINANCE NO. 2023-014**

**(Sponsored by: Councilman Harold Taylor)**

**AN ORDINANCE TO CREATE THE ST. LANDRY PARISH PLANNING COMMISSION IN CHAPTER 32, PLANNING, ZONING, AND DEVELOPMENT, ARTICLES I, ST. LANDRY PARISH PLANNING COMMISSION, SECTION 32 – 1, SECTION 32 – 2, SECTION 32 – 3, SECTION 32 – 4, SECTION 32 – 5, AND SECTION 32 – 6, TO BE PLACED IN CHAPTER 32 OF THE ST. LANDRY PARISH CODE OF ORDINANCES.**

### **ORDINANCE NO. 2023-015**

**(Sponsored by Councilman Harold Taylor)**

**An Ordinance to permanently close and abandon a portion of the WPA Road also known as Williamson Spur Road and Relinquish all claims by the St. Landry Parish Government of the listed portions of rights of way as being public rights of way and further that said Ordinance be recorded in the office of Clerk of Court in St. Landry Parish.**

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated*, “Since we are on that subject which is related but not related is it that simple. We have some roads that were put into the system and they are actually a driveways that goes to a house. If I bring those types of roads to the council do you thing we can do the same thing? We are actually working on roads that are driveways that were put under the jury system. I will bring you all a list of them. It is in everyone’s district. If you all don’t mind looking at them and see what you all think about it and see if we can do what we are doing right here.”

*Chairman Jerry Red Jr. stated*, “I know when we abandon a road they have to send a letter out to everyone that is living on that road to make sure that they are in agreeance with the abandonment of that road”

*Councilman Harold Taylor stated*, “Technically we have an affidavit done and it is notarized that each of the property owners along the road would like to have it abandoned.”

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated*, “So they will have to agree I am assuming.”

*Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated*, “If there is only one person on that driveway and he signs ‘No’ then we can’t abandon that road, is that correct?”

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated*, “I would like to find that answer. I would say ‘No’ if I was them. We are taking care of that driveway. I am just making a statement that we have a lot of roads in the system that were put under the Jury Days that goes to one house and we are having to take care of these roads that goes nowhere.”

*Councilman Dexter Brown stated*, “On that WPA Road didn’t we recently spend some money on WPA or was it the state that spent some money on WPA?”

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated*, “Not on that section of the road.”

*Councilman Dexter Brown stated*, “The section that we are responsible for is that where we spent?”

*Councilman Harold Taylor stated*, “It is graded from time to time by Public Works District 6 which is not parish money.”

*Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated*, “I have a road in my district. And they only have one house and it is at a dead end. The constituent wanted it maintained and it is a driveway. I would like to see the list.”

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated*, “This is the driveways that goes to one house. Those roads that can be developed I am good with those because we can help that. It is those roads that goes to one house and that is it.”

*Councilman Harold Taylor stated*, “Just to refresh everyone memory several years ago under a previous administration, Mr. Fontenot, there were two parish engineers that worked for us, Mr. Fontenot and the Public Works Director updated and made an official list of all the public roads in St. Landry parish and all of the private roads. It is pretty easy to tell which is which because it is listed private if it is private and public it is public. I think that is what you are referring to.”

*Councilman Easton Shelvin stated*, “Wouldn’t that be considered as a private road if it is a driveway to their house?”

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated*, “In the Jury days they did a lot of things and that was one of the things that they took into the system. Once they took it into the system it could be gravel road, now we don’t but back then it did.”

*Councilman Harold Taylor stated*, “Technically speaking for a parish to take on a road and service it all they had to do was grade it for 3 years and it became a public road. That is how simple it was back in those days. It is a little more complicated today as you might know. If the parish maintains it for 3 years it was a public road and that is how those driveway got done.”

#### **ORDINANCE No. 2023-016**

**(Sponsored by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry)**

**An Ordinance to Amend St. Landry Parish Ordinance Section 36-132 which is in Article VI of Chapter 36 of the St. Landry Parish Code of Ordinance.**

**Whereas, LA R.S. 32:41 (13) grants the parish governing authorities the authority to direct the installation of speed bumps in their parish;**

#### **ORDINANCE No. 2023-017**

**(Sponsored by Councilman Alvin Stelly)**

**An Ordinance to Amend St. Landry Parish Ordinance Chapter 44, Section 44-14 so that Oscar Rivette Road will be removed on the list of roads in St. Landry Parish that are designated at “No Truck or 18-Wheeler Thru Traffic” routes.**

**X. ORDINANCES TO BE ADOPTED:**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Vivian Olivier, seconded by Councilman Wayne Ardoin to Adopt **Ordinance No. 2023-008**

**On roll call vote: YEAS:** Nancy Carriere, Easton Shelvin, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, Vivian Olivier, Wayne Ardoin, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Coby Clavier. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 19<sup>th</sup>, day of July, 2023.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2023-008**  
**(Sponsored by: Councilwoman Vivian Olivier)**

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

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

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

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL FOR ST. LANDRY PARISH GOVERNMENT that Chapter 44, Section 44-14 is hereby amended as follows:**

The following roads are hereby restricted and designated as “No Truck or 18-Wheeler Thru Traffic” routes:

- Andrepont Road (Parish Road 6-10); (1)
- Beck Miller Road (Parish Road 6-340); (2)
- Beck Miller Road (Parish Road 6-340-1); (3)
- Begnaud Road (4)
- Belmont Drive; (5)
- Country Ridge; (6)
- Darjean Road; (7)
- Dresser Loop; (8)
- Federal Road (Council District No. 1); (9)
- Fisher Road (Parish Road 4-110); (10)
- Fort Hamilton Drive (Parish Road 1-319); (11)
- Frank Road (12)
- Frilot Cove Road; (13)
- Gordon Street (Parish Road 6-45); (14)
- Government Road (Council District No. 3); (15)
- Greg Drive; (16)
- Harmon Lane in Opelousas (17)
- Hidalgo Road (Council District No. 3); (18)
- Highway 1244; (19)
- Iseringhausen Road; (20)
- Jacob Road (Parish Road 6-345); (21)
- Jeff Thibodeaux (Parish Road 6-345); (22)
- Judson Walsh; (23)
- Lawyer Road; (24)
- Littell Street (Parish Road 6-40); (25)
- McClelland Road (Parish Road 6-35); (26)
- National Road (Council District No. 3); (27)
- North 6th Street between Hwy. 190 and Hwy. 104; (28)
- Oscar Rivette Road; (29)
- Perry Drive (Parish Road 6-40-1); (30)
- Plantation Road; (31)
- Rainbow Drive; (32)
- Rolling Oaks Drive (Parish Road 1-397); (33)
- Sir Thomas Henry Drive; (34)
- Smith Lane (Parish Road 5-30); (35)

Soileau Road (Parish Road 6-275); (36)  
Soileau Road from Hwy. 13 to Hwy. 757; (37)  
Thibodeaux Street (Parish Road 6-35-2); (38)  
West Loop and Hwy. 190 West intersection. (39)

- A motion was made by Councilman Coby Clavier, seconded by Councilman Alvin Stelly to Adopt **Ordinance No. 2023-013**.  
**On roll call vote: YEAS:** Nancy Carriere, Easton Shelvin, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, Vivian Olivier, Wayne Ardoin, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Coby Clavier. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON**, this motion was adopted on this, the 19<sup>th</sup>, day of July, 2023.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2023-013**  
**(Sponsored by: Councilman Coby Clavier)**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ST. LANDRY PARISH ORDINANCE CHAPTER 36, ARTICLE IX, THREE-WAY INTERSECTIONS, SECTION 36-200 so that the intersection of N. 8th Street and Murphy Richard Loop will be included on the list of roads in St. Landry Parish that are designated as three-way intersections.**

**WHEREAS**, St. Landry Parish Ordinance Chapter 36, Article IX, Three-way Intersections, Section 36-200 lists the roads in St. Landry Parish that are designated as three-way intersections.

**WHEREAS**, this Ordinance amends St. Landry Parish Ordinance Chapter 36, Article IX, Three-way Intersections, Section 36-200 so that the intersection of N. 8th Street and Murphy Richard Loop, will be included on the list of roads in St. Landry Parish that are designated as three-way intersections.

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL FOR ST. LANDRY PARISH GOVERNMENT** that a three-way stop sign shall be placed at the intersection of N. 8th Street and Murphy Richard Loop and **Chapter 36, Article IX, Three-way Intersections, Section 36-200 is hereby amended as follows:**

- **ARTICLE IX. – THREE-WAY INTERSECTIONS**
- **Sec. 36-200 - Designated**

The following roads are hereby designated as three-way intersections:

- 1 The intersection of Fort Hamilton Drive and Meadow Circle;
- 2 The intersection of Fort Hamilton Drive and Chrysanthemum Drive;
- 3 The intersection of Fort Hamilton Drive and Leisure Drive;
- 4 The intersection of Knute Rockne Drive and Kenneth Boagni Sr., Drive;
- 5 The intersection of Tillou Andrus Drive and Cedar Grove Drive in Linwood East Subdivision;
- 6 The intersection of Hellen Garland Drive and Garrigue Drive;
- 7 Greenbriar Subdivision;
- a The intersection of Thelma Drive and Martha Drive;
- b The intersection of Thelma Drive and Edward Drive;
- c The intersection of Thelma Drive and David Drive;
- 8 The intersection of McNeese and Clover Streets;
- 9 The intersection of McNeese and Blue Streets;
- 10 The intersection of McNeese and Leday Streets;
- 11 The intersection of McNeese and Recard Streets;
- 12 The intersection of Kenneth Boagni Sr., and Tillou Andrus Drives; and Shoeshone
- 13 The intersection of Goyo Road and Eugene Soileau Road
- 14 The intersection of Frilot Cove Road and Raiders Road
- 15 The intersection of Frilot Cove Road and Watson Lane
- 16 The intersection of School Road and Summner Road
- 17 The intersection of Acadiana Road and Airline Road
- 18 The intersection of N. 8th Street and Murphy Richard Loop

**XI. RESOLUTIONS TO BE ADOPTED:**

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Carriere To Adopt **Resolution No. 022-2023**.

**On roll call vote: YEAS:** Nancy Carriere, Easton Shelvin, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, Vivian Olivier, Wayne Ardoin, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Coby Clavier. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON**, this motion was adopted on this, the 19<sup>th</sup>, day of July, 2023.



**RESOLUTION NO. 022-2023**

**A Resolution requesting the US Corp of Engineers, Teche-Vermilion Fresh Water District, St. Marin Parish Government to accommodate Drainage and Retention in Preparation for Excessive Rainfall in the Teche-Vermilion Watershed.**

**WHEREAS**, the Teche-Vermilion Watershed is occasionally threatened by significant rain events caused by tropical weather systems, stalled frontal passages, and other weather systems that may be impacted by inadequate drainage and retention that could result in potential flooding impacts to a significant part of the Teche-Vermilion Watershed; and,

**WHEREAS** the negative impact of these weather systems may be increased by inadequate drainage and retention issues that result in flooding events that are detrimental to the public affecting residential, businesses, agriculture, and governmental entities, and even may threaten the lives of our citizens; and,

**WHEREAS** the National Weather Service (NWS) usually issues an accurate forecast for these sorts of events usually at a minimum of 72 hours or greater in advance; and,

**WHEREAS** the drainage out of Bayou Courtableau is limited by the following issues:

- (a) The West Atchafalaya West Guide levee flood gates for Bayou Courtableau that have insufficient flow capabilities as identified by a report to the Mississippi River Commission by the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) in 2007 and operation of these gates are dependent on Lake Pelba water levels; and
- (b) The undersized and obsolete flood gate south of the Butte La Rose Bridge on the inside of Borrow Pit Canal; and,
- (c) Two five-hundred-foot overflow weirs with an elevation set at 18.0 feet, which empty into Bayou-Amy, Lake Catahoula, and the Lake Fausse Point System; and,
- (d) Levels in Lake Pelba occasionally prohibit use of the Bayou Courtableau flood gates on the West Atchafalaya West Guide levee for drainage of the Bayou and the Northern and Central Areas of the watershed, and,
- (e) The Bayou Teche's drainage capability is restricted by a dam at Keystone in St. Martin Parish; and,
- (f) The Vermilion River as shown by May 2017 and August 2019 USACE depth surveys indicating severe shoaling that inhibits drainage for the river for most of Lafayette Parish and portions of Vermilion Parish; and,

**WHEREAS** the flood of August 2016 brought great loss of homes, business, and agricultural crops, equipment, and structures in the entire Teche- Vermillion Watershed; and,

**WHEREAS** active management of drainage control structures and systems as stated herein prior to a significant weather system as defined herein will accommodate additional drainage and retention resulting therefrom; and

**WHEREAS** all actions proposed herein would occur while all water levels in the Teche-Vermilion Watershed are at or below their defined flood stages; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the St. Landry Parish Council requests that the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, Teche-Vermilion Freshwater District (TVFD), and St. Martin Parish Government proactively and immediately address a threat of a forecast by the National Weather Service of 5 inches or greater rain event across any significant area of the Teche-Vermilion Watershed by lowering the pool stage of Bayou Courtableau at the West Atchafalaya West Guide levee flood gates to 15.65 through the following actions:

- (a) ceasing any pumping operations by TVFD when pool stages exceed 15.65
- (b) open gates that drain Bayou Courtableau into the West Atchafalaya Floodway by the USACE if basin levels allow
- (c) open gates that drain Lake Henderson by the St Martin Parish Government
- (d) open gates that drain Bayou Teche into Lake Fausse Pointe by TVFD if lake levels allow

The objective of lowering pool stages in Bayou Courtableau to 15.65,' which is the operational pool stage during the month of December, would allow the Bayou Courtableau watershed to store of some of the anticipated rainfall accommodating anticipated drainage needs from the weather event and potentially reducing flooding threats. We request that these drainage accommodation operations begin at a minimum of 72 hours or immediately after the forecast by the National Weather Service has been issued or if river flooding causes the level in Lake Pelba to exceed 17.5 feet. A similar pool stage

lowering operation was undertaken when Hurricane Barry struck the area in July 2019 which resulted in success in minimizing flood impacts.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the St. Landry Parish Council requests the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, the Teche-Vermilion Freshwater District, and St Martin Parish immediately adopt these drainage accommodation operations.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution be sent to each parish governments that will be affected by this request for their consideration and support and that this resolution be sent to the Louisiana Congressional Delegation seeking their support and their intervention with the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, Teche-Vermilion Freshwater District, and St Martin Parish in causing these operational guidelines to be adopted promptly.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Executive Director of the Police Jury Association, Governor John Bell Edwards, CPRA, and any other persons, firms, or entities as deemed fit and proper.

## **XII. COMMITTEE MINUTES:**

A motion was made by Councilman, Wayne Ardoin, seconded by Councilman Jimmie Edwards to accept the **Public Works Committee Meeting Minutes** from **Wednesday, July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023** as transcribed.

**On roll call vote: YEAS:** Nancy Carriere, Easton Shelvin, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, Vivian Olivier, Wayne Ardoin, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Coby Clavier. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON**, this motion was adopted on this, the 19<sup>th</sup>, day of July, 2023.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, seconded by Councilman Jimmie Edwards to accept the **Administrative Finance Committee Meeting Minutes** from **Wednesday, July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023** as transcribed.

**On roll call vote: YEAS:** Nancy Carriere, Easton Shelvin, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, Vivian Olivier, Wayne Ardoin, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Coby Clavier. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON**, this motion was adopted on this, the 19<sup>th</sup>, day of July, 2023.

## **XIII. ADJOURN:**

A motion was made by Councilman Wayne Ardoin, seconded by Councilman Harold Taylor to Adjourn the Regular Meeting.

**On roll call vote: YEAS:** Nancy Carriere, Easton Shelvin, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, Vivian Olivier, Wayne Ardoin, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Coby Clavier. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON**, this motion was adopted on this, the 19<sup>th</sup>, day of July, 2023.

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