**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.

1. Chairman Easton Shelvin led the Pledge of Allegiance & Invocation.
2. **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.***

1. **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 Begs and the Prairie Rhonde Water goes all the way to Begs. If you get all the way to Begs 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 Begs. 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 Garett 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 Garett 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.**

1. **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.**

1. **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.**

1. **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 or 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.

1. **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.**

1. **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.***

1. **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.**

**I HEREBY CERTIFY THE FOREGOING TO BE EXACT AND TRUE**

**SHERELL JORDAN, COUNCIL CLERK**

**KAREN BARLOW, ASSISTANT COUNCIL CLERK**