**ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20th, 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 20th, day of December, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

1. Chairman Jerry Red Jr., called the meeting of the St. Landry Parish Council to order.
2. Councilwoman Lynn Lejeune led the Pledge of Allegiance & Invocation.
3. **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 Lynn Lejeune. Ex Officio Jerry Red Jr. **ABSENT**: None.

1. **PRESENTATION TO COUNCIL MEMBERS**

***Councilwoman Lynn Lejeune was presented a Plaque. Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,* “**We have a plaque for you. Basically we are trying to tell you thank you for months that you have served as a Parish Councilwoman and taking care of District 13. We want to give you this right here and thank you for doing what you do for the parish.”

***Councilwoman Lynn Lejeune stated*, “**I just want to tell you all how much I appreciate all of your support. It has been a wonderful journey for me and I regret leaving. We have a new councilperson in the house and he will be taking the seat in January. So thank you all again and I have really, really enjoyed it. Thank you.”

***Councilman Gil Savoy was presented a Plaque. Parish President Jessie Bellard stated***, “Mr. Gil Savoy has been serving on the council for the last four years. We want to thank him for his dedication and hard work for District 6. He chose not to run this time around so we have new person taking your place next month but we appreciate your service. Thank you sir.”

***Councilman Gil Savoy stated***, “Thank you.”

***Councilman Easton Shelvin was presented a Plaque. Parish President Jessie Bellard stated***, “Mr. Easton Shelvin, it has here seven years but I think that it is a total of eight years right?

***Councilman Easton Shelvin stated***, “It is 22 years.”

***Parish President Jessie Bellard stated***, “Twenty-two, it felt like twenty-two, again thank you for your service and dedication to the district and we look forward to working with you in the future with your future endeavors.”

***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., was presented a Plaque. Parish President Jessie Bellard stated***, “Jerry has the longest years. I am not saying that he has gray hair or nothing he just have the longest years. Mr. Jerry Red has been on the council for the last six-teen years. We want to thank him for his dedication and hard work for District 1 which is where I use to live in now I live in Mr. Jimmie’s area. I might want to go back to District 1. Thank you for your time and your service.”

***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated***, “I appreciate it.”

***Councilwoman Mildred Thierry stated***, “On behalf of the constituents of St. Landry Parish to each one of you who will not be with us any longer, we want to say thank you very much for all that you have contributed to this parish, your hard work and your long hours, we appreciate that and you all will be greatly missed. I want to say again, thank you so very much.”

1. **CONDOLENCES:**

***Councilwoman Nancy Carriere****: Bryant Alanzo Charles, Ollie Rita Shaw, Mary Castain, James Michael Arceneaux, Earl Marcell Sr., J.D. Hampton, Rose Mary Broussard,*

*Bernadette Thomas, Joseph Wilson Etienne, Cynthia Ann-Guidroz Leger and J. Ryan Fontenot.*

***Councilwoman Mildred Thierry:*** *Joseph Wilson Etienne, Warren Hanchett, Rose Mary Broussard, J. Ryan Fontenot, David Roger Guillory, Cynthia Ann Leger, Gary Louis Guillory, Daniel Leroy Jennings Jr., Lloyd Kempt, Mary Castain, Deacon Daniel Bolt, Paul Lionel Carmouche Sr., John Bryant Jr., Ollie Rita Shaw, Gregory Van Rideau, Grace Marie Rosette, Mary Virginia Bell, James Whitlow Sr., Bryant Alonzo Charles, Chrisjana Rae Seals and*

*Helen Pitre Giron.*

***Councilman Wayne Ardoin****: James “Jimmy” Brinkhouse, Madelyn “Maggie” Fitgerald Halphen, Hunter Joseph Higdou, Marcus Leger, J. Ryan Fontenot, and Rowena Dugas.*

***Councilman Dexter Brown****: J. Ryan Fontenot and Gary Louis Guillory.*

***Councilwoman Lynn Lejeune***: *Pat Johnson, Cha-Cha Pitre, Bill Thompson, Joey Godeaux, George Leger, Roland Bordelon, Dolan Duplechain and Kendall Fontenot.*

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

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

***Mr. Sammy Coon addressed the council. He stated*, “**Some of you may know me already. I was here in March about the Solar Fields that we have in St. Landry Parish now. We are not happy about it and most of you all know that. Ms. Mildred knows because I send her updates steadily on the equipment that is going up and down our roads and the trucks that is going up and down our roads. I don’t know if you all have permits for them or if you all are getting taxes for them, you all should be. I am upset about it going up and down the road because it took us 30 years to get our road redone. I have been where I am for 32 years on Mulberry Road. It took us almost 30 years to get that road redone and now there is equipment that is running up and down it and it does not make me very happy. What really has made me unhappy to be here this time and I think that you all have copies of some stuff that the clerk was nice enough to make me some copies for everyone, this is some hazardous material listings, packing list, shipping list, radiation detection from March until this month and packing list for hazardous materials. I have a book that trains you on hazardous material. I am just curious what hazardous material are we using. They run around and they have their little hazardous suits and they are on their little carts. Either they are doing something with hazardous materials or why do they have all of this. If nothing else they are littering because this is all from their trucks and their vehicles. If nothing else they are littering up our parish. They made me do some research on these panels that they are putting in. They did a 30 year lease from what I understand and the life span on these panels are 25 to 30 years. There is a highly toxic waste inside of these panels which will begin to leak at 25 to 30 years according to their findings, not ours. I also found out that most of this will be 150 feet from the road or from parish or property lines. The safe distance is 1.2 miles from these Solar Panels if you go up and start looking up some information on this. We will be well within the limit of not being safe. It is in our back yard and it is not good at all. Like I said they ride around with the hazardous material suits on so somebody is doing something with something and I am just curious of what they are shipping in and out. I have all of this because I found it but I don’t know what any of it means. Anytime you see hazardous material and I have done enough work over my 60 years that this is not good, this is not good at all and somebody needs to see about it. Ms. Mildred knows because I have sent her updates pretty often. Updates with videos of the equipment and the burning. They hammer these things in the ground and this starts at 7:00 a.m. until 5:00 in the afternoon every day, Monday through Friday. They use to do weekends but they don’t do weekends anymore but they do Monday through Friday. It is not what I want to wake up to in the country. After all of this there is some good at the end of it. I do have some good, I am not always the negative person. I am negative when you start interfering with my family or my home. I was born and raised in Opelousas, I have been here for 62 years, a resident of Opelousas and St. Landry Parish so it means a lot to me here. We have to live with this on a daily basis and it will only get worse I don’t think that it will get better. That is why other cities and parishes in our state have questioned and held up a lot of this. One thing that they have done was dug out the ditches and cleaned them out, all of them. We have Marks Road which is approximately one quarter mile long and it comes from Hwy 103 to Mulberry Road. The Parish dug that out and that is the first time that that road was dug out in 32 years. I do know that one of the relatives of someone lives there. They just moved there a couple of years back and now we have our ditches dug, maybe that is what it takes to get our ditches dug out. That is a flood area, the end of that road coming up at Hwy 103, water comes in from a one inch rain. Bryan Tate from LPL, I don’t know if any of you all are familiar with him or if you all have his number, I have it if you all don’t, but he has more answers with all due respect than all of you all together. I have asked him many of the questions that I have been here to ask and did not get any response but with him I get a response. We can hardly go in the back yard when these people are in my back yard.”

***Parish President Jessie Bellard stated***, “The paperwork he has right here, I am assuming this is it right here, have you seen the date at the bottom?”

***Mr. Sammy Coon stated***, “Yes sir, I have seen some of them, yes sir.”

***Parish President Jessie Bellard stated***, “And you have seen the location?”

***Mr. Sammy Coon stated***, “Yes.”

***Parish President Jessie Bellard stated***, “That is not in our parish. But just to make sure that everybody is on the same page as the parish council and the parish government we do more about what you are talking about. We are just not going to tell you a lot of the things because it is not our place to tell you. If you have questions or concerns related to the Solar Farms you are talking to the right guy, Mr. Garett will give you all the information that you need. I am pretty sure he will give you the same think that he gave me and there was no hazardous material on sight, none. None what so ever.”

***Mr. Sammy Coon stated***, “What about the Panels? Why do they say the Panels have Toxins inside?”

***Parish President Jessie Bellard stated***, “Did Garett tell you that?”

***Mr. Sammy Coon stated***, “Brian told me from LPL.”

***Parish President Jessie Bellard stated***, “This is the deal. We looked into this because we did get the phone call from Ms. Thierry. We looked into it to make sure. We are good over there. Again we had this conversation before and there is no zoning in our parish so we cannot stop these people from banging on what they are doing. If it is happening in the day time there is no ordinance that says that they cannot do it.”

***Mr. Sammy Coon stated***, “At least they do it from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. I will admit that.”

***Parish President Jessie Bellard stated***, “We feel for you but at the end of the day people who own that property have a right to do what they want to do with it because we don’t regulate that. I don’t want to start the process because we don’t tell you what to do with yours or what to do with mine. We live in the country for a reason so nobody can come and tell us basically what to do with our property. So we did look into that and we have not found anything. In fact they gave us some documentation to back up their plan. I appreciate it Mr. Coon.”

***Mr. Sammy Coon stated***, “If you all are happy with the answers but I am not happy with any of it but if you all are I guess that is okay.”

***Parish President Jessie Bellard stated***, “They can answer any questions that you may want to ask.”

***Councilwoman Lynn Lejeune questioned***, “What is the physical location of this project?”

***Mr. Sammy Coon stated,*** “It goes from Hwy 103 to Hwy 167 back toward Plaisance. It is over 3,000 acres.”

***Parish President Jessie Bellard stated***, “It is like 1,300 acres. It is sort of spread out. In that general area of Plaisance where he is talking about it sort of skip areas.”

***Mr. Sammy Coon stated,*** “It is all around, it is all around.”

***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated***, “The next person to speak is Mr. Kyle Simeral.”

***Mr. Ken Simeral addressed the council and stated***, “I am Ken Simeral, Kyle is my son and I will speak.”

***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated***, “I have Kyle and I have Ken, which one will speak?”

***Mr. Ken Simeral stated***, “I am going to speak, Ken is going to speak. I just wanted Kyle in case he wanted to add something. He was on the particular property.”

***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated***, “You have 5 minutes.”

***Mr. Ken Simeral stated***, “Thank you. Some of you all may recognize me. I have served the last 6 years on Economic Development Boards so I am very involved in St. Landry Parish. I wanted to say that from the Beginning. I handed out a few sheets, sort of a vicinity map. This is about an abandon road situation, I know you all hate hearing about these things but when it hits you personally you have to do something about it. I talked to Mr. Timmy about it earlier tonight and I talked to the attorney about it so we maybe can get some answers. My question is: We have bought about 60 acres of land with houses and so forth. We have spent about $800,000.00 on this. This is not just some piece of property that I am just playing with. We purchased it based on a survey of 1993. It is the third page that you all are looking at right there. In that survey Mr. Mott, Weston Mott, which I think some of you all are familiar with, he is around still and he does work for the parish and does work for the state. I spoke to Mr. Mott, his plat shows abandon road as Jessie B. Road. It is there, it is on the plat and I spoke to him, 1993 that is 30 years ago. Nothing has happen to that road since 1993, that section of the road may I say. When he looked at it he was very comfortable with the fact that road was abandon because it was overgrown so he put it on the plat. He could not tell me what documentation that he used, that was him, but he says I can swear that road was overgrown and abandon, okay. Track 3 shows the properties that we bought. All of these properties and every property along that Jessie B. Road and the section that is now being worked on by the parish has frontage on Hwy 751, they all have access to their property. Mr. Timmy told me tonight that one of those land owners down Hwy 751, one of the heirs, potential heirs to a piece of property further down on this abandon section have asked him to build a road so he can access his property. He does not own the property he only have a right to it at some time in the future and it is not even set in stone at this point. We have all spoken to him and we have spoken to the family. A point to that is they have access from Hwy 751. It is not blocked property. Every sale that I have included in your stuff right here in the last period of time including my sales all reference the 1993 plat. You have five different surveyors, which I understand it is a surveyor, they are professionals and we have to assume they are professionals. They all reference that plat, reviewed that plat and noted on their plats of the sales that the road was abandon in this section. It is probably 1000 to 1500 feet. Why am I talking about it now is because in the last year the parish decided that this vacant piece of land that have not had anything done to it now needs to be cleared, ditches cleaned and the roadway cleaned and all of the trees taken out. What was once a private section of the rear of our property is now wide open. We have dumping going on, we have four wheelers coming down and we have a reported thief to one of our vehicles. It has open up a road that was once closed is what it boils down too. There is a 1948 plat, I have to reference that, it is not on here, 1948 plat that shows Jessie B. Road as it is today, that first section going from there, owned by the Young’s. The Young’s own all of that property. It was Farm to Market Road that he used to service his farm in that area. That is over 75 years ago that this was noted on a plat. In 75 years nobody have done a thing with what I determined to be an abandon road, why now all of a sudden, why in this district at this time are we digging ditches, clearing that and taking parish equipment to work on this, we are not getting a good answer on this. Mr. Duplechain have said that he will look at the list that he has and Mr. Bellard, we spoke to him and he have said that he has researched it and as far as he is concerned it is not abandon, it is a Parish Road. I just want to know if it is going to be built is it going to be built to the same standard that I have to do as a developer in St. Landry Parish. Is it going to be a good road? Is it going to have the ditches? Is there a drainage study done? Will the work be done that needs to be done to make the road right? Will it benefit me? At some point it very well could because I have 60 acres along there. I have 40 acres that front that property. Yes, is that my intention, no, it is not my intention, my son Kyle lives there, that is his home and that is his farm, that is what he does. We are just asking to look into it.”

***Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “***Mr. Chairman, at this time there is no discussion from me and there should be no discussion from the council in reference to this because he did tell me that he was going to hire an attorney and sue us. I took that as a possibility that we would be in litigation. At that time I stopped the conversation and Mr. Duplechain can answer any questions on my behalf.”

***Mr. Ken Simeral stated***, “Mr. Bellard that was my son Kyle who lives there. I own the property. He has a small percent. All of our properties are in one company. I own the majority. I never talked to you about a suite. I never talked to you about it. If you have some answers that will correct what we are doing or what is going with the parish I would like to talk to you. I have never had a problem of talking to you in the past and you should not have a problem calling me. Tempers are high okay, if they were doing it in your back yard you would be upset also.”

***Parish President Jessie Bellard stated***, “We did the research Mr. Chairman and the research that came back to the Parish and to me was that it was never abandon. There were two other pieces of property that were abandon and that was in the Police Jury days. They numbered 2 driveways and whenever they numbered as Parish Road 6-80-2 and 3. They found out that was 2 driveways. So when it was time to name them they found that it was a driveway and not a road so they abandon those 2 roads. That is what the minutes of the meeting showed under the Police Jury system. That is all that we have to go by so that was my answer and I can’t do much more than that.”

***Mr. Ken Simeral questioned***, “How long does a road have to be abandon before it becomes abandon?”

***Parish President Jessie Bellard stated***, “That man over there can answer that.”

***Mr. Ken Simeral stated***, “And he could not.”

***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated***, “Garett, can you give us some clarity on this?”

***Legal Counsel Garett Duplechain stated***, “It is really nothing that is suppose to be ambiguous about it. I have a list of roads and you all have a list of road. Some are designated public and some are designated private. That is really the starting point. If somebody thinks it might be ambiguous it is wrongfully listed as a public road or wrongfully listed as a private road they can file a lawsuit to get clarification, maybe that is what they are going to do but other than that there is really nothing ambiguous about it. We have the list of roads and I have the list of roads, some are public and some are private. I don’t have the list with me right now.”

***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated,*** “Can you do this, can you go to the Clerk of Court office and find out the information and bring it back to the Public Works Meeting and this committee can look at it and we can go forth from there.”

***Legal Counsel Garett Duplechain stated***, “Okay, what is the name of the road?”

***Mr. Ken Simeral stated***, “Jessie B. Road. I gave you a packet with my card. Jessie B. Road.”

***Legal Counsel Garett Duplechain stated***, “I don’t know any lawsuit that have been filed on this yet.”

***Mr. Ken Simeral stated***, “There is no lawsuit being filed. There is no lawsuit that is going to be filed until we have to. That is what we were told we needed to do in order to get this. Just what you just stated was that we had to file a suit whether it was abandon or not. So if that is the information we received then the answer would be we had to file a lawsuit. I would much rather have a conversation.”

***Councilman Alvin Stelly stated***, “They tell me if a road is abandon for 3 years it goes back to the property owner because it has not been worked on for 3 years that is what I have always been told.”

***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated***, “We will get the information and it will come back to the Committee and we will go from there.”

***Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated***, “If the road is not going to be abandon are we going to maintain it and bring it up to par?”

***Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “***Yes, it will be like any other gravel road we have in the parish.”

***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated***, “If it is a public road it is the parish responsibility. If it has been abandon it is the private owner responsibility.”

***Mr. Ken Simeral stated***, “So I will just share this with you that what they are talking about doing is going just to a portion of Jessie B. Road and not connecting it to the rest of Jessie B. Road. So let’s make some common sense out of this parish okay. If we are going to do part of this work and make it still a dead end why not do it all the way if it is going all the way through. Another part of that is if it is a dead end they you will have to have a Cul-du-sac for busses.”

***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated***, “I agree with you Mr. Simeral. But let us find out first where we stand with this.”

***Mr. Ken Simeral stated***, “Thank you all for your help.”

***Ms. Laura Garcille addressed the council. She stated,*** “Good evening everyone. My name is Laura Garcille. I am here to announce that I have recently qualified as a candidate for District Judge to replace Judge Caswell who is retiring December 31st. 2023. The election will be March 23, 2024. I am here to introduce myself and give you all a little background about me. I graduated from Chataignier High School. My mom was a teacher at Eunice Junior High for 25 years, we have been residents of Eunice my whole life. I am currently married to Brett Garcille who is also a resident of Eunice. He graduated from St. Ed’s High School and we have three kids, Riley, Emmy and John Ross. We are currently living in Eunice. We are members of St. Anthony’s Catholic Church in Eunice. Just to give you all a little back ground my mom was a teacher at Eunice Junior High, a Teacher’s Aide at Eunice Junior High for 20 something years. She was a single mom, struggled and we had a hard time growing up but she always stressed the importance of getting an education, stressed the importance of having a great work ethics and I followed that going into school. I went to LSU undergrad then I went to LSU law. When I came out of school I had pretty good grades so they convinced me that I should work at a law office in Lafayette. I did that for a year and one-half but it did not take me long to realize that is not why I was called to the legal profession. I knew I was called to work for the little guy. I came back home and serviced my community. I came back home to Eunice and I started a practice as a result of that. At that point I realized when you come to Eunice you have to kind of become a jack of all trades in a small town so I took anything I could get my hands on. I got experience in Family Law, Real-estate transactions, Wills and Sessions, anything I can do to get the experience. At that time I was offered a job at the Public Defender’s Office and I worked there for 12 years under Mr. Ed Lopez. I did that for 12 years and then when Chad Pitre got elected I transferred to the Prosecution side of things and I started prosecuting felonies for the parish. Through the experience through my law office and through the criminal law experience I have trial experience on both sides of the criminal law area and through that experience I think what got me here, what got me wanting to run for judge is wanting to serve the community. I think through that experience it got me here to give my best to the parish and to help you guy even. I know through my experience through both sides of that the struggles that the parish have and how much of an impact a judge have on some of those issues. I know from whether it is setting bonds, whether it is overcrowding in the jail or whether it is promoting programs that help people who have been arrested and not just go to jail and there is no end in sight. I believe through my experience I will as a judge be able to help people, guide people to programs that is not just going to jail and that is it. I do have a passion and I do want to keep our community safe. I believe for violent crimes we have to sentence harshly and not have a revolving door of criminal activity and not have any accountability. I just hope that you would consider me whenever you are talking to people about who they should vote far based off of the experience and my background. I appreciate you all listening to me tonight and I hope you all have a Merry Christmas.”

***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated***, “I skipped a person, Mr. Daniel Auzenne. He will speak about a demolition of a structure on Napoleon Street.”

***Mr. Daniel Auzenne Jr., addressed the council and stated*, “**Hi, Daniel Auzenne. Talking about the structure of the letter that I received addressed “Cleanup of the property” which I have already started if you all have passed in the last few days and you will see that the property has already been started cleaning, cleanup has begun. As far as demolition I don’t know what demolition they were talking about because the letter that I received only referred to the overgrowth.”

***Cynthia Fontenot, Code Enforcement Officer stated***, “In reference to this, this the location on the corner of Napoleon and Hwy 190. We gave notice to Mr. Auzenne earlier this year, we sent notice. He did contact the office, the letter is dated May 16th, 2023. He did contact me and said that he will start cleaning the property. I checked periodically and nothing was done so I placed a demolition sign and we brought it before the council to get approval for the parish to go ahead and demolish it. Since then we have sent another letter out to the sister according to the Assessor’s sight who is place with the address. Mr. Auzenne did contact me once that letter went out that they were suppose to come before the council. At this point Mr. Auzenne asked if he could get more time. I stressed to him that this has been an ongoing thing and it is a very bad eye sore. He did ask me if we can allow him 30 days to try and get that done. Our position is this has been going on. In case he does not, I am not saying that he won’t complete it in 30 days so we don’t have to bring this back before the council if we can move forward on the issue of getting it approved. If Mr. Auzenne does not completed in 30 days then the parish can go on to the property and get it cleaned up. So that is the point of where we stand right now.”

***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated***, “What are the wishes of this council.”

***Councilman Harold Taylor stated***, “How about Legal Counsel Chime in on this.”

***Legal Counsel Garett Duplechain stated***, “So for information for the council our council clerk had sent out the certified letter to the owner more than 10 days before this meeting and she sent out a regular letter to the owner more than 10 days before the meeting. She recorded both at the Clerk of Court along with the Certificate of mailing, all is in compliance with the ordinance. Our Council Clerk also sent letters to all the owners of this property because there is more than one, all ten days before this meeting so they are in complete compliance with the ordinance to take out a dilapidated building. So the next step is tonight for the council to decide whatever it is that Parish Government recommends that they do. So what is the recommendation of Parish Government?”

***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated***, “I believe she asked us what is the wishes of this council? Are we going to give him 30 days? If they don’t do it in 30 days then they will take action.”

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

***Legal Counsel Garett Duplechain stated***, “Yes, that is acceptable. The ordinance makes it acceptable to vote for extra time for the owner.”

***Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated***, “I was going to make the motion because she mentioned two different people. So I was going to make the motion for the 30 days.”

***Councilman Dexter Brown stated***, “I would like to speak on that issue. That is in District 10 area. His family has made drastic improvements on cleaning up the property. I spoke with Mr. Auzenne as well previously. He would like to demolish the house as well because it is rotting and the seals are bad. Their intentions are to tear the house down but he was asking me about getting 40 yard dumpsters out there. I told him I would work with him as well to get that done as well. The cleaning of the yard, they are doing a wonderful job. It was an eye sore at first but it is 100% better and they are doing a day to day basis. I can guarantee you that the property will get cleaned up.”

***Chairman Jerry Red Jr. questioned,*** “Will it be longer than 30 days? The motion was going to be to clean it up in 30 days. If it is not done in 30 days then they will take action. You are saying something different, what are you saying now?”

***Councilman Dexter Brown stated***, “I am saying that the vegetation will be cleared. The demolishing of the house will be done. He will get together with his contractor to see when the contractor will be able to demolish the house but 100% they will demolish the house.”

***Mr. Daniel Auzenne Jr., stated***, “I started the cleanup on the property.”

***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., questioned***, “Is that the green house?”

***Mr. Daniel Auzenne Jr., stated***, “That is the green house. I took care of the vegetation and I cut most of the trees down. I have the property across the street that I also have to maintain. It will take me a little time because I am doing it by myself. As long as you all see improvement on the property I ask that you give me the extension to go ahead and do what I have to do to take care of the property.”

***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., questioned***, “How much time do you need Mr. Auzenne?”

***Mr. Daniel Auzenne Jr., stated***, “I am by myself.”

***Councilman Dexter Brown stated***, “If we could extend it by an additional 30 days and that would give you 60 days.”

***Mr. Daniel Auzenne Jr., stated***, “Give me the first 30 days and you all will see an improvement. I looked at the property across the street and it is not as dense as it looks, I can go ahead and take care of that, it will not be a problem. If you pass up my property and you all see improvements you will see the difference of what it looked like before and what it will look like after. The rest of the structure that is there I will take care of that because the house is in bad shape. It needs to be demolished but it will take some time. I have already spoke to somebody to come in and do that.”

***Councilman Wayne Ardoin stated***, “I will second Mr. Brown’s motion. The gentleman did give me a call. He lives in District 9. I will second Mr. Brown’s motion for an extension for him to go ahead and do what he needs to do. I know that we have some other people have come in here and we have given extensions. I want to work with this gentleman here. He feels it belongs to him because it was his parents place and they worked hard to put it up.”

***Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated***, “I would agree to give him an extension and add 30 days. I would like to go until February 1st, 2024. The reason for that is because of the holiday activities that we have for the next 2 weeks. I would like to go until February 1st, 2024 and have serious action done instead of just cutting the grass.”

***Councilwoman Mildred Thierry stated***, “I would like to suggest giving him 60 days. After the 60 days if it is not done then Parish Government step in and do what they need to do. Not saying if he does some and it looks okay then we will give him more time. It was asked for 30 days why not give him 60 days and after 60 days the Parish Government will step in and do what they have to do and no having to come back before the council.”

***Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated***, “I will withdraw my motion for 30 days.”

***Parish President Jessie Bellard questioned***, “Do you own the property or is it in the family?”

***Mr. Daniel Auzenne Jr., stated***, “It is family but as soon as the paper work is completed it will be mine.”

***Parish President Jessie Bellard stated***, “Right now legally it is not just yours.”

***Mr. Daniel Auzenne Jr., stated***, “No it not legally.”

***Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “***Mr. Duplechain can tell me the answer to that question, he is not the legal owner as we speak right now, he is part owner. He can’t answer the questions so I am just bringing it out there so we will not fall on a legal hurl later own.”

***Mr. Daniel Auzenne Jr., stated***, “Let me say this. I worked out of the state for a long time since 1985 I was out of the state. I use to work in the oilfield here and I moved to the west coast. I moved back early 2000 and started maintaining the property. I cleaned up on Napoleon when I was here and I kept the yard up on the property off of the highway. After I left again in 2011 or 2012 and I got back on the road none of the other sibling cared about it. Now that I am back I plan on maintaining the property.”

***Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “***I am just looking at the legal process. If we give an extension to you and you are technically not the owner of the property I just want to make sure that we don’t do something that we will regret later on.”

***Mr. Daniel Auzenne Jr., stated***, “I am technically part owner of the property.”

***Legal Counsel Garett Duplechain stated***, “I just want to say, there are 10 owners and our clerk sent out 10 letters. With that being said there is a partition that you all were doing.”

***Mr. Daniel Auzenne Jr., stated***, “There are 8 owners.”

***Legal Counsel Garett Duplechain stated***, “There are 8 owners and our clerk sent out 8 letters. So there is a donation/partition that you all are doing and who is the attorney handling that?”

***Mr. Daniel Auzenne Jr., stated***, “Mr. Alfred Boudreaux.”

***Legal Counsel Garett Duplechain stated***, “At some point in the future you will be the owner.”

***Councilman Wayne Ardoin stated,*** “Mr. Brown, do you have a problem with going 60 days like Ms. Thierry recommended?”

***Councilman Dexter Brown stated***, “No, not at all. That is what I wanted some extra time.”

A motion was made by Councilman Dexter Brown, seconded by Councilman Wayne Ardoin to grant Mr. Daniel Auzenne Jr., 60 days to clean up the demolition of the structure on Napoleon Street.
**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 Lynn Lejeune. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

**WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 20th, day of December, 2023.

***Councilman Wayne Ardoin stated***, “Mr. Chairman, before we go any further I think that we have a young lady in the audience. Ma’am, you live next door to that property? I am speaking to that lady on the second row. Are you one of the property owners? Do you have a problem with what this council is doing here tonight?”

***Ms. Tammy Sam Addressed the council. She stated***, “My name is Tammy Sam. I own property on Napoleon Street. I don’t have a problem with the 60 days but I do have a problem with it not being cleared. It is an eye sour to my tenants.”

***Councilman Wayne Ardoin stated***, “That is what we are trying to do, hopefully this gentleman will do what needs to be done.”

***Ms. Tammy Sam stated***, “As long as it get cleared. If it is demolished in 60 day then I am good with that because I have four properties down there.”

***Councilman Wayne Ardoin stated***, “We want to work with you all and we want to satisfy this gentleman.”

***Mr. Daniel Auzenne Jr., stated***, “On that property my dad had a shop and a house. On the other side there was an old trailer. I plan on cleaning that lot up completely. As far as bringing it up to code I will take the necessary sets to do that and bring it up to code.”

***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated***, “After the first of January that is their problem, I will be gone.”

***Councilman Dexter Brown stated***, “Mr. Bellard, I can say that the house will get torn down.”

***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated***, “The next person to speak is Mr. Tony Guillory. You have five minutes.”

***Mr. Tony Guillory addressed the council. He stated***, “Just five minutes Mr. Chairman. I want to thank the council first of all and when will you all clean my ditch?” I am here on part of the Police Jury Association. We lost 8 members and 65 years of experience from the Association. We are going around and giving them a Plaque. I would like Jerry to come and get the Plaque. Jerry has been a hard worker with the Association. I can tell you there are some times when Jerry fought and he was the only one standing on several issues whether it was good or bad. I use to ask him why he didn’t or why he did and Jerry always had a good answer for everything and he was really good. We are losing a very good knowledgeable person from the Association and everywhere. I am here tonight to recognize him and all of the Association. It says: In recognition of four years of the Executive Board experience and leadership. I want to thank you for all that you have done in all of your 16 years plus everyone that is serving and leaving now. Thank you all for everything. Thank you Brother Jerry.”

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A motion was made by Councilman Wayne Ardoin seconded by Councilman Jimmie Edwards to approve the **Regular Meeting Minutes from November 15th, 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 Lynn Lejeune. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

**WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 20th, day of December, 2023.

A motion was made by Councilman Wayne Ardoin, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to approve the **Special Meeting Minutes from November 21st, 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 Lynn Lejeune. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

**WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 20th, day of December, 2023.

A motion was made by Councilman Wayne Ardoin, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to approve the **Special Meeting Minutes from December 6th, 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 Lynn Lejeune. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

**WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 20th, day of December, 2023.

1. **PARISH PRESIDENT REPORT:**
* ***Napoleon Street Demolition Update –*** Discussed earlier in the meeting
* ***Discuss the amendment that was on the ballot regarding tax exemption for first responders.***

***Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “***It did pass in the State where our first responder could get another $25,000.00 tax exemption however it failed in our parish. Coming from the first responder, I might get beat up for this but it did not pass in our parish and the definition of a first responder goes from pretty much anyone can go out there and be a first responder as their definition. I am going to ask the council to not apply this in our parish.”

***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated***, “But it did pass in the state.”

***Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “***It passed in the state, correct.”

***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated***, “What are the wishes of this council?”

***Councilman Harold Taylor stated***, “If we don’t take any action then it does not go anywhere.”

***Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “***The council has to say ‘Yes’ or ‘No’ to the amendments in our parish.”

***Councilman Wayne Ardoin stated***, “What about 10 years ago in a Resolution and they had an election like that did they adhere to what Mr. Bellard is coming with? Mr. Bellard I understand how you side that you can get beat up with that but can we get and Attorney General’s Opinion on that? Can we enforce that in St. Landry Parish? If it was not passed in St. Landry Parish but it was passed statewide. We never had that to come up before.”

***Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “***No but it is an option for the parish. Each parish had that option. It is an option.”

***Councilman Wayne Ardoin stated***, “It is an option. You did not say that. So disregard my opinion.”

***Councilman Harold Taylor stated,*** “Can we get an estimate on what this will actually cost in tax dollars?”

***Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “***It is rough because talking to the tax assessor the definition of a first responder and every year they have to come back and requalify as a first responder which is going to be very hard. It is very broad. She said that she could possibly get us something but nothing definite. It would be almost impossible because she does not know who will be coming up and trying to take their first responders.”

***Councilman Harold Taylor stated***, “How long do we have to take action on this?”

***Parish President Jessie Bellard stated***, “She did not tell me. She just ask that I bring it to the council for discussion. I can find out if you all want to table the issue until next month.”

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to Table the Tax Exemption for the First Responders until next month.

**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 Lynn Lejeune. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

**WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 20th, day of December, 2023

***Parish President Jessie Bellard stated***, “Ms. Cynthia has an affidavit from an adjoining landowner for adjudicated property.”

***Cynthia Fontenot, Code Enforcement Officer stated***, “If you all will see before you I have placed a memo with an attached copy of an sworn affidavit of an adjoining land owner, Mr. Quitin Doyle that resides 710 Nimitz Street in Eunice La. He would like to purchase the property that is next to him that is adjudicated to us and it has been adjudicated for quite some time. He did provide the necessary documentation to bring it before the council to request a special ordinance so we could sell it to an adjoining land owner. That amount on that sale would be $5,400.00. I am asking for a motion for an approval.”

A motion was made by Councilman Jimmie Edwards, seconded by Councilman Wayne Ardoin to authorize the sale of an adjoining piece of adjudicated property located at 710 Nimitz Street in Eunice to be sold to Mr. Quitin Doyle for the amount of $5,400.00.

**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 Lynn Lejeune. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

**WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 20th, day of December, 2023.

***Councilman Wayne Ardoin stated***, “If I am in order at this time I know at the last committee meeting Mr. Craig Kiddar was here in reference to some adjudicated property. He was the second highest bidder on that property. He was denied. They could not find the person that was the highest bidder. I am asking for a motion tonight that he be awarded to buy this property being that he was the second highest bidder. They could not find the original bidder. Ms. Cynthia is very aware of it so I will ask that he be awarded that property for the price that he bided on it.”

***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., questioned***, “Are you all good with that?”

A motion was made by Councilman Wayne Ardoin, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to award the sale of a piece of adjudicated property to the second highest bidder Mr. Craig Kidder.”

**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 Lynn Lejeune. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** Harold Taylor.

**WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 20th, day of December, 2023.

***Parish President Jessie Bellard stated***, “Just a point of information, Mr. Wynn Fuselier contacted us a couple of weeks back, three weeks ago, whatever and he has some property in Eunice off of Faquetigue Road. He is asking us to give him a variance so he could get electricity. The problem with that is the property has enough land for 2 trailer homes but the one that he wants electricity to is 5 feet from the center of a canal and three feet from the edge of the property line. It does not meet our ordinance standards off the top. The Flood Elevation Certificate has to be obtained but with that he still needs to move it over. We can’t get out of that but I am just letting you all know in case he wants to come in front of the council. That is the position that I am taking because FEMA is here auditing already and this will be totally against our ordinance. Because it is so close to the canal it is something that is just waiting to happen. If you all get phone calls that is what it is in reference to. I can give you all paper work if you all request it. I am good with that. That is all that I have Mr. Chairman.”

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

**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 Lynn Lejeune. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

**WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 20th, day of December, 2023.

***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated,*** “Mr. President, while we are on the Parish President’s Report the budget, I noticed it was not on the agenda. I thought it would have been in the Public Hearing to be approved but there was no meeting. Are you planning on calling a meeting anytime soon?”

***Parish President Jessie Bellard stated***, “I am pretty sure we will have it ready to be introduced at the January Meeting. In the meantime we will be meeting to discuss the budget with individual council members.”

***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “***Let me ask you this question. I know I probably don’t have anything to do with it but I noticed Mr. Brown introduced it and he is a member of the Auxiliary of Police Officers. So can he still vote on that? Technically not.”

***Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “***Just for clarification. I am a member of the Reserve Officers. To keep my post certification good you have to be a member of the police department to keep your post certifications good.”

***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated***, “But you are not on the council.”

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

***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated***, “The council votes on the budget. That is why I brought that up. It is just something to think about. I will move on. It is something to think about.”

***Councilman Dexter Brown stated***, “I am a volunteer with the Police Department.”

***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated***, “You are still an officer.”

***Councilman Dexter Brown stated***, “I am not a full time office and I don’t get paid a salary for it.”

***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated***, “You are still an officer. Are you an officer? We will move on.”

1. **NEW BUSINESS:**

**\*Items passed through committee.**

**1. Vote to proceed with the demolition of the structure on Napoleon Street.**

*Item discussed earlier in the meeting****.***

**2. Vote to appoint four appointments to Fire District No. 3 for a four-year term.**

**(01-01-2024 – 01-01-2028). Applicants are: Ronald Milburn, Greg Lafleur,**

**Willie Pickens Jr., Ryan Chachere, Wilfred Kinnerson Jr., and Dominic Vidrine.**

 ***Councilman Wayne Ardoin stated*, “**If I am in order I will ask that we delay these appointments until we have an authorization from the District Attorney’s Office. Mr. Garett Duplechain has given us two different answers on who can be appointed to this district by the way that they pay their taxes or where do they pay their taxes. I will ask that it be deferred until he comes back with the answer that is really needed so that we can make a decision.”

 A motion was made by Councilman Wayne Ardoin, seconded by Councilman Harold Taylor to defer the appointments to the Fire District No. 3 Board until Legal Counsel Garett Duplechain gets more information from the District Attorney’s Office regarding who can be appointed to this board by the way that they pay their taxes or where do they pay their taxes and present the findings to the council at the next Committee Meeting dated Wednesday, January 3rd, 2024.

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

**WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 20th, day of December, 2023.

***Legal Counsel Garett Duplechain stated***, “In order to be appointed to a board of a Fire District the applicants have to be a resident.

***Councilman Wayne Ardoin stated***, “I have a motion on the floor and I would like a vote on it. Mr. Duplechain out of all due respect to you and went over this and you will tell us that you don’t know because he does not live here and he is paying taxes here or he is not paying taxes. Let’s do the vote and you come with the proper information.”

**3. Vote to re-appoint Barney Johnson and Samuel Doucet to St. Landry Parish Waterworks District No. 2 (Rural) for a four-year term. (01-01-2024 – 01-01-2028).**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, seconded by Councilman Harold Taylor to vote to re-appoint Barney Johnson and Samuel Doucet to St. Landry Parish Waterworks District No. 2 (Rural) for a four-year term. (01-01-2024 – 01-01-2028).

**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 Lynn Lejeune. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

**WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 20th, day of December, 2023.

**4. Authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for two appointments to Fire District No. 6 for a two-year term. (02-17-2024 – 02-17-2026).**

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for two appointments to Fire District No. 6 for a two-year term. (02-17-2024 - 02-17-2026).

**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 Lynn Lejeune. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

**WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 20th, day of December, 2023.

**5. Authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for five appointments to Prairie Basse Gravity Drainage District No. 15 for a four-year term. (02-17-2024 – 02-17-2028).**

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Jimmie Edwards to authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for five appointments to Prairie Basse Gravity Drainage District No. 15 for a four-year term. (02-17-2024 – 02-17-2028)

**On roll call vote:** **YEAS:**  Easton Shelvin, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Gil Savoy,

Alvin Stelly, Vivian Olivier, Wayne Ardoin, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards

and Lynn Lejeune. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Nancy Carriere. **ABSTAINED:** None.

**WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 20th, day of December, 2023.

**6. Authorize Code Enforcement to reinstate the awarded and uncompleted adjudicated properties sales back on the Parish Bid List.**

 ***Cynthia Fontenot, Code Enforcement Officer stated,*** “These are the properties that were awarded and the sales were never completed. We attempted to contact various ways so that those awarded parties would contact the office to see if they were still interested.”

 ***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., questioned***, “Did this go through the Committee?”

***Cynthia Fontenot, Code Enforcement Officer stated***, “Yes, it was forwarded for approval. The only one that is on this list you all just made a motion to sell Milo Lane to Mr. Kiddar. That is on this list. That would need to be removed but we are asking to place these back on the bid list so we can try to sell them.”

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to authorize Code Enforcement to reinstate the awarded and uncompleted adjudicated properties sales back on the Parish Bid List.

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

**WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 20th, day of December, 2023.

**7. Authorize the Council Clerk to re-advertise for one appointment to the St. Landry Gravity Drainage District No. 14 for the remaining of a four-year term.**

 **Chairman Jerry Red Jr., questioned, “**Before we vote, is this the one that we had issues with a person that was serving that was out of that district but was serving in another district?

 ***Council Clerk Sherell Jordan stated***, “We are re-advertising this one because we did not have any applications.”

A motion was made by Councilman Jimmie Edwards, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to authorize the Council Clerk to re-advertise for one appointment to the St. Landry Gravity Drainage District No. 14 for the remaining of a four-year term.

**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 Lynn Lejeune. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

**WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 20th, day of December, 2023.

**8. Authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for four appointments to the St. Landry Parish Planning Commission Board.**

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for four appointments to the St. Landry Parish Planning Commission Board.

**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 Lynn Lejeune. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

**WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 20th, day of December, 2023.

 **9. Authorize the Council Clerk to re-advertise for one appointment to St. Landry**

 **Parish Agricultural Arena Authority for a five-year term. (01-18-2024- 01-18-2029).**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for one appointment to the St. Landry Parish Agricultural Arena Authority for a five-year term. (01-18-2024 - 01-18-2029).

**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 Lynn Lejeune. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

**WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 20th, day of December, 2023.

**10. Authorize the ratification of Lieutenant Ryan Young to be re-appointed to the E-911 Board nominated by Chief of Police, Kyle LeBouef of Eunice Police Department.**

A motion was made by Councilman Jimmie Edwards, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to authorize the ratification of Lieutenant Ryan Young to be re-appointed to the E-911 Board nominated by Chief of Police, Kyle LeBouef of Eunice Police Department.

**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 Lynn Lejeune. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

**WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 20th, day of December, 2023.

1. **ORDINANCES TO BE INTRODUCED:**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2023-038 (Sponsored By: Councilman Alvin Stelly)**

 **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ST. LANDRY PARISH ORDINANCE CHAPTER 44,**

 **SECTION 44-14 so that Henderson Drive in Arnaudville, 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.**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2023-044 (Sponsored By: Councilman Wayne Ardoin)**

 **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ST. LANDRY PARISH ORDINANCE SECTION 10-4,**

 **ADOPTION OF STATE UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE, WHICH IS IN CHAPTER 10, BUILDINGS AND HOUSING, OF THE ST. LANDRY PARISH CODE OF ORDINANCES.**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2023-045 (Sponsored By: Councilman Harold Taylor)**

**ACADIANA WATERSHED DISTRICT PARTICIPATION**

 **An Ordinance authorizing participation in the Acadiana Watershed District, as codified**

 **by Louisiana Act 323. The Acadiana Watershed District shall be domiciled in Lafayette**

 **Parish as a central location within the boundaries of the Acadiana Watershed District.**

 **St. Landry Parish designates the Acadiana Planning Commission as the office of the Acadiana Watershed District’s business operations and as the public fiscal agent and administering body to conduct daily operations as stated in Louisiana Act 323. St. Landry Parish will assist in adopting the administrative steps to establish the Acadiana Watershed District Board of Commissioners and the bylaws of the District.**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2023-046 (Sponsored By: Councilman Wayne Ardoin)**

 **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ST. LANDRY PARISH ORDINANCE SECTION**

 **28-16, LOUD, UNNECESSARY,** **ETC., NOISES.**

 **Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “**Can someone tell me what this is about?”

 ***Legal Counsel Garett Duplechain stated***, “This amends that ordinance to make unnecessary noise such as a night club, a misdemeanor which sets a fine of not more than $500.00 or jail time not more than 30 days or both. That is a. On B-7, it sets forth a way of determining whether the noise is excessive or not if the amplifying device exceeds 85 decimals at a distance of grater that 50 feet from the building. That would be the determination whether or not it is excessive noise. So those are the changes that this amendment makes in that ordinance to set the standards for whether nor not the amplifying device is too loud and it makes it a misdemeanor so it sets an actual penalty for someone who violates this ordinance.”

 ***Councilman Wayne Ardoin questioned***, “Mr. Duplechain, do we have an ordinance in place in reference to this at this time?

 ***Legal Counsel Garett Duplechain stated***, “Yes, this is it. It is an amendment.”

 ***Councilwoman Nancy Carriere questioned***, “This ordinance is to determine if the music at a club is too loud, is that what I am understanding?”

 ***Parish President Jessie Bellard stated***, “Not just a club, any place. What we have now in place is a vehicle with 85 decimals. On a club or a building there is nothing, it just says if it is loud. So it leaves it up to the interpretation of the officer determining whether or not it is loud or not. Just puts a decimal meter in place where they have to use that instrument to determine if it is loud or not.”

 ***Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated***, “Some clubs have live entertainment. That person will have to go there with that decimal thing and listen and monitor the loudness and they will have to lower it.”

 ***Parish President Jessie Bellard stated***, “If a complaint is lodged against the building or the person then the officer is going to have to determine it by a meter not just him or her determining the noise at their own discretion. It makes it bad right now whenever an officer goes out there. One might say that it is not loud and the other one might say that it is too loud. So the land owners or the property owners don’t have any kind of say so basically. This gives them an opportunity to know and to judge for themselves how loud it should be and 85 decimals is a pretty good sound for 50 feet at least. At least we will have something in there. We have it for the vehicles we just don’t have it for a building or a structure.”

 ***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., questioned***, “Mr. Bellard, did this come through Committee?”

 ***Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “***No Sir.”

 ***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated***, “I am wondering why this is on the agenda?”

 ***Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,*** “It is an ordinance to be introduced?”

 ***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated***, “I don’t remember it. That is why I am asking these questions.”

 ***Parish President Jessie Bellard stated***, “It is just an ordinance to be introduced.”

 ***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated***, “People are asking questions because they don’t remember hearing this.”

 ***Councilman Dexter Brown questioned***, “Basically the Sheriff’s Department will have the decimal meter in their unit is that correct?”

 ***Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “***In order for them to give a citation regarding that ordinance the will have to have something to back up their claim, correct.”

 ***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., questioned***, “Garett, what was the decimals before we went up to 85?”

 ***Legal Counsel Garett Duplechain stated,*** “There were no decimals before. There were no objective proof that it was excessive noise. There were only subjective proof which is testimony from someone saying that the noise was too loud and someone else would testify it was not too loud. Now there is objective proof that excessive noise comes from exemplifying devices. When it comes to emanating from an automobile that was different because we had the objective standard here which is 85 decimals and 25 feet from the automobile. Instead of subjective it is objective proof 85 decimals at a distance of 50 feet from the building with the noise. So before there were no decimals on 50 feet.”

 ***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated***, “Okay, someone would like to Sponsor this?”

 ***Councilman Wayne Ardoin stated,*** “Mr. Chairman, I will sponsor it. We had this lady that had the place out on Hwy 190 a neighbor was complaining. It would be fair to her just like it would fair to the guy that is making the complaint. If they can’t prove that it is making the excessive noise then she can continue operating. So I will sponsor it.”

 ***Councilman Dexter Brown questioned,*** “Mr. Duplechain, you all came out with 50 feet for the night club with 85 decimals. I am just asking, how did we come about with the 50 feet situation and not like 100 feet?”

***Legal Counsel Garett Duplechain stated, “***There is a State Statue that says 25 feet and for automobiles our ordinance has 25 feet so we figured if we give them an extra 25 feet then they would really be able to tell if it is excessive noise or not.”

***Councilman Dexter Brown stated***, “So the State Statue is 25 feet from the building.”

***Legal Counsel Garett Duplechain stated***, “It follows the State Statue.”

***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated***, “So Mr. Wayne you are sponsoring this.”

***Councilman Wayne Ardoin stated,*** “Yes sir.”

***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated***, “So Ms. Sherell that means the meeting will start at 5:00 p.m.

***Council Clerk Sherell Jordan stated***, “Correct.”

1. **ORDINANCES TO BE ADOPTED:**

**A motion was made by Councilman Wayne Ardoin, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry**

**to adopt Ordinance No. 2023-028.**

**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 Lynn Lejeune. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

**WHEREUPON**, this motion was adopted on this, the 20th, day of December 2023.

* **ORDINANCE NO. 2023-028 (Sponsored By: Councilman Harold Taylor)**

 **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ST. LANDRY PARISH ORDINANCE SECTION 18-84 WHICH IS IN CHAPTER 18, FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION OF THE ST. LANDRY PARISH CODE OF ORDINANCES, TO HAVE ALL STRUCTURES BUILT ONE FOOT ABOVE BASE FLOOD ELEVATION LEVEL AS DETERMINED BY FEMA, AS PER THE ONE FOOT FREEBOARD RULE.**

 **BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL FOR ST. LANDRY PARISH GOVERNMENT THAT Section 18-84 in Chapter 18 of the St. Landry Parish Code of Ordinances is hereby amended and shall now read as follows:**

 ● **Sec. 18-84. - Specific standards.**

 In all areas of special flood hazards where base flood elevation data has been provided as set forth in section 18-30, 18-60(a)(8), or 18-85(c), the following provisions are required:

 (1) *Residential construction*. New construction and substantial improvement of any residential structure shall have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated to or above one foot above the base flood elevation. A registered professional engineer, architect, or land surveyor shall submit a certification to the floodplain administrator that the standard of this subsection as proposed in section 18-61(a)(1) is satisfied.

 (2) *Nonresidential construction*. New construction and substantial improvements of any commercial, industrial, or other nonresidential structure shall either have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated to or above one foot above the base flood level or, together with attendant utility and sanitary facilities, be designed so that below the base flood level the structure is watertight with walls substantially impermeable to the passage of water and with structural components having the capability of resisting hydrostatic and hydrodynamic loads and effects of buoyancy. A registered professional engineer or architect shall develop and/or review structural design, specifications, and plans for the construction, and shall certify that the design and methods of construction are in accordance with accepted standards of practice as outlined in this subsection. A record of such certification which includes the specific elevation (in relation to mean sea level) to which such structures are flood proofed shall be maintained by the floodplain administrator.

 (3) *Enclosures.* New construction and substantial improvements, with fully enclosed areas below the lowest floor that are usable solely for parking of vehicles, building access, or storage in an area other than a basement and which are subject to flooding, shall be designed to automatically equalize hydrostatic flood forces on exterior walls by allowing for the entry and exit of floodwaters. Designs for meeting this requirement must either be certified by a registered professional engineer or architect or meet or exceed the following criteria:

 a. A minimum of two openings on separate walls having a total net area of not less than one square inch for every square foot of enclosed area subject to flooding shall be provided;

 b. The bottom of all openings shall be no higher than one foot above grade;

 c. Openings may be equipped with screens, louvers, valves, or other coverings or devices provided that they permit the automatic entry and exit of floodwaters.

 (4) *Manufactured homes*.

 a. All manufactured homes to be placed within Zone A on a community's FHBM or FIRM shall be installed using methods and practices which minimize flood damage. For the purposes of this requirement, manufactured homes must be elevated and anchored to resist flotation, collapse, or lateral movement. Methods of anchoring may include, but are not limited to, use of over-the-top or frame ties to ground anchors. This requirement is in addition to applicable state and local anchoring requirements for resisting wind forces;

 b. Manufactured homes that are placed or substantially improved within Zones A1-30, AH, and AE on the community's FIRM, on sites outside of a manufactured home park or subdivision, in a new manufactured home park or subdivision, in an expansion to an existing manufactured home park or subdivision, or in an existing manufactured home park or subdivision on which a manufactured home has incurred substantial damage as a result of a flood, shall be elevated on a permanent foundation such that the bottom of the longitudinal structural I-beam of the manufactured home is elevated to or above one foot above the base flood elevation and shall be securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system to resist flotation, collapse, and lateral movement;

 c. Manufactured homes placed or substantially improved on sites in an existing manufactured home park or subdivision within Zones A1-30, AH, and AE on the community's FIRM that are not subject to the provisions of this subsection (4) shall be elevated so that either:

1. The bottom of the longitudinal structural I-beam of the manufactured home is at or above one foot above the base flood elevation; or
2. The manufactured home chassis is supported by reinforced piers or other foundation elements of at least equivalent strength that are no less than 36 inches in height above grade and is securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system to resist flotation, collapse, and lateral movement.

 (5) Recreational vehicles. Recreational vehicles placed on sites within Zones A1-30, AH, and AE on the community's FIRM shall:

 a. Be on site for fewer than 180 consecutive days;

 b. Be fully licensed and ready for highway use; or

 c. Meet the permit requirements of section 18-61(a), and the elevation and anchoring requirements for manufactured homes in subsection (4) of this section.

 A recreational vehicle is ready for highway use if it is on its wheels or jacking system, is attached to the site only by quick-disconnect-type utilities and security devices, and has no permanently attached additions.

 **A motion was made by Councilman Jimmie Edwards, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to adopt Ordinance No. 2023-029.**

 **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 Lynn Lejeune. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

 **WHEREUPON**, this motion was adopted on this, the 20th, day of December 2023.

* **ORDINANCE NO. 2023-029 (Sponsored By: Councilman Harold Taylor)**

 **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ST. LANDRY PARISH ORDINANCE SECTION 18-86 WHICH IS IN CHAPTER 18, FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION OF THE ST. LANDRY PARISH CODE OF ORDINANCES, TO HAVE ALL STRUCTURES BUILT ONE FOOT ABOVE BASE FLOOD ELEVATION LEVEL AS DETERMINED BY FEMA, AS PER THE ONE FOOT FREEBOARD RULE**

 **BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL FOR ST. LANDRY PARISH GOVERNMENT THAT Section 18-86 in Chapter 18 of the St. Landry Parish Code of Ordinances is hereby amended and shall now read as follows**:

 ● **Sec. 18-86. - Standards for areas of shallow flooding (AO/AH zones).**

 Located within the areas of special flood hazard established in section 18-30 are areas designated as shallow flooding. These areas have special flood hazards associated with flood depths of one to three feet where a clearly defined channel does not exist, where the path of flooding is unpredictable, and where velocity flow may be evident. Such flooding is characterized by ponding or sheet flow; therefore, the following provisions apply:

 (1) All new construction and substantial improvements of residential structures have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated to or above one foot above the base flood elevation or the highest adjacent grade at least as high as the depth number specified in feet on the community's FIRM (at least two feet if no depth number is specified);

 (2) All new construction and substantial improvements of nonresidential structures:

 a. Have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated to or above one foot above the base flood elevation or the highest adjacent grade at least as high as the depth number specified in feet on the community's FIRM (at least two feet if no depth number is specified); or

 b. Together with attendant utility and sanitary facilities, be designed so that below the base specified flood depth in an AO zone or below the base flood elevation in an AH zone level the structure is watertight with walls substantially impermeable to the passage of water and with structural components having the capability of resisting hydrostatic and hydrodynamic loads of effects of buoyancy.

 (3) A registered professional engineer or architect shall submit a certification to the floodplain administrator that the standards of this section, as proposed in section 18-61, are satisfied;

 (4) Require within Zones AH or AO adequate drainage paths around structures on slopes,

 to guide floodwaters around and away from proposed structures.

 **A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Jimmie Edwards**

 **to adopt Ordinance No. 2023-030.**

 **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 Lynn Lejeune. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

 **WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 20th, day of December 2023.

* **ORDINANCE NO. 2023-030 (Sponsored By: Councilwoman Mildred Thierry)**

 **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 32-6 IN CHAPTER 32, PLANNING, ZONING, AND DEVELOPMENT, ARTICLE I, ST. LANDRY PARISH PLANNING COMMISSION, TO ELIMINATE THE MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS FOR A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION**

 **BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL FOR ST. LANDRY PARISH GOVERNMENT THAT Section 32–6 in the St. Landry Parish Code of Ordinances is hereby amended and shall now read as follows:**

 **Sec. 32-6. – Qualifications**

1. Individuals applying to serve as members of the Commission shall be required to submit an application utilizing St. Landry Parish Government’s application form and a comprehensive curriculum vitae (CV) or resume, providing a detailed account of their relevant experience, qualifications, and background.
2. The St. Landry Parish President is hereby authorized to verify the qualifications of applicants prior to nomination to the St. Landry Parish Council.

 **A motion was made by Councilman Jimmie Edwards, seconded by Councilman Easton Shelvin**

 **to adopt Ordinance No. 2023-031.**

 **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 Lynn Lejeune.  **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

 **WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 20th, day of December 2023.

* **ORDINANCE NO. 2023-031 (Sponsored By: Councilman Jimmie Edwards)**

 **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ST. LANDRY PARISH ORDINANCE SECTION 2-289, SALE OF ADJUDICATED PROPERTY BY PUBLIC SALE.**

 Whereas, Louisiana Revised Statute 47:2201, et seq., provides for parish governments to sell property that has been adjudicated to the parish for non-payment of property taxes by public sale;

 Whereas, Louisiana Revised Statute 47:2204 provides that the ordinance that allows for the public sale of adjudicated property by the parish governing authority may subject the public sales to terms and conditions imposed by the parish governing authority;

 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL FOR ST. LANDRY PARISH GOVERNMENT THAT Section 2-289, Sale of Adjudicated Property by Public Sale, of the St. Landry Parish Code of Ordinances, is hereby amended and shall now read as follows:

 SEC. 2-289 - SALE OF ADJUDICATED PROPERTY BY PUBLIC SALE.

 (a) Sale of adjudicated property may be made by public sale, in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 47:2201 et seq.

 (b) Minimum bid; appraisal.

 (1) In the event the parish government elects to set a dollar amount as a minimum bid for the sale of adjudicated property, the minimum bid for the sale of adjudicated property shall include the following:

 a. The total amount of all statutory impositions of the parish government and of any other political subdivision of the state affecting the property;

 b. The total amount of all governmental liens affecting the property;

 c. The costs of adjudication of the property to the parish government at the tax sale of the property, if any; and

 d. The costs of sale of the adjudicated property by public sale

 (2) The parish government may, however, by special ordinance provide that the sale of adjudicated property by public sales shall occur after appraisal of the property, rather than as set forth in subsection (b)(1) of this section, in accordance with R.S. 47:2202, in which case the parish government shall appoint a licensed appraiser to appraise and value the property. In such case, the minimum bid at the first public sale of the property shall be at least two-thirds of the appraised value of the property. If the property fails to sell at the first public sale, the minimum bid at the second public sale of the property shall be one-third of the appraised value of the property. If the property fails to sell at the second public sale, the parish government may, by subsequent ordinance, sell the property at the minimum bid set forth in subsection (b)(1) of this section.

 (3) In addition, the parish government may, by special ordinance, provide for the sale of adjudicated property at public sale to the highest bidder without setting a minimum bid or requiring an appraisal, in accordance with R.S. 47:2202(A), as amended.

 (c) The sale of adjudicated property by public sale may be initiated either by the parish government or by any person, in accordance with the following procedures:

 (1) Initiation of public sale by parish government. The parish government may provide by special ordinance for the sale of adjudicated property at a public sale, which ordinance shall contain the following:

 a. The legal description of the adjudicated property to be sold at public sale (including the lot, square and subdivision name, if applicable);

 b. The municipal address of the adjudicated property to be sold at public sale;

 c. The name and address of the owner of record of the property, as reflected in the records of the assessor's office, as of the date of the tax sale by which the property was adjudicated to the parish government or its predecessors.

 d. In the event the parish government elects to set a dollar amount as a minimum bid for the sale of adjudicated property, the ordinance shall state the minimum bid for which the property shall be sold. In the event the parish government provides that the sale of adjudicated property shall occur after appraisal, as provided for by subsection (b)(2) of this section, the ordinance shall state that the sale shall be subject to appraisal. In the event the parish government provides that the sale of adjudicated property shall be without a minimum bid or appraisal, as provided in subsection (b)(3) of this section, the ordinance shall state that the sale shall be to the highest bidder with no minimum bid or appraisal.

 (2) Initiation by persons. Whenever a person desires to initiate the sale of adjudicated property by public sale and the parish government, in turn, is willing to sell the property, the person so desiring shall submit an application to the administrative department of the parish government, requesting the sale of such property, which application shall contain the following:

 a. A legal description of property (lot, square and subdivision name, if applicable);

 b. Municipal address of property;

 c. Name of the owner of record of the property at the time of adjudication and the year of the

 tax sale;

 d. Affidavit certifying the prospective purchaser is not a member of immediate family of property owner or entity in which owner has a substantial economic interest;

 e. A copy of tax sale deed evidencing the recordation in excess of three years;

 f. A copy of current tax bill;

 g. An executed offer letter to purchase the property;

 h. Deposits.

 1. A deposit, by cash, certified cashier's check, or money order, in an amount as established by the parish council form time to time, to cover the expenses of the public sale, including advertising, appraisals (if applicable), legal fees of the parish government in connection with the sale, title abstract and mortgage certificate costs and all other costs associated with the public sale.

 2. In the event the applicant is the highest bidder at the public sale of the adjudicated property, any unused funds on deposit shall be applied to the purchase price of the property sold at the public sale. If there are remaining funds on deposit after the payment of the purchase price of the property sold at the public sale, said remaining funds shall, upon authentication of the sale as described here in below, be refunded to the applicant.

 3. In the event the applicant fails to be the highest bidder at the public sale of the adjudicated property, this deposit shall be refunded to the applicant. In the event, however, that no one at the public sale bids up to the minimum amount, if any, required for the sale of the property, then the deposit shall be retained by the parish government to pay the costs and expenses of the public sale; provided, however, that any monies remaining on deposit after the payment of said costs and expenses shall be refunded to the applicant.

 (d) Advertising.

 (1) In the event of initiation of sale of adjudicated property by public sale by the parish government or any person, the public sale shall be advertised twice in the official journal of the parish government, the first advertisement being at least 30 days prior to the date of the public sale, and the second advertisement being no more than seven days prior to the date of the public sale. Each advertisement shall be on a form prescribed by the parish government, and shall contain the following information:

 a. Notice of the sale;

 b. The amount of the minimum bid, if any. If the sale is subject to appraisal, the advertisement shall so state. If the sale is without minimum bid or appraisal, the advertisement shall so state;

 c. The name and address of the department within the parish government to which bids shall be submitted;

 d. The date, time and physical and/or electronic addresses of in-person bidding on the property;

 e. A description of the property to be sold at public sale (including the lot, square and subdivision name, if applicable), as well as the municipal address of the property (if applicable);

 f. Any other terms which the parish government may require.

 (2) All bids shall be on a form, either written or electronic, prescribed by the parish government.

 (e) All bids received shall be submitted by the administrative department to the full parish council at its next regularly scheduled meeting, at which time the parish council may adopt an ordinance approving the sale of the property to the highest bidder, as provided by R.S. 47:2204. The ordinance, if adopted, shall include the following requirements:

 (1) A requirement that the purchaser certify in writing to the administrative department of the parish government that he or his agent has examined the mortgage and conveyance records of the parish to determine the names and last known addresses of:

 a. The tax debtor at the time of the tax sale of the property;

 b. Any person requesting notice pursuant to R.S. 47:2159;

 c. The owner of the property, including the owner of record at the time of the tax sale of the property;

 d. Any other person holding an interest in the property, including a mortgage, privilege, lien or other encumbrance on the property, and including a tax sale purchaser.

 Attached to this certification shall be a written list of all names and last known addresses of the persons listed hereinabove;

 (2) A requirement that the purchaser of the adjudicated property shall send the written notice to any person described in subsection (e)(1) of this section in the form provided by R.S. 47:2206(A). A copy of said written notice shall be furnished to the administrative department of the parish government with a certification that the notice has been sent to said persons;

 (3) A requirement that the purchaser file in the mortgage records of the parish a copy of the written notice required in subsection (e)(2) of this section, and furnish the administrative department of the parish government with stamped copies of the recorded notice;

 (4) A requirement that the purchaser shall cause to be published in the official records of the parish a notice in the form prescribed by R.S. 47:2206(B), and furnish to the administrative department of the parish government with an affidavit of publication of said notice prepared by the official journal;

 (5) An acknowledgment in writing from the purchaser that the adjudicated property is sold without any warranty, except a warranty against eviction resulting from a prior alienation of the property by the parish government or its predecessor;

 (6) The name and address of the purchaser, the amount of money for which the property has been sold and a requirement that the purchaser remit the purchase price of the property, by cash, cashier's/certified check or money order, contemporaneously with the furnishing of the other documents listed in this subsection (e), with an appropriate credit for any sums previously deposited for costs by the purchaser.

 (f) Authentication of sale.

 (1) At the expiration of the 60-day or six-month redemption periods, set forth in R.S. 47:2206(A) and (B), the purchaser shall begin the process of authentication of the sale of the adjudicated property within ninety days of receiving the letter from St. Landry Parish Government notifying them that they have successfully bid on the property, and the purchaser shall complete the authentication process, including the satisfaction of any terms, conditions, and requirements set forth in the ordinances providing for the sale of adjudicated property, within nine months of beginning the authentication process. If the purchaser does not begin and complete the authentication process within this time period, the adjudicated property shall be sold to the person(s) 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 adjudicated property, the adjudicated property shall again be offered for sale at a public sale by St. Landry Parish Government. The authentication of the sale of the adjudicated property shall be as provided in R.S. 47:2207.

 (2) The authentication shall be in the form of an act of sale prescribed by R.5. 47:2207(B), which act of sale shall be prepared and filed into the conveyance records of the parish. The purchaser shall pay all costs incurred in preparing, filing and/or recording the said act of sale authenticating the sale. The act of sale authenticating the sale of the adjudicated property shall be without warranty, except a warranty against eviction resulting from a prior alienation of the property by the parish government or its predecessor, as provided in R.S. 47:2207(A).

 (g) Contemporaneously with filing the act of sale authenticating the sale as provided in subsection (f) of this section, the purchaser shall file, at his cost, an affidavit into the mortgage records of the parish in the form prescribed by R.S. 47:2208, and shall furnish to the administrative department of the parish government with a stamped copy of the recorded affidavit. The filing of said affidavit shall, in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 47:2208(B), operate as a cancellation, termination, release and erasure of record of all statutory impositions of all political subdivisions then due and owing, of all governmental liens and of all interests, liens, mortgages, privileges and other encumbrances recorded against the property sold and listed in the affidavit.

 (h) Proceeds of sale.

 (1) Except as otherwise agreed upon by the holders of statutory impositions and governmental liens, all proceeds from the sale of adjudicated property by public sale, after the deduction of costs of the sale, shall be paid on a pro rata basis to the holders of such statutory impositions and governmental liens;

 (2) Any amount in excess of the costs of the sale, statutory impositions and governmental liens shall be paid to the parish government.

 (i) In the event the adjudicated property is redeemed within the redemption periods set forth in R.S. 47:2206(A) and (B), then all sums deposited or paid by the purchaser for the purchase price of the adjudicated property shall be refunded to the purchaser by the parish government, with legal interest, written 30 days after the parish government is notified of said redemption.

 **A motion was made by Councilman Wayne Ardoin, seconded by Councilman Jimmie Edwards**

 **to adopt Ordinance No. 2023-032.**

 **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 Lynn Lejeune. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

 **WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 20th, day of December 2023.

* **ORDINANCE NO. 2023-032 (Sponsored By: Councilman Wayne Ardoin)**

 **AN ORDINANCE TO DECLARE THAT THE ST. LANDRY PARISH GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO ACQUIRE A FULL OWNERSHIP INTEREST IN A PARCEL OR LOT OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY THAT HAS BEEN ADJUDICATED TO ST. LANDRY PARISH GOVERNMENT FOR NON-PAYMENT OF AD VALOREM TAXES, AS PER LA R. S. 47:2236**

 WHEREAS, a political subdivision may acquire a full ownership interest in

 immovable property that has been adjudicated to the political subdivision by passing an Ordinance declaring its intention to acquire a full ownership interest in the adjudicated property, and then following the other requirements in LA R.S. 47:2236.

 **BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL FOR ST. LANDRY PARISH GOVERNMENT that the St. Landry Parish Government intends to acquire a full ownership interest in a parcel or lot of immovable property that has been adjudicated to St. Landry Parish Government for non-payment of ad valorem taxes, as per LA R.S. 47:2236, and Gary Ray Chenier and Lucy Mae Chenier are the tax debtor owners who lost said adjudicated property in a tax sale, and said adjudicated property bears parcel number 0103477000, and said adjudicated property is further described as follows:**

 A certain tract or parcel of ground, situated in the Bernice Lastrapes Subdivision in Opelousas, St. Landry Parish, Louisiana, described as starting at a point (which is the Northeast corner of the tract now described) on the South line of Bernice Street which is 100 feet Westerly on said street from the Northwest corner of lot transferred on February 19, 1971, under Original Act No. 553635 in Conveyance Book B-17, page 20 and from said starting point proceed a distance of 100 feet in a Southerly direction parallel to the West line of said lot sold on February 19, 1971, to the Southeast Corner of the property now being described, thence proceed in a Westerly direction and parallel to the South line of Bernice Street a distance of 43 feet to the Southwest corner of the property now being described, thence proceed in a Northerly direction a distance of 90 feet to the Northeast corner of a tract of land sold under Act No. 517889 in Conveyance Book D-15, page 601, to the Northwest corner of the property now being described, thence proceed Easterly along the South boundary line of Bernice Street a distance of 62 feet to the point of beginning.

 **BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL FOR ST. LANDRY PARISH GOVERNMENT that this Ordinance shall be recorded in the St. Landry Parish Clerk of Court’s Mortgage Department, and shall be indexed by the name of the tax debtors who lost the property at tax sale, which are Gary Ray Chenier and Lucy Mae Chenier, and the St. Landry Parish Government, as Mortgagees, as per LA R. S. 47:2236 B.**

 **A motion was made by Councilwoman Lynn Lejeune, seconded by Councilman**

 **Easton Shelvin to adopt Ordinance No. 2023-033.**

 **On roll call vote: YEAS:** Nancy Carriere, Easton Shelvin, Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy,

Vivian Olivier, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards, and Lynn Lejeune.

 **NAYS:** Harold Taylor, Alvin Stelly, and Wayne Ardoin. **ABSENT:** None.

 **ABSTAINED:** Dexter Brown.

 **WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 20th, day of December 2023.

* **ORDINANCE NO. 2023-033 (Sponsored By: Councilwoman Vivian Olivier)**

 **AN ORDINANCE TO SET THE SALARY FOR THE ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL**

WHEREAS, the St. Landry Parish Home Rule Charter Section 2-04 B states that the St. Landry Parish Council may change the salary of its’ members by ordinance, provided that salaries shall not be increased beyond the maximum salary for police jurors under state law.

 WHEREAS, St. Landry Parish Home Rule Charter Section 2-04 B states that the St. Landry Parish Council members’ salaries may not be increased or decreased during their term in office.

 WHEREAS, each member of the St. Landry Parish Council has a salary of $1,056.00 per

 month, and the Council shall increase the salary of each member of the Council by $400.00 per month, which shall make each member of the Council’s salary 1,456.00 per month, and the raise in salary for the Council shall begin on January 1, 2025.

 **BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL FOR ST. LANDRY PARISH GOVERNMENT THAT each member of the St. Landry Parish Council shall receive a $400.00 per month increase in salary, and, therefore, the salary of each member of the St. Landry Parish Council shall be $1,456.00 per month.**

 **BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL FOR ST. LANDRY PARISH GOVERNMENT THAT the increase of each member of the St, Landry Parish Council’s salary to $1,456.00 shall begin on January 1, 2025.**

 **ORDINANCE No. 2023-034 was pulled**

 ***Councilwoman Mildred Thierry stated,* “**Mr. Chairman, we will pull that at this time. During

 the Public Hearing there were a lot of disagreement on certain issues of the verbiage so we

 will pull it.”

 ***Chairman Jerry Red Jr., stated,*** “They will pull this ordinance and make some changes to it.”

* **ORDINANCE NO. 2023-034 (Sponsored By: Councilwoman Mildred Thierry) Pulled**

 **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 ORDINANCES.**

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

 **BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL FOR ST. LANDRY PARISH GOVERNMENT THAT Section 36-132 in Article VI of Chapter 36 of the St. Landry Parish Code of Ordinances is hereby amended and shall now read as follows:**

 **SEC. 36-132. - HOUSEHOLD SURVEY FOR INSTALLATION OF SPEED BUMPS.**

 **Upon request of the parish government to install speed bumps on a specific parish roadway, a survey will be conducted by going to the household of each voter registered with the registrar of voters on that specific roadway. The survey shall request that each household voter state if they are "for" or "against" the installation of the speed bumps on that specific roadway. After the survey is complete, the clerk will tally the results of the survey. The clerk will refer the installation of the speed bumps to the public works director for a feasibility study in accordance with section 36-133 only if 75 percent of the households surveyed are in favor of installing the speed bumps.**

 **BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL FOR ST. LANDRY PARISH GOVERNMENT THAT this ordinance shall become effective on the date of the full council meeting that this ordinance is passed.**

 **ORDINANCE No. 2023-035 was pulled**

 ***Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated*, “**We will pull it until we get the verbiage right. We

 need to set fines.”

* **ORDINANCE NO. 2023-035 (Sponsored By: Councilwoman Nancy Carriere) Pulled**

 **AN ORDINANCE TO HAVE ALL POLITICAL CAMPAIGN SIGNS REMOVED WITHIN THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE ELECTION FOR WHICH THE CAMPAIGN SIGNS WERE DISPLAYED**

 WHEREAS, there is a public interest in preserving and maintaining the visually attractive and historic landscape of St. Landry Parish, Louisiana by removing all political campaign signs after said political campaign signs can no longer be used to promote or express the public’s opinions on candidates or issues because the election is over.

 **BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL FOR ST. LANDRY PARISH GOVERNMENT THAT all political campaign signs in St. Landry Parish, Louisiana, outside of incorporated municipalities, shall be removed within thirty days after the decisive vote in the election for which the signs were displayed, whether the decisive vote comes at the primary election, or after in a run-off election;**

 **BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL FOR ST. LANDRY PARISH GOVERNMENT THAT any candidate who has qualified to run for public office who has not removed their political campaign signs in St. Landry Parish, Louisiana, outside of incorporated municipalities, within thirty days after the decisive vote in the election for which the signs were displayed, whether the decisive vote comes at the primary election, or after in a run-off election, shall receive a letter from St. Landry Parish Government at his or her last known address, notifying the candidate that all political campaign signs in St. Landry Parish, Louisiana, outside of incorporated municipalities, shall be removed after the decisive vote in the election for which the signs were displayed.**

 **A motion was made by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, seconded by Councilman Harold Taylor**

 **to adopt Ordinance No. 2023-036.**

 **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 Lynn Lejeune. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

 **WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 20th, day of December 2023.

* **ORDINANCE NO. 2023-036 (Sponsored By: Councilwoman Mildred Thierry)**

 **AN ORDINANCE TO SELL ADJUDICATED PROPERTY TO AN ADJOINING LANDOWNER OF THE ADJUDICATED PROPERTY AS PER LA R. S. 47:2202 (B) PARCEL 0102755000**

 WHEREAS, Louisiana Revised Statute 47:2202 B. states that the governing authority of each political subdivision may allow an adjoining landowner to purchase adjudicated property for any price set by the governing authority without public bidding at a public meeting of the governing authority; provided, that the governing authority determines that the adjoining landowner has maintained the adjudicated property for a period of one year prior to the sale. Such a sale shall be deemed a public sale.

 WHEREAS, the St. Landry Parish Government has determined that GENERATION X PROPERTIES, LLC is the adjoining landowner of adjudicated property and has maintained said adjudicated property for a period of one year or more, and thus, Generation X Properties, LLC may purchase the adjudicated property through a public sale without public bidding.

 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL FOR ST. LANDRY PARISH GOVERNMENT that the following adjudicated property shall be sold by public sale to Generation X Properties, LLC, an adjoining land owner to the adjudicated property who maintained said adjudicated property for one year or more, without public bidding, for a price set by St. Landry Parish Government, as per LA R.S. 47:2202 B., and said adjudicated property is described as follows:

 A certain lot or parcel of ground, together with all buildings and improvements thereon, situated in 1 LOT (50 x 137) N S FONTENOT E GRADNEY W RY AVE 552856 (LOT 14 BLK 10 N RAILROAD AVE), St. Landry Parish, Louisiana.

 This adjudicated property bearing parcel number 0102755000 in the St. Landry Parish land records.

 **A motion was made by Councilman Wayne Ardoin, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry**

 **to adopt Ordinance No. 2023-037.**

 **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 Lynn Lejeune. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

 **WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 20th, day of December 2023.

* **ORDINANCE NO. 2023-037 (Sponsored By: Councilman Gil Savoy)**

 **AN ORDINANCE TO SELL ADJUDICATED PROPERTY TO AN ADJOINING LANDOWNER OF THE ADJUDICATED PROPERTY AS PER LA R. S. 47:2202 (B) PARCEL 8627821175**

 WHEREAS, Louisiana Revised Statute 47:2202 B. states that the governing authority of each political subdivision may allow an adjoining landowner to purchase adjudicated property for any price set by the governing authority without public bidding at a public meeting of the governing authority; provided, that the governing authority determines that the adjoining landowner has maintained the adjudicated property for a period of one year prior to the sale. Such a sale shall be deemed a public sale.

 WHEREAS, the St. Landry Parish Government has determined that EDDIE LECOMPTE AND EVELLA LECOMPTE is the adjoining landowner of adjudicated property and has maintained said adjudicated property for a period of one year or more, and thus, EDDIE LECOMPTE AND EVELLA LECOMPTE may purchase the adjudicated property through a public sale without public bidding.

 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL FOR ST. LANDRY PARISH GOVERNMENT that the following adjudicated property shall be sold by public sale to EDDIE LECOMPTE AND EVELLA LECOMPTE, an adjoining land owner to the adjudicated property who maintained said adjudicated property for one year or more, without public bidding, for a price set by St. Landry Parish Government, as per LA R.S. 47:2202 B., and said adjudicated property is described as follows:

 A certain lot or parcel of ground, together with all buildings and improvements thereon, situated in 1 LOT (60 x 100) N BERTRAND S MC CLELLAND E MC CLELLAND W HWY 190 SEC 20 & 21 T-6S R-3E FRONTING 60’ 791196 (D-35-749) 947218

 (J-41-496), St. Landry Parish, Louisiana.

 This adjudicated property bearing parcel number 8627821175 in the St. Landry Parish

 land records.

 **A motion was made by Councilman Wayne Ardoin, seconded by Councilman Jimmie Edwards**

 **to adopt Ordinance No. 2024-001.**

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

 **WHEREUPON**, this motion was adopted on this, the 20th, day of December 2023.

* **ORDINANCE NO. 2024-001**

 **An Ordinance to set regular meeting dates for the St. Landry Parish Council Meetings for the year 2024 on the third Wednesday of each month at six o’clock p.m. and for the Public Works and Administrative/Finance Committees to meet on the first Wednesday of each month at six o’clock p.m. with the exception of June 19, 2024 in reserve of Juneteeth**.

Dates for upcoming Council Meetings in 2024 are listed below:

TENTATIVE COUNCIL MEETING DATES FOR 2024

(Third Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m.)

January 17, 2024

February 21, 2024

March 20, 2024

April 17, 2024

May 15, 2024

\*June 18, 2024\*

July 17, 2024

August 21, 2024

September 18, 2024

October 16, 2024

November 20, 2024

December 18, 2024

TENTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING DATES FOR 2024

(First Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m.)

January 3, 2024

February 7, 2024

March 6, 2024

April 3, 2024

May 1, 2024

June 5, 2024

July 3, 2024

August 7, 2024

September 4, 2024

October 2, 2024

November 6, 2024

December 4, 2024

 **XII. RESOLUTIONS TO BE ADOPTED:**

**A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilman Wayne Ardoin**

 **to adopt Resolution No. 032-2023.**

**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 Lynn Lejeune. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

**WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 20th, day of December, 2023.

**RESOLUTION NO. 032-2023**

 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL THAT THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE ST. LANDRY PARISH COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY IS AUTHORIZED TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE LOUISIANA HOUSING CORPORATION IN ORDER TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP) GRANT**

1. **COMMITTEE MINUTES:**

A motion was made by Councilman Jimmie Edwards, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry

to accept the **Administrative Finance Committee Meeting Minutes** from Wednesday**,**

**December 6th, 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 Lynn Lejeune. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

**WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 20th, day of December, 2023.

A motion was made by Councilman Wayne Ardoin, seconded by Councilman Harold Taylor

to accept the **Public Works Committee Meeting Minutes** from Wednesday, **December 6th, 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 Lynn Lejeune. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

**WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 20th, day of December, 2023.

1. **ADJOURN:**

 A motion was made by Councilman Wayne Ardoin, seconded by Councilwoman Vivian Olivier 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 Lynn Lejeune. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

**WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 20th, day of December, 2023.

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

**SHERELL JORDAN, COUNCIL CLERK**

**KAREN BARLOW, ASSISTANT COUNCIL CLERK**