

**ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL  
ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 2024  
OLD CITY MARKET, 131 W. BELLEVUE ST.  
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA**

**ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

*Administrative Finance Chairman Harold Taylor was absent for this meeting.*

A motion was made by Councilman Faltery Jolivette seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Carriere to appoint Councilman Ken Marks as temporary Administrative/Finance Committee Chairman,

**On roll call vote: YEAS:** Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Dexter Brown, and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Harold Taylor. **ABSTAINED:** None.

*Motion carried.*

1. Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks called this meeting of the Administrative/Finance Committee of the St. Landry Parish Council to order.
2. Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks led the Pledge of Allegiance & Invocation.
3. **Roll Call:** Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Ken Marks, Dexter Brown and Ernest Blanchard. Ex-Officio Wayne Ardoin. **ABSENT:** Harold Taylor.
4. **Person to address the Committee.**

*Journalist Bobby Ardoin addressed the council and stated,* “We are not asking to be the Official Journal of the Parish Government because by State Statue we can’t. What we have done and I want to inform the council about it is that last year it was November or December we had asked Parish Government to make an ancillary Official Journal meaning that we would be charging an extremely nominal fee and I mean nominal to run your meeting agendas and your minutes and whatever else. So far Parish Government has honored our request. Just for your information we are getting \$150.00 per month. Everything that Parish Government sends to us we try to run it. If you have any questions about this financial arrangement between St. Landry Now.com and St. Landry Parish Government go ahead and ask me, I will be glad to answer your questions.”

*Councilwoman Mildred Thierry stated,* “These stories are being ran online news is what you are referring to?”

*Journalist Bobby Ardoin stated,* “Correct. Before every meeting whether it is committee or regular meetings we have the agenda up usually 36 or so hours prior to the meeting so everybody could read it. I don’t believe in putting them up a week ahead of time because people forget about them to be honest with you.”

*Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated,* “On meeting minutes are you printing the whole documentation of what is being provided.”

*Journalist Bobby Ardoin stated,* “We print what is sent.”

*Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated,* “Okay, My next question is this: Would it be appropriate to do a smaller version to print? I am not sure but we did that in the past that is why I am asking.”

*Journalist Bobby Ardoin stated,* “Why would we want to do that. What we want to do is this: It is not like we are trying to be your official journal but like I said we print what is sent to us and the ones I have look at seems to be fairly complete. We reach a lot of people. We are not a fly by night and we have been in existence for 3.5 years. We are not going to make a fortune but we are hear basically to do what we like to do and to fill a void in news coverage.”

*Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated, "So the agreement we have with you guys is annual?"*

*Journalist Bobby Ardoin stated, "Right now I guess it is month to month but like I said we began in October or November."*

*Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated, "You all do a good job."*

*Journalist Bobby Ardoin stated, "We cover all of your meetings and we have television stations who claim to be your parish reporter but I don't see any of them here tonight so thank you."*

*Harlan Kirgan, Editor Eunice News addressed the council.* He stated, "Thank you Mr. Marks. I am Harlan Kirgan, Editor of the Eunice News. We have submitted another bid for the Official Journal and we appreciate being your Journal for the last year and we appreciate you all trusting us with that responsibility. That is the printed version of your business here that goes into that journal and it becomes a permanent record out there. Your material also goes up on our website and it goes into a State Website that is searchable from anywhere in the country. You can take a look and find stuff and whatever we send up there is searchable and it is statewide accessible all the way across the world. Do you all have any questions?"

*Councilman Ernest Blanchard questioned, "Harlan, what do you all charge for that?"*

*Harlan Kirgan, Editor Eunice News stated, "It is in the bid what have been charged, I don't know, but down here in the bid and I don't do the bid Ernie but it looks like it is 264 per inch. That is a rate of 440 per column and it is based on 6 column format which would equal 264 per column inch based on a 10 column format. Then there is the Arcane State Statue that says a bid have to site a price per square. I am not familiar with the square bids but it is \$4.71 per square. That is a little bit arcane and I guess part of the legislative that dictates oh how this should be bid. The other thing that I would like to point out is that the Eunice news is locally owned. We are owned by the Louisiana State Newspapers. We have a printing plant in Eunice and we employ 16 full time employees and 6 part time employees. We pay property tax about \$9,000.00 per year. Part of this parish is the competitive bid so they manage to keep us open and we print more than 20 titles in Eunice, it is a busy place at times."*

*Councilman Timmy Lejeune questioned, "Do we still have paper stands on this side of the parish?"*

*Harlan Kirgan, Editor Eunice News, "There are some. I noticed that there is one up here at the Courthouse square. We did have one at Soileau's. I think we are mailing copies of the paper to every city hall in the parish. We have paper stands in Eunice but I think Mr. Lejeune is talking about the paper stands in the parish here."*

- **Statutory Clerk of Court Expenses Attorney Jeffery Coreil**

*Attorney Jennifer Ardoin addressed the council. She stated, "I am Jennifer Ardoin. Jeffery Coreil and I are law partners and he is sorry that he could not be here today. He is out of the state with depositions. We are here on behalf of the Clerk of Court. Mr. Jagneaux apologies because he could not be here either because he is doing his mandatory continuing education so he could not be here as well. We thought it was important that someone be here just to address this issue. I do have some memos that I brought and I will try to keep it simple. I don't know how much have been shared with your or if any of you were familiar with what we are here to talk about today but the Clerk of Court has many duties within the parish. By law it is obligated to maintain the records of the parish for all sales, mortgages and donations that are made. It is also passed with all of the civil and criminal filings of the parish as well as the elections and conducting the elections and things of that nature. By law those are the duties but also by law what we are here for today is that the law provides under R. S. 33.47.13 that the parish is to provide sufficient housing for the Clerk of Court to perform its duties for those records. When the courthouse was being renovated to include the third floor courtroom the Parish*

Government asked the Clerk of Court to move some records and some files. At that point it became insufficient and this courthouse building where it currently exists became insufficient to house all of the records and perform all of the duties that the Clerk of Court have to do. What the Clerk of Court had to do was go to a new building at 308 W. St. Landry in order to maintain the additional records and perform the additional duties that it has to perform by law. If you look at R. S. 33.47.13 which is on page 2 of the memo that I gave you. That law dictates that the parish shall provide sufficient housing, furniture and equipment for the Clerk of Court to perform its duties. What we are here for today is as of right now the Clerk of Court have gotten an estimate to renovate the building at 308 W. Landry. It is not up to code. In order to get it up to code the estimate to do so is about \$1,125,000.00 to \$1,250,000.00 in cost in order to get it up to code. Although the law provide that the parish government shall provide a building sufficient for the Clerk of Court to perform its duties which indicate that 100% should be paid. The Clerk of Court is willing to split that cost 50/50. So if it is \$1,250,000.00 then \$600,000.00 the Clerk of Court will maintain to get this building to code and \$600,000.00 from the Parish Government, not all upfront and willing to enter into an agreement that it is paid \$300,000.00 in 2024 and \$300,000.00 in 2025. The other issues is the maintenance cost the utilities and the upkeep for that new building as well. The law also provides that the Parish Government provide those cost also. If you look in the memo the Attorney General has indicated that the furniture, equipment supplies and maps are all necessary for a Clerk of Court performance legally obligated functions. The furniture includes cabinets, desk, tables, chairs, computers, copier and things of that nature. That cost is estimated to be about \$30,000.00 annually. The Clerk of Court already incurred some cost in that regard with respect to cabinets and things that they had to put into the new building in order to house these records. The Clerk of Court is also saying that annually it is budgeted for \$100,000.00 from the Parish Government for utilities and expenses. They are asking to increase that to \$150,000.00 annually in order to cover the additional expenses that will be incurred annually to maintain and upkeep that building. If you look at the memo that is why we handed this out. Attached to the memo is the cost estimate for those repairs and it breaks it down. The real reason why we are here is because we want to come to some sort of agreement. The law provides that a Parish Government provides and we don't want to have to seek legal recourse, which is the real reason why we are here. We just want to try and work it out and get to a point where we can come to an amical resolution about it without having to do so. That is why the Clerk of Court is suggesting that the cost will be \$1,200,000.00 to get it to code. We would be agreeable to splitting that cost with \$300,000.00 paid this year and \$300,000.00 paid next year and then increase that \$100,000.00 annually to \$150,000.00 for purposes of that new building. Those cost that have been incurred for furniture and equipment and those that will be incurred in the future. Does anybody have any questions?"

***Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,*** "I am going to ask that the council do not respond to this. We have met with the attorneys for Charlie a couple of months back and agreed that we were going to help them get a grant to do the work over there. She has her job to do and so do we. We disagree on what the law says and what is to be done. I am not going to honor anything right now because there is more to the story than just a building. I am just asking the council not to respond unless it is something that Garrett thinks that we can answer to right now but I just don't see us doing anything on this at this time."

***Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated,*** "The council passed a budget last month. The council statue prohibit having their expenses greater than their revenue, it has to be a balanced budget. That is just the statue there. The council can decide what they want to do but we did pass a budget last month. It may require amending the budget."

***Attorney Jennifer Ardoin stated,*** "There is one thing that is not in the memo that I do want to address. The by statue and by law, R. S. 33.29.22A states: The cost and funds that are suppose to be provided and shall be provided by the parish government are preferential payments. Preferential over those payment by the parish government that are non- statutory. So any of the expenses that the parish have that are non-statutory these payment shall be paid in preference to those others. We are asking for your blessing and your recommendation that those be paid."

***Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated,*** "Are we in negotiations?"

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,** “Mr. Chairman, she made a comment a while ago about the money that we are giving them on a yearly basis. She said that it goes to utilities and that is not what that money is for. They submit a request for operating expenses and the law does not even require for us to pay operating expenses. We do above and beyond so I am asking the council not to entertain anything. I am more than welcome to call meetings so everybody can sit with the attorneys and discuss it with their attorneys. But in an open meeting I am asking that we don’t pertain to nothing.”

**Councilman Faltery Jolivette stated,** “Based on the information that Mr. Bellard have just given us I would like to make a motion that we each meet like he suggested and get a clearer understanding. We are pretty much in the blind with all of this. I do have a lot of questions but perhaps we would be better versed if we could meet with the Parish President.”

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,** “If they want to come in and meet so they can tell their side. If they want to do it in Executive Session that is fine.”

**Councilman Faltery Jolivette stated,** “We just need to get a better and clearer understanding.”

**Attorney Jennifer Ardoin addressed the council,** “Yes sir, I understand. I did come here today for a blessing and a recommendation but to the extent that is not possible today. Of course we welcome the opportunity to sit with everyone and discuss it.”

**Councilman Faltery Jolivette stated,** “Thank you for understanding.”

**Councilman Dexter Brown stated,** “Ms. Ardoin, for our minutes that we have to document whenever you said 100 you were meaning \$100,000.00 is that correct.”

**Attorney Jennifer Ardoin stated,** “Yes, I apologize, \$100,000.00. I apologize if I misspoke and said it was for expenses and utilities and such. It is \$100,000.00 for the current facility as it exists in the courthouse.”

**Councilman Dexter Brown stated,** “You also said that you are paying 1.2.”

**Attorney Jennifer Ardoin stated,** “Million.”

**Councilman Dexter Brown stated,** “Thank you. We need to have that for our records.”

**Attorney Jennifer Ardoin stated,** “I understand \$1,200,000.00 and when I was saying \$300,000.00 and \$600,000.00. I apologize for that.”

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “I just want to request that Mr. Jagneaux be at the meeting so that he can explain some things and not just the attorney.”

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,** “We will make the request.”

**Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “I will ask that Mr. Bellard furnish the last time that we gave funds to Mr. Jagneaux’ office. I think they use to always send a letter requesting funds.”

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,** “They got over a little over \$100,000.00 last year.”

**Attorney Jennifer Ardoin stated,** “In 2023.”

**Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “You will have all of that available is what I am saying.”

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,** “Oh yes. That is fine.”

**Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated,** “Are there any more questions?”

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated*, “I am not exactly sure about this part. I will get with Garrett after the meeting. I am not sure what attorney we are going to be able to use for this. I will get with Garrett and one of us will get with you.”

*Attorney Jennifer Ardoin stated*, “Okay that sounds great.”

*Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated*, “Your use of records or storage of records are you currently storing any in the courthouse? What percent would that be of what you currently have?”

*Attorney Jennifer Ardoin stated*, “There are some records stored there. I would not be able to tell you the percentage today. We can provide that information. I will make a note and we will provide that at the meeting.”

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated*, “Mr. Chairman, can we do an Executive Session and the Chairman can call for an Executive Session? That way we can talk to everybody at one time.”

*Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated*, “I would think that would be appropriate.”

*Chairman Wayne Ardoin*, “We will make sure that the Clerk of Court is available to us.”

*Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated*, “It will be in Executive Session.”

*Attorney Jennifer Ardoin stated*, “I appreciate your time, thank you.”

A motion was made by Councilman Faltery Jolivette, seconded by Councilman Ernest Blanchard to table the Statutory Clerk of Court Expenses for further discussion in an Executive Session Meeting.

**On roll call vote: YEAS:** Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Dexter Brown and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Harold Taylor. **ABSTAINED:** None.  
*Motion carried.*

- **Central St. Landry Economic Development District – Mr. Buddy Helton**

*Mr. Buddy Helton addressed the council. He stated*, “For the record I am Frank D. Helton Jr., 132 Betty Lou Lane, Opelousas, LA. 337-945-7662. I also Chair Central St. Landry Economic Development District and I am here on their behalf tonight. In regards to the own going issue of transfer of ownership of the Sewer Treatment Facility I did notice that Mr. Lejeune put something on here about the discussion of a VETO override process and with that it looks mechanically and such. I would just like to go back and let you all know exactly where this all started. If you remember, some of you may and some of you are new and were not on the council at the time. In 2020, November the council introduced a Resolution and voted unanimously to do exactly what was stated in the ordinance a couple of months ago. Like I said you all voted unanimously, nothing have change in the way the ordinance was written in contrast to the Resolution The only change is that it was not acted on as a Resolution, why I don’t know, maybe it fell through the cracks or maybe somebody did not want to. This only came to light within the last 6 months or so. Mr. Bellard decided that he was not going to do it because of legal issues. I think we have satisfied the issue of it being legal if not I think that a judge would answer that. That is up to the judges, I don’t think that we need it but if it has to go to that then so be it. As you know we had to vote on the ordinance at the last regular meeting. Had there been a full council here maybe it would have passed, I don’t know and we would not be looking at a VETO override and we would not have been looking at a VETO because to my knowledge 9 votes or better, you can’t veto and I guess for an override you need the same thing. With those people that were absent had they been here it may or may not have passed, I think it would have, I can’t answer that. Is there anyone that would have any questions as it relates to this Sewer Treatment Facility where it started, where it is at or where it is going?” Mr. Bellard made the comment that part of the initial basis of building this plant was because the City of Opelousas was out of capacity, it was not and I don’t know if it is, I don’t think that it is. One of the reasons we built this facility and we took some existing sewer from

the city, redirected it to this new plant was to open up more capacity for further development on the northern end of I-49 Corridor and to promote development on the southern end of the I-49 Corridor. You can correct me if I am wrong. I think there was a conversation I was told between the city, Julius and Mr. Bellard here in reference to the city receiving sewer from outside of incorporated areas, not worrying about incorporations that are very close and in contiguous to the present facility, am I right on that? Did you all agree on anything?

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,** “Nothing.”

**Mr. Buddy Helton stated,** “If Julius says yes we had a discussion and graded and he says no then it is a he say, he say. That is neither here nor there. What we are here about is resolving this issue with ownership of the facility.”

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “Mr. Helton, would you make it available that we have all of the records in reference to the way the sewer system came into play and how the money was channeled to St. Landry Parish Government.”

**Mr. Buddy Helton stated,** “I can do that through the engineering firm because they were on the front line as far as how it relates to capital outlay acquisitions and such. It is kind of complicated. It is a joint endeavor between the city and the parish. The parish being the larger governmental body they are the first and foremost and in the lead, anything that is done mechanically with our district starts through them and then goes to the city for concurrence and they vote to agree. It is only because the parish is the larger governing body. The original Capital Outlay that our commission was created upon started out under the parish in the Crown Parc area for a plan for a facility on the Harry Guilbeau area. Since we have grown we expanded the district throughout the whole corridor from Flag Station Road up to the Railroad at HWY 190. We initially started out on 786 acres, if I remember correctly, at Harry Guilbeau Interchange. That is how it legally fell through. We did a continuance and added on to the existing Capital Outlay so that we would not lose part of that funding and built it from there and that is just the way that the mechanics of the government works.”

**Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “I remember when it was brought up to us by Mr. Jarrel. I remember we granted permission for them to put that pump by the old skating ring in the Linwood West Subdivision. Then it went own across the bayou and that is where the Sewer Plant located at.”

**Mr. Buddy Helton stated,** “Right, the station that you are speaking in reference to is problematic. It was down in the bottom right by the canal. We relocated up the hill. We brought the property, CSLEDD paid for that. We re-routed that from the main city plant to the new facility.”

**Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “That is why I say I remember that part of it. I don’t know if we were meeting in the Delta Grand at that time but I remember Mr. Jarrell coming. My concern is that I represent that area so that the people that owns a system in Royal Gardens so they could get on with this system if possible and that have never come to be.”

**Mr. Buddy Helton stated,** “That have never come to be but that conversation still exists and that rhetoric is going back and forth, where it is going to go I don’t know.

**Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “I understand that Mr. Bellard has some paperwork saying that we have to retain it for 10 years. We need to get all of those ducks in a row where we can make a better decision. The main thing is this: If it would have not been for you all we would have never received that money.”

**Mr. Buddy Helton stated,** “Had it not been for CSLEDD and our foresightedness quite honestly this never would have taken place, period.”

**Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “There is a paper trail that needs to be located so we will know where we stand at as a council.”

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,** “The paper trail is very simple. You all have a copy of everything and they supply us with copies of everything and the paper trail is very simple to read. The law is clear and I have said this before, I am not signing no documentations to give that to the city of Opelousas because the law says that I cannot. Regardless if the council passes unanimously or not it does not make a difference. The information about the VETO is incorrect, again I know where it is coming from because I have heard the same story. The council votes, imagine they have 7 or they have 13, you all vote, I VETO. The next regular meeting you all have an opportunity to override my VETO by 9 votes that is what it is going to take. Regardless if you all have everybody there or nobody there it does not make a difference. That is next meeting, not tonight, but the issue at hand is not a matter if we want to do anything or if I want to do anything. When I first got here that Resolution was passed. Not a single person brought that in to me. The Mayor himself does not even have a signed copy because he did not do his side. Nobody brought it to me, nobody did anything with that. At the time, not knowing any better I would have signed it. Whenever the mayor called last year and asked me for a copy of the agreement nobody could find it. At that time I called our Attorney Mr. Duplechain and he said I believe we can do it by Resolution but I will have to research it so then I did my research. If he would have told me yes we can do it by Resolution that would have been good. When he said that he had to look into it I looked into it also which is where we are now. Regardless of the fact of what the council wants to do I am not trying to be rude or ugly but I am not going to sign a document until my attorney tells me that it is legal to sign okay. With that being said the document itself we cannot transfer ownership of it because in the agreement that the parish government and the state of Louisiana is into for that it clearly states that we cannot give sell or anything on that property until that bond is paid far, their bonds are 10 year bonds. There is nothing that I can do. I did not sign that document but it is signed on behalf of the government. There is more to the story than that. I am willing to work with anybody but giving up ownership of that property just because that is what Mr. Helton want or anybody else wants. It does not matter what the laws says, I am not doing that. So I advised you all the last time to get you all clarification however you all want to get it or whoever you all want to get it but understand that I am the one that have to sign that document.”

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “I just want to clear something up. You said not one of us did anything after we talked about this years ago, I am just going to say we as the council. I remember the situation, I remember we were in sort of like a transition with the Parish President at the time, Mr. Fontenot was out, it was under his watch and we had a temporary president. It fell through the cracks but I don’t think that any one of us that was on the council should be held responsible for something that we passed that was not done because we thought it had gotten done. I did not know it was not done until this came back up. I don’t think that when you say that we did not step up to look into it.”

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,** “I did not say you all. I did not say anything about the council. I said that it was not brought to my attention. Nobody gave me the documentation to be signed. When you all pass something somebody have to give me what you all pass so I can sign it. Every time there is an ordinance passed it is brought to my attention, either I sign it or I VETO it. The same thing with a Resolution, if I don’t know or if I forget about why this is being done and somebody does not bring me the document for me to sign I am not going look for nobody’s document.”

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “I understand that. All I am saying is this was before you. It was all started before you.”

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,** “No ma’am. I don’t care. It was in November.

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “From what I am remembering it was Mr. Fontenot and we had a temporary Parish President when this came up. So maybe my memory is wrong.”

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated.** “I was here. It was November on 2020 whenever the Resolution as passed. I was here then.”

**Mr. Buddy Helton stated,** “Ms. Nancy I agree with you, I think Jessie does to. We are not here to lay blame we just want to get this put to rest. The council did their part in the mechanics of it, where the ball got dropped thereafter was a Resolution I have no idea. Jessie did not ask about the Resolutions that were passed or he forgot about it, everybody forgot about it that is neither here or there now, we are here now. We did it into an Ordinance, changed it from a Resolution to an Ordinance so it would have more beef to it to my knowledge. It would be a little bit firmer than just a Resolution. If the council so decides to do a VETO override and override it and it does come to pass then I am assuming Mr. Bellard will: a: have to sign it. b: get an injunction not to. c: be held in contempt for malfeasance. That is the only three that I see.”

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,** “I can give you the other option. I am not signing no documentation that is illegal. There is no such thing as being in contempt of anything as an ordinance because this is not a court. This is just the council passing an ordinance and the council cannot pass an ordinance saying that I will sign an illegal document, it is not going to happen so there are no options on the table. If the council ratify or say that they agree with it and say that the ordinance stands I am telling you all tonight I am not signing that document, nobody is going to change my mind. I know what the law is telling me and I know what my attorney is telling me and I am just here to tell you all if you all stick with the VETO or if you all go against my VETO at this point I am not changing the way I am going to sign the document, I am sorry. Nobody can make me do something illegal.”

**Councilman Faltery Jolivette stated,** “Mr. Bellard, I was not here. You have a legal attorney that is advising you. Is it any way possible we can get this in writing what have been submitted to you?”

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,** “I did. I gave everything to you all. I can get you some more. I will give you everything that we have.”

**Councilman Faltery Jolivette stated,** “I think what we would like to do is find out what is the legal right, where we need to go legally and move forward from there. That is just my opinion. Thank you.”

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “Garett, since you are our attorney, since the council made some decisions where do we stand? I know that Mr. Bellard have his attorney.”

**Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated,** “All immovable land properties have to be sold or conveyed or donated by ordinance. That is why every month you all pass an ordinance to sell those adjudicated properties. Now this of course is not an adjudicated property but all properties movable land properties was sold by ordinance. The ordinance was VETOED and you all will proceed to the next step if you all want to in attempt to override the VETO so that is the next step that you are looking at. What happens after that is what happens after that but it is going to be step by step by step. No, you can't sell it by Resolution because the Home Rule Charter said you sell, convey or donate by ordinance so that is why you all passed the ordinance and it was VETOED so you all will proceed to the next step if you all want to and try to override the VETO. So that is where you all are at right now.”

**Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated,** “If I may understand what you are saying when that happened as a Resolution rather than an ordinance should we not have had legal counsel to indicate to us that we needed an ordinance at that time?”

**Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated,** “You all were not ready to sell it at that time.”

**Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated,** “Okay.”

**Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated,** “You can have a Resolution which states the will of the council to do something. You can have an Intergovernmental Agreement or a Cooperative Agreement between two Legal entities like a city and a parish. Then the final piece if you do want to convey some land if you are legally able to do it you pass an



ordinance that is why you all pass adjudicated property ordinance every single month to sell those properties.”

**Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated,** “I get that, okay. I have another question. The original documentation that came from CSLEDD to these two entities, Parish Government and the City of Opelousas was that drafted by your legal counsel?”

**Mr. Buddy Helton stated,** “Yes.”

**Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated,** “Okay, with that being said was there no follow-up from the initiation of it? In your meetings did you get updates?”

**Mr. Buddy Helton stated,** “The way the mechanics worked it was adopted by Resolution. Apparently it was not correct at the time and nobody knew that, it was not an issue to our knowledge it was taken care of. When I came here and you all do business and you all agree to do stuff I assumed it gets done, I use to assume let me back that up, now we have to follow up with everything. I would have assumed that it would have been taken care of because you conducted it. You did the due process and due diligence at the time. It is not like you all just flew off the cuff and threw something in there.”

**Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated,** “So the City of Opelousas has been operating this facility for how long?”

**Mr. Buddy Helton stated,** “Four years.”

**Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated,** “Four years with potential revenue potentially coming in, correct?”

**Mr. Buddy Helton stated,** “Expenses also, yes sir.”

**Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated,** “Is that legal?”

**Mr. Buddy Helton stated,** “Yes, let me back up. I am not a lawyer I can’t tell you that. I can’t tell you if that is legal. I would venture to say yes because you have private sewer systems that are run by private entities that have the certifications. City of Opelousas have certified operators, certifications and was approved and permitted through DHH and EPA and the other state agencies. So yes I would venture to say that it is legal.”

**Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated,** “Even without the approval of the property being transferred or whatever.”

**Mr. Buddy Helton stated,** “Right now if the city says we are not operating it any more you all don’t have an operator.”

**Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated,** “Okay.”

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,** “No, let me clarify that. If the city walks away today tomorrow morning I have a company that will come in here and do it. I am not worried about that part that is a small problem, that is already set up and ready to go. The problem is and I think Mr. Helton is right, legally the city is under the assumption that it was theirs all along and nobody disagreed and nobody brought it up. I think they operated it legally because they assumed like everybody else did until it was brought up. The reason why it is brought up now is because the liability that falls on Parish Government. We own the property, we own everything out there. It is irrelevant how the money came to us because these boards that are in place are there for economic growth. So them giving money to the parish to subsidize this right here that is their job. That is what they are there for. That is what Economic Development is all about. So how the money got here and how it was done is irrelevant. The money came to the Parish Government, the Parish Government paid everything and everything was signed by me from that point forward. As far as operational purposes we can do it tomorrow morning if we need to and for the last time and the last few years when the city had been doing it I don’t see where it is a legal issue because they operated it, they have the expenses and they get the revenue.

This is not a revenue generating function here, not at all. It is just to keep the government going.”

**Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated,** “You are absolutely correct.”

**Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “Out of all due respect I have a recording page here where Mr. Bruce Gaudin represent you am I correct?”

**Mr. Buddy Helton stated,** “Yes Sir.”

**Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “Where this thing was bought from liable authorities.”

**Mr. Buddy Helton stated,** “Yes Sir that is the two acres facility right there where the facility is.”

**Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “Mandy Cain was the acting President at the time.”

**Mr. Buddy Helton stated,** “Correct.”

**Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “Mr. Bellard you came in after that or you were there at the same time.”

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,** “I came in the fall of 2020.”

**Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “I think what we need to do is have Mr. Gaudin, Mr. Bellard, some Councilmembers and your people need to sit down and iron this out.”

**Mr. Buddy Helton stated,** “I think Jessie’s attorney whoever is representing him need to be in that conversation also.”

**Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “We need to come to an agreement with this thing.”

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,** “Mr. Chairman I am here to tell you that I am not doing that, nope. I am not trying to do anything but what the law tells me to do. I can tell you all at the end of the day that everybody will be satisfied with the deal that we are going to be making but I am not ready to do anything. I want you all to act on what you all have to act on. I will let you all in this conversation that I had with the AG’s Office last week because Mr. Ardoin asked for us to get an opinion. I got an opinion and it is going to come in writing. The AG’s Office called us last week. I had a conference with him and it is very simple. He said to make sure you don’t give it to the City of Opelousas the way it sits now. All the legal hurdles are there. The problem is the parish government is stuck with something because that is how it was done. It was not done right to start off with so all I am saying is just because it was not done right and there was no agreement signed between the Parish, CSLEDD or the City of Opelousas. It was all agreed upon among hand shakers and that is okay. When the law is saying what it says I can only go by what is in writing. If they would have agreed upon that and putting it in writing way back then and this is the intent and this is what we need to do then we would have had to honor some things like that but the law is clear. It has to be done by ordinance and it has to serve a benefit to the parish within that one clause and the CEA between the Parish and the State of Louisiana says that we cannot give or do any donation of the profits until the bond is paid far, that is another problem right there. At the end of the day I can assure you that I want the City of Opelousas to have the benefit of what the Sewer System represent but I also want the Parish Government to have this same benefit because seats that are there to benefit the parish not just the city. That is where we are having a little issue so we are going to make it work.”

**Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “You just said the word Mr. Bellard. Out of all respect to you in litigation. I asked you the other day and I am just 1 of 13. Get a Declaratory Judgment from a judge and let them decide where we are going to go with it from there.”

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,** “I don’t have a problem with who owns it, the city have a problem with who owns it. Let them get it. I am not going to file a motion in the

court because I believe that I am right. If they believe I am wrong let them file. I am bringing it to you all. You all do what you all have to do, the liability rest on the Parish Government right now. No matter what happens, no matter what anybody says, you know who is responsible for that out there? You are looking at him.”

**Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “This parish council did do it with justice to try and do what was right for the City of Opelousas and for St. Landry Parish Constituents.”

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,** “Right, but at the end of the day we have to do what is right for the people and I don’t want that liability. That is why we are at Moosa Memorial Hospital tearing that place down because at the end of the day all of these boards can go and wash away and you know who is responsible for all of that stuff, we are. When it comes to liability that is whenever I speak up because it falls on my back.”

**Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated,** “Because of time we just need to make sure that we move on because we do have time limits. One more question for you Mr. Helton.”

**Mr. Buddy Helton stated,** “I have one more question for your legal counsel. If you were to direct them as towards your opinion legally on the validity of them making this VETO override and it being valid how would you advise them?”

**Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated,** “I can’t advise the council on policy whether to override the VETO or do not override the VETO. There are 13 of them and their job is to make the policy and they are going to arrive at whatever decision they arrive at. I have spoken to your Attorney Bruce Gaudin. Bruce and I have spoken about the Legal issues so I have had conversations with him. I understand that he could not be here this evening, I know Bruce, he is a very good attorney. We are going to take the next step in the process. They may try to override the VETO and that is number 9 on this agenda. If there is a next step and a next step we will get to the end of the road eventually.”

**Mr. Buddy Helton stated,** “I don’t know if you misunderstood. I am not trying to ask you to direct them on which way to vote on a VETO override. I am talking about what way you would direct them legally if it would come to pass that they would override the VETO and it would become an ordinance. The legality of that, not the legality of doing the override the actual legality of it being feasible and legal to do or you can’t answer that right now, either way.”

**Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated,** “I am not saying this is going to end up in a lawsuit but it could. After they make their decision with the VETO override, or don’t override then it could go to lawsuit. At that point I am not going to comment on something inside of a lawsuit unless maybe if we go into Executive Session. We are not going to put the cart before the horse because that is a problem if we do that so they are going to have to go the next step.”

**Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated,** “With due respect the Mayor of Opelousas have just walked in. They are a party involved with this discussion. I would yield to him to have an opportunity to speak if he would like referencing the contract for the Sewer Plant.”

**Opelousas Mayor Julius Alsandor addressed the council. He stated,** “Good evening to the council, Mr. President and all those in attendance. I will just say this, since 2020 when this first discussion took place that the city would take this over and run it as if they have owned it and invested their own money we have been doing that. The operation has been under the city’s umbrella for repairs, any work that needs to be done there, it is as if we built it. I know there were some technicalities and it is being discussed here this evening, I am fully aware of that. We want this behind us I am sure just as the parish want it behind us. We just need to make a decision. I understand the president’s position about this but at the same time this plant that is off the Service Road of I-49 has been operated in its full aspect as if we put the money up, we built it and we are operating it today as we speak right now. That is all that I have to say about that.”

**Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated,** “Ms. Nancy, you have a question.”

**Opelousas Mayor Julius Alsandor stated,** “They ask me if I had a statement Ms. Carriere, they did not ask if I had to answer questions.”

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “I just want to know because Mr. Bellard mentioned about the bonds and legally we cannot turn over this facility to you. So what do you know and what can you say about the ten year bond.”

**Opelousas Mayor Julius Alsandor stated,** “I will state what I stated just now. Since that operation and that agreement was made in that development in the paperwork that the city would operate it and maintain it and that is what the city have done since November of 2020.”

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “I just want to say one last thing. I just hope going forward because we do have an attorney and I remember the situation very well. I think that if something was not followed through when we pass ordinances, when we pass the resolutions everything is in the minutes then everything is supposed to be followed through with our attorney and it all was supposed to be signed off on. It is in the pass, errors were made but going forward I don’t how we will have to check everything that we pass to make sure it is done right because we will end up in situations like this again and this is ridiculous. This is 4 years later and we have new members that are not aware of any of these situations or any of this that have happened. We have a discrepancy on who was in charge, who was handling business at the time. We as the council thought everything was done and we do have a legal representation and we also expect that everything is going to be done right. It is unfortunate that everybody found this out 4 years later, I just think that it is all ridiculous.”

**Mr. Buddy Helton stated,** “Ms. Nancy as it relates to the bonds that Jessie references too I think that he is looking for a technicality. I am assuming it relates to the states bonding out of the Capital Outlay Funding. Other than that everything else, all the match was paid cash up front. I can only assume that it is reference to Capital Outlay the way the state bonds out their money on the State level. It is not that you all are indebted to bonds or anything else. Not one red cent came out of the parish. It came from Capital Outlay and CSLEDD, period. I just want to clear that up.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “That is the agreement that we had with the State of Louisiana. The bond out money every year to do Capital Outlay Projects and that is one of them.”

**Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated,** “So to go forward here is that we should have learned a lesson from the assumptions of every entity that started from the beginning until now and taking the lead to go forward and get it resolved as soon as possible, that is where we are I would think. Now whatever actions Opelousas has to do, whatever actions the parish have to do, CSLEDD it would be adventurous or it would be to the best interest of the Citizens of our Community if this thing gets resolved soon, that is all that I am saying.”

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “I just want to say one last thing. Mr. Bellard, I know you were firm and you were steadfast and you said that you are not going to meet with anybody just like we are going to meet in Executive Session with Mr. Jagneaux and the attorney to resolve that situation.”

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,** “We don’t have an issue with them.”

**Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated,** “All I am saying is that we are willing to get together in Executive Session to meet with them why can’t we get together and we try to resolve this.”

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,** “No Ma’am because I am not doing that at this time. Listen at the end of the day I keep on trying to explain to people nobody can make me sign an illegal document and I am not. There is a reason for it and until you all take

you all final action then there is no more to talk about. The third Wednesday of this month the council can either uphold the VETO or override the VETO. That is a choice that this council have to make.

*Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated, “We are just beating a dead dog, it is time to move one.”*

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “At that point we will go from there. At the end of the day my job as Parish President is to represent the entire Parish of St. Landry for the betterment of the entire Parish of St. Landry. I am not going to sign any illegal document no matter who passes it. I am sorry. Mr. Marks, Mr. Helton made a statement a while ago and he asked that question and I think the answer to that question about the legal part of it is: If you all override my VETO and I don’t sign it then what? They will file an Injunction in the court and a Judge will be telling me to sign the thing it is not a council. There are ways to do things and if people would just sit back, let the process work and let everything go. But I am not signing it as it sits, I can’t.”*

*Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated, “So this is where we are. We will let it run through its course and go forward. Is that correct?”*

**5. Parish President & Finance Reports:**

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I don’t have anything in my Parish President’s Report. I did it in the Special Meeting. I was told that the Parish President could not add anything at the meeting. I will get clarification on that because I do not have everything lined up a week in advance. If I do I will put it on my report other than that if I bring things in here on my Parish President’s report that is what I am going to do. If you all don’t act on it that is up to you all. I am not going to be put through a test and say on the Thursday before if it is not on the agenda we are not going to discuss it. Then I will keep on calling for Special Meetings of the council and at some point we will get business done. None of these councilmembers here is a problem.”*

*Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “I have a question on the Financials. Jamie I would like for you to furnish me the \$151,000.00 that was spent in Road District 1 of 11A which is Fund 28, it was given a receipt. Evidently it must be Tom Schexnayder Road, the half of the money that was spent on Tom Schexnayder Road, that project, okay. I just want a copy of it. That is the biggest expense I have on Fund 028 and I would like a copy of it.”*

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Fund 42.”*

*Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “Well I have it right here, Road District 1 of 11A, Maintenance Fund 028.”*

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “It should be Fund 42. It might be two of 11A but it is Fund 42.”*

*Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “I have 1 of 11A.”*

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

**On roll call vote: YEAS:** Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Dexter Brown and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Harold Taylor. **ABSTAINED:** None.

*Motion carried.*

**6. Discuss an Ordinance to require a meeting between the Independent Auditor Firm and the St. Landry Parish Council Chairman, the Chairman for the Administrative/Finance Committee, and the Chairman for the Public Works Committee, before an Independent Audit Report is presented to the St. Landry Parish Council at a St. Landry Parish Council Meeting.**

*Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated, “I don’t know who put this on here.”*

*Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “I ask that it be put on there Mr. Marks so that when Mr. Moosa is going to come like he did last year we will have everything before he comes so any questions will be answered. That way the Finance Chairman will be abreast of it and the Public Works Chairman and the Chairman. If the Parish President wants to be involved with the meeting so be it. That way we will be able to answer the question on all of answers.*

*Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated, “Is that a standard procedure?”*

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Here is the thing. I agreed that the council should be involved in that meeting, not just the chairman because the chairman is no more special than anyone in this council. You all want information I think that you all have the opportunity to sit down with him and ask all of the questions and I don’t need to be present for that meeting, I can be, I don’t need to be. I think you all talk to them and talk to them directly, I don’t have a problem with that but I think the whole council should be advised and have the opportunity to sit with them in a one on one or a four or five on one meeting.”*

*Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “I don’t have a problem to put that in there. But the thing about it is we have to start somewhere. We don’t want a full quorum unless we call a Special Meeting.”*

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “What I am saying is that we always have these meetings with four or five at a time, that can happen, that can be arranged. I think that is a step up. I don’t think that we should only pick out three people. Let all the council be advised and let them have the same opportunity to ask question.”*

*Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated, “So Mr. Ardoin would you be okay with that?”*

*Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “Yes. I am alright with it.”*

- 7. Discuss an Ordinance for St. Landry Parish Government to provide once a year, in person Training, for one hour of Ethics, one hour of Sexual Harassment Prevention, and one hour of Cybersecurity, for any Elected Official, Government Employee, or Commission or Board Member who wishes to attend.**

*Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “I ask that it be placed on the agenda so that we could do it like we did it the last couple of years. We did not do it last year we did it the first two years where we had it across the street where any councilmember from any municipality or employees can attend. We had a lady that came here 2 years in a row.*

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “As long as it does not cost the government any money I don’t have any problems with it. They are making it very easy now days on line and you are done with it at your house. As long as it does not cost the government any money you are more than welcome to put that on.”*

*Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated, “The individual or the department or what is listed here Mr. Ardoin how are they going to be notified of their requirement?”*

*Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “We will have to draw up this ordinance and get it to where they will be notified.”*

*Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated, “We will send them a letter is that correct that they have to abide by this is that what we are doing?”*

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “This is an option, they already know. Like Mr. Helton said we assume that these boards knew and as you know 99 of the members have not completed that. This is the effort to make them have the ability to come right here and*

do it easy. We never did pass an ordinance that says hey you all have to make sure that you all do this but the state law says that they have to do it.”

*Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated*, “That is correct, that is correct.”

*Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated*, “We had some boards just recently, Lawtell area. One had come on line. We need to have a starting point. I asked Garrett to draw it up so that we can have a starting point.”

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated*, “I agree.”

*Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated*, “It has been about 3 month. Mr. Duplechain have you drawn it up yet?”

*Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated*, “Yes, the ordinance the council is addressing in item 6 and item 7 is in the full form. If you all want to change it let me know before it is introduced two weeks from now. The ordinance discussing items 6 and item 7 that you are discussing now is in full form before all of you. Read it and let me know what you think.”

*Councilman Timmy Lejeune questioned*, “If the person takes the class on line he does not have to come to that meeting. That is only an option box is that correct?”

*Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated*, “That is correct. As long as they are certified basically taking it on line. They will get a certificate. That certificate copy has to be sent to our office so we are aware that they did it.”

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated*, “I agree 100%. If you all make that for you all ordinance then whenever these board members take this no matter how they do it as long as it is the legal way to do it and furnish us a copy because our auditors ask us these questions. If they ask us to provide documentation this past year we would have failed miserably.”

*Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated*, “Why can’t we put that notation in the application process as well. When someone fills out an application to serve that is listed and he has to sign that he is aware of those and if anything is added or any other class they have to take then we should submit those boards that we appoint a letter telling them what else they have to do and give them the site.”

*Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated*, “I know Mr. Bellard mentioned about making sure they take the class. I know with St. Landry Parish School Board we have to send it to them. Maybe all of those copies of certificates is a lot but if everybody have a file or an application already they just have to at least let you know that they submitted their application so you will know that they did the class.”

*Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated*, “Absolutely, and we would not know. If it is included in the ordinance I think that would be pretty fair to state that. If they submit a copy of their certification to this office is that correct?”

**8. Discuss the next step in the veto process of the Sewage Treatment Station.  
ORDINANCE NO. 2024-016 (Councilman Timmy Lejeune)**

*Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated*, “We just discussed talked about that for about one and one-half hours. I think we will move on, is everybody okay with that?”

*Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated*, “I have a question about it. I did not expect all of that to happen tonight. What I was hoping for was to understand and to make every councilmember understand how many ‘Yes’ votes does he have to have for the VETO to stay. How is it going to be questioned to make sure that we understand a ‘Yes’ vote means to accept the VETO or a ‘No’ vote means to block the VETO. It needs to be very well explained because I want to make sure that when I cast my vote I am voting the way I

want it to be. I don't want to cast a vote saying 'Yes' and his VETO goes through or I cast a vote and say 'No' and his VETO goes through because of the way it is worded. I want real strong clarity. That is the only reason why I put that on the agenda. I understand the meeting is the next full."

*Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated, "You are aware like most councilmembers it takes 9 votes in order to do it.*

*Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "Sherell just pointed that out. I am aware of that."*

**9. Discuss an Ordinance for all applicants who apply to be appointed to a board or commission to come before the council to a council meeting for an interview.**

*Councilman Faltery Jolivette stated, "With the experience that I have had with appointees coming before us and not really having what I would call enough information in their packet that they submit. We may have questions, I know I did and I think any good interview process or any good appointment for an appointee we should have as much information as we possibly can. It is just an interview process that I think that anyone that would be appointed or hired for a position for the people that are doing the appointing should know. We should have question that we could ask and have a little bit more information about that person or his character or just meeting them verses just looking at some paper. That is just my old fashion way of doing business."*

*Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated, "No, I like that."*

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Mr. Chairman, I think that is a great idea. I am thinking the Committee Meeting prior to the vote of the full council would be an opportunity for these members to come. We are not going to have like another meeting and so the Committee Meeting could be the interview part."*

*Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated, "Does that need to be some type of setting or is this just a verbal?"*

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "I would definitely put it in the ordinance."*

*Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated, "Yes put it in the ordinance."*

A motion was made by Councilman Faltery Jolivette, seconded by Councilman Ernest Blanchard to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024** to authorize Legal Counsel Garett Duplechain to create an ordinance that will authorize all Board Applicants to come to the Committee Meetings prior to their appointments to do a short interview process and introduce themselves to the council.

**On roll call vote: YEAS:** Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Dexter Brown and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Harold Taylor. **ABSTAINED:** None.  
*Motion forwarded.*

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

A motion was made by Councilman Dexter Brown, seconded by Councilman Faltery Jolivette to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024** to vote to appoint an Official Journal for the St. Landry Parish Government. The Eunice News or the Daily World.

**On roll call vote: YEAS:** Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Dexter Brown and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Harold Taylor. **ABSTAINED:** None.  
*Motion forwarded.*

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



*Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated*, “Mr. Chairman, I had a request from Mr. Tom who is the IT man for our meetings. He has ask that we pay for a video recorder, am I correct Madam Clerk?”

*Council Clerk Sherell Jordan stated*, “The recorder is going out.”

*Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated*, “The recorder is going out and I think that is some of the problems where some of the people can’t watch the meetings I guess. What was the price Ms. Sherell?”

*Council Clerk Sherell Jordan stated*, “I am not sure of the exact price.”

*Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated*, “I am asking that we go ahead and purchase it so that we can go ahead and have a video recording machine here. I think he has ordered it already but you did not sign the bill when it was brought to you because we had not brought it up to be charged.”

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated*, “That is no problem, I will sign the invoice. I was not aware of that but I will take care of it.”

*Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated*, “Do you need that in a motion?”

*Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated*, “No, Jessie said he will take care of it I am good with that. Mr. Bellard, I am still waiting for your list of employees and salaries.”

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated*, “So does everybody want a copy? If the council wants a copy that will be fine. Normally you all pass a Resolution to do it and after I wait on the Resolution from the council.”

*Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated*, “I will ask for a motion to bring it to the full council. We passed the budget we know where our money is being spent I think.”

*Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated*, “I would like one also.”

A motion was made by ~~Chairman Wayne Ardoin~~, Councilman Faltery Jolivette, seconded by Councilwoman Nancy Carriere to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024** to authorize the Parish President to present the council with an updated copy of the Employee List and their Salaries.

**On roll call vote: YEAS:** Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Dexter Brown and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Harold Taylor. **ABSTAINED:** None.  
**Motion forwarded.**

*Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated*, “Ms. Nancy you can make the motion being that I am the Chairman. I heard a little rebuttal there just now. You make the motion, I would like for it to go.”

*Administrative/Finance Chairman Ken Marks stated*, “Let the record reflect such change.”

## 12. Adjourn.

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

**On roll call vote: YEAS:** Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Dexter Brown and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Harold Taylor. **ABSTAINED:** None.  
**Motion carried.**

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