

**ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL
ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2024
OLD CITY MARKET, 131 W. BELLEVUE ST.
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA**

ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

1. **Councilman Easton Shelvin called this meeting of the Administrative/Finance Committee of the St. Landry Parish Council to order.**
2. **Roll Call:** Easton Shelvin, Harold Taylor, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, and Lynn Lejeune. **Ex-Officio:** Jerry Red Jr. **ABSENT:** None.
3. **Person to address the Committee.**
None.
4. **Parish President & Finance Reports:**

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “In your packet you will have a Resolution requesting Financial Assistance from the State of Louisiana under the LGAP Program. Every year we make a request and they either grant it or they don’t. Usually it is around sometimes \$10,000.00 - \$15,000.00, it just make a re-occurring Resolution every year for that. You should have it in your packet.”

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Dexter Brown to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday January 17, 2024** to approve **Resolution No. 001-2024**. A Resolution Requesting Financial Assistance from the State of Louisiana under the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Local Government Assistance Program. **On roll call vote: YEAS:** Harold Taylor, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune and Lynn Lejeune. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.
Motion forwarded.

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “The next item is not in your packet it is just a point of conversation. I will bring it to the council hopefully in **February** sometimes. I would like the council to pass an ordinance requiring that any person who sits on a board that we appoint are required to take a class that we put on yearly with the PPA and also any kind of other governmental bodies that need to help us with stuff. I have been going through these boards and looking at their financials. Ms. Nancy brought up a good point a while back and I started looking at all of these boards. If you look at them they all have findings that could be eliminated by just communicating with us about policies and different things, something that is easy to fix. Questions came up where they sold items through no process what so ever other than they are going to sell it to this guy and that guy and that is probably how it was done. When the audit reports come back they are saying in their response that they did not know any better. I think if they are going to represent us then they are going to have to follow the same rules that we follow as a government. I will be drafting an ordinance to bring to the council to require everybody who sits on a board to go through this class once a year or they don’t serve. It will be coming up in the next month or so.”

Councilman Dexter Brown stated, “Mr. Bellard, do you think it would be a good idea that everyone that sits on a particular board go through the Ethics Training as well?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “They all do that. They have to do the Ethics Training and the Sexual Harassment, they have to do those. If you know like me you just need to hit a little button and keep on going. It does not address the issues that are most important and that is the financial situation for each one of these boards. They don’t have enough people to work, they don’t have enough money to pay people to come to work so they just kind of make do with what they have. In doing that they do create problems for us because they are only on these boards and these boards only exist because we as a

government allow it. If they are going to represent me or represent you all they will have to follow the rules just like we have to follow the rules, in my opinion they just don't have them, it is just that simple. I think that it is a very easy thing and having the answer of saying we don't get paid enough for this or there is no answer for it. If you are going to sit on the board and you want to serve that is great, we want you all to serve but you will have to follow the rules and at least know the rules. That is one of the most common pieces to the puzzle when I read all of these audits. They are ducking and dodging and one of things that was brought to my attention was a 4 wheeler or a side by side being sold in Ms. Nancy's District and three tractors for \$5.00 per tractor. There was no bid process, there was nothing followed and we can't have that. It is government money no matter how you look at it. People pay taxes and they require us to follow the rules and we appoint these boards to follow the rules. I say we give the tools necessary so they can follow the rules. I don't have anything else. You have the Financial Report in front of you. What I am doing in the next two weeks is calling on the council members to sit down and look at the budget so we can have something to present to the full council when everybody is comfortable with what we have and move forward from there. I will be looking forward to meeting sometimes on the latter part of next week. We are getting everything together now. We are going to have Mr. Seth Norris there who is the CPA that we hired to help us with the Financials in the Parish. He will be there to answer questions that any councilmember may have."

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere questioned, "Are we hiring anyone to replace Ms. Caryn?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Yes, I am. I am going to make that nomination next month. I will make that come up to the next full council meeting in February."

- **Lease and Operating Agreement between St. Landry Parish Airport and Ryan Lagrange.**

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "The Lease and Operating Agreement between the St. Landry Parish Airport and Ryan Lagrange is another piece of property that he want to build a Hanger on. It meets all the requirement as all of the rest of the leases.

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Dexter Brown to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, January 17th, 2024** to approve the Lease and Operating Agreement between the St. Landry Parish Airport and Ryan Lagrange.

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

Motion forwarded.

- **Lease and Operating Agreement between St. Landry Parish Airport and John Angelle**

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "The same thing is for the next one. It is the Operating Lease between the St. Landry Parish Airport and John Angelle. It is the same situation. He wants to build a Hanger on the Airport Property."

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilwoman Vivian Olivier to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, January 17th, 2024** to approve the Lease and Operating Agreement between the St. Landry Parish Airport and John Angelle.

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

Motion forwarded.

- **Preliminary and Final Approval of a 2.807 Acre Tract Subdivision being partitioned as Lots 1-7 located on Rayne Road, Port Barre, La.**

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Mr. Gil Savoy, is this subdivision is in your district? It is off of Rayne Road.

Mr. William Jarrell addressed the council and stated, “This is 6 Camp sight lots. They are not campers or mobile homes camps. A guy is currently building one on Lot 1 that was previously sold a couple of months ago. Bud Durio owns this property and he is going to be building a camp there also. He is building a Boat Launch there and it is just for people that hunt along the Bayou Courtableau that have leases. It is only 6 lots. It is closer to Hwy 103 by the Washington side to Hwy 103. It is about 1 mile from Hwy 103 east of Hwy 103. It is Bayou Frontage Property. Bud Durio owns 85-100 acres there and he is putting up his Bayou Frontage.”

Councilwoman Lynn Lejeune questioned, “Does the backyard of these lots go right into Bayou Courtableau?”

Mr. William Jarrell stated, “It goes from the road to Bayou Courtableau, yes Ma’am.”

Councilwoman Lynn Lejeune questioned, “What would be the condition of the bank that butts up against their property?”

Mr. William Jarrell stated, “They own up to the ordinance low water. That means that they own up to the bank if they so wish to improve they have to get permits to put bulk or piers or anything like that with the state I believe.

Councilman Harold Taylor questioned, “Did we get any paperwork on this?”

Mr. William Jarrell stated, “It is in your packet. They are small lots, minimum lots.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Like one half of an acre.”

Mr. William Jarrell stated, “No, not even.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “Does it meet all of the requirements?”

Mr. William Jarrell stated, “Yes Sir.”

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilman Dexter Brown to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, January 17th, 2024** to approve the Preliminary and Final Approval of a 2.807 Acre Tract Subdivision being partitioned as Lots 1-7 located on Ryan Road, Port Barre, LA.

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

Motion forwarded.

- **Preliminary Approval showing a Subdivision of a 40.937 Acre Tract of land being partitioned as lots 1- 42 off La. Hwy 182 located on Kennerson Road, Opelousas, La.**

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “I will make a motion that we forward this and I will also ask in that motion that the developer or the owner that is putting this together will have the description and everything for us to look at.”

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Harold Taylor to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, January 17th, 2024** to approve the Preliminary Approval showing a Subdivision of a 40.937 Acre Tract of land being partitioned as lots 1 - 42 off La. Hwy 182 located on Kennerson Road, Opelousas, La. **Developer will furnish the full description for the council’s review.**

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

Motion forwarded.

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

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

Motion carried.

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

Councilman Timmy Lejeune questioned, “On that Planning Commission Board does the applicant have to be a registered voter from St. Landry Parish?”

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, “Yes.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “We have one applicant that is not a registered voter in the parish so that applicant cannot be accepted.”

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, “Yes, he has to be a registered voter.

Council Harold Taylor stated, “So we can only approve 3 applicants.”

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilman Dexter Brown to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, January 17th, 2024** to forward all applications received for four appointments to the St. Landry Parish Planning Commission Board.

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

Motion forwarded.

6. **Forward all applications received for one appointment to St. Landry Agricultural Arena Authority for a five- year term. (01-18-2024 – 01-18-2029).**

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Harold Taylor to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, January 17th, 2024** to forward all applications received for one appointment to St. Landry Agricultural Arena Authority for a five- year term. (01-18-2024 – 01-18-2029).

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

Motion forwarded.

7. **Authorize Council Clerk to attend the Police Jury Association Conference in Lake Charles, La.**

Councilman Harold Taylor questioned, “For what purpose?”

Councilwoman Vivian Olivier stated, “For the Police Jury Association.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “I understand but for what purpose?”

Councilwoman Vivian Olivier stated, “So she can learn something.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “Oh, do they have a class in it?”

Councilwoman Vivian Olivier stated, “They sure do.”

A motion was made by Councilwoman Vivian Olivier, seconded by Councilman Dexter Brown to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, January 17th, 2024** to authorize Council Clerk to attend the Police Jury Association Conference in Lake Charles, La.

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

Motion forwarded.

8. **Discuss any other business properly brought before this committee.**

Administrative Finance Chairman Easton Shelvin stated, “I just want to say that I have enjoyed my time with you all. I have learned a lot about this Parish and I have developed a new family and I appreciate you all for welcoming me in. I pray the best for the future.

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “Thank you so much for your service and your time and all the best with your future endeavors.”

Councilwoman Vivian Olivier stated, “I will miss you for all of those knocks that you put on my head and my back each time you come in.”

Councilman Dexter Brown stated, “Mr. Bishop, I want to thank you for your time that you have served with us. Good Luck with your future endeavors. I appreciate you.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “I would like to thank all of the council members that are going to be leaving. In spite of what we all may see in this audience and what we may see on line that there are some arguments but it is all about trying to make sure we make the right decision for everyone. Everybody has an opinion and you guys have done a great job. Don’t be a stranger, thanks for your services and thanks for all that you have done.”

Councilman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “I will miss most of you all. I am thankful for the 16 years that I have served. Whatever I did I did it to the best of my ability. I would encourage every last councilmembers, if you want to get better read everything that is before you and before you make any decisions have someone come before you and ask you to support something and they don’t have paper to back it, just say no. Thank you.”

Councilman Dexter Brown stated, “Mr. Red, I would like to thank you for the time that we have spent together on this council. We have had great times many times. Good luck in your future endeavors.”

Councilman Jerry Red Jr., stated, “Mr. Brown, I thank you because you have encouraged me to study and not just follow someone and I want to thank you for that.”

Councilman Dexter Brown stated, “Thank you Mr. Gil and Ms. Lynn. We appreciate you.”

9. Adjourn.

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

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

Motion carried.

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