

**ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16th, 2024 @ 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 16th, day of October, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

- I. Chairman Wayne Ardoin called the meeting of the St. Landry Parish Council to order. He asked that the audience please silence all of their electronic devices.
- II. Councilman Faltery Jolivette led the Pledge of Allegiance & Invocation.
- III. **ROLL CALL:** Jody White, Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Wayne Ardoin, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **ABSENT:** Alvin Stelly.

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “I will now entertain a motion to amend the agenda to add three Resolutions on the Agenda which we were just given this afternoon. It is **Resolution 026-2024**, **Resolution 027-2024** and **Resolution 028-2024**.”

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilman Ken Marks to Amend the Agenda to add three Resolutions for approval. **Resolution 026-2024**, **Resolution 027-2024** and **Resolution 028-2024**.

On roll call vote: **YEAS:** Jody White, Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Alvin Stelly. **ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON**, this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “Before we go any further I want remind everybody to please turn your electronic devices off.”

IV. **CONDOLENCES:**

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere: Elijah Malone Sr., Barbara Julien, Joseph Paul Landry Sr., Georgia Mae Dussette.

Councilwoman Mildred Thierry: Carrie Rosette, Elijah Malone, Sr., Doretha Rubin, Irma Robinson, Ronnie Fontenot, Sylvia Roberie, Arthur Valliere, Walter Pickens Jr., Bessie Mae Garrett, Markus James Henry Sr., Mirtha Lee Espree, Tierney Murphy, Ashley Marie Bergeron Sam, Joseph John Jackson.

Councilman Ken Marks: Dorothy Aymond, Mary Fontenot, Lessie Hobgood, Neva Stelly, Merrell Burleigh.

Chairman Wayne Ardoin: Webster Marcantel, Ronnie “Rosco” Fontenot.

Councilman Dexter Brown: Elijah Malone Sr., Herbert Ned.

Councilman Ernest Blanchard: Billy ‘Pops’ McCauley, Brenda Kay Lavergne, Marlene Richard, Weldon Guillory, Magan “Maga” Bellard, Ross Miller, Mary Jane Bertrand Blanchard, Irene Baugard Ortego, Michael Sonnier, John James “Jimmie Angelle, Sam T. Olivier, Breezie James Martel, Kenneth Paul Ceasor, Larry James LaFleur, Amy Burnett White, Carl James Cart, Deanna Young Prather, Linda Joyce Hoyer Wills, David Kyle Vincent Sr., Markies Dontay Howard Leday.

**Chairman Wayne Ardoin called for a moment of silence for the families that lost their loved ones.*

V. PERSON TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL:

Mr. Donald Mayeaux, Attorney addressed the council. He stated, “Good afternoon, thank you very much. My name is Donald Mayeaux and I am an Attorney from Eunice. I represent Mr. Fontenot and his family. This is a case dealing with bad weather and the weather destroyed a room and a house in Eunice. This is a brochure and it is on Prairie Avenue. This lot belongs to the St. Landry Parish Police Jury. The reason that lot with the house on it is because earlier in the years the lady that owned this house never paid the taxes on it and therefore St. Landry Parish Police Jury took the house over. Then this bad thing came it was tremendous and it destroyed the house that the St. Landry Parish owns and the next one, 121 Prairie Avenue, these are side-by-side in Eunice that belongs to David Caswell and he owned many years and Mr. Caswell rented this house to Mr. Octave Fontenot and his eight kids and for many years everything was going fine but when this happened a disaster occurred. The people living in the St. Landry Parish lot took off, they are gone and they were a lot of men. The same day his house was destroyed and with the eight kids in there it was a tremendous loss. The tree fell across mainly to the back of the house. They were faced with having to go somewhere else and this has been going on since May 30th. They have found a little house and it has been a real problem. So what is the district? After the Police Jury found out that he own this lot they got with David Caswell and they came and they destroyed that big tree and the house. They took a lot of effort for both of these lots side by side because of the St. Landry Police Jury. It was a monster tree.”

Mr. Octave Fontenot a resident stated, “It was the house that I was living in and the house next door.”

Mr. Donald Mayeaux Attorney, “We found out that the Police Jury tried to fix it up. We contacted the Police Jury People, the attorney and others and ask if you can come forward and help support this family because they lost everything but that did not happen. Then a few weeks ago these two lots were so terrible that finally the Police Jury came again at your expense and you fixed and took these gigantic trees, the tree the were across both lots, they took out and they fixed everything up and there is no house anymore and there is nothing, it is ready to put some more houses down. Okay, so what is the problem? The problem is the Police Jury is telling us since this lady did not pay her taxes on this lot Number one where the three was stuck in there, although we own it we don’t have to do anything about it. With the law in their favor they still fixed this lot and the other lot for these people, the owners. We have been asking for help, for the Police Jury to help Mr. Fontenot and his family. There were several thousand of dollars that they lost, all of their property and all of their stuff in the house because the tree fell right across the house, the furniture and everything, he had a car and that was all destroyed and we are here asking the council to consider this help, you don’t I guess have to legally do it. The people who operate this equipment for you it just got done so quickly and we can’t get anybody to help us and I was suggested to talk to the council, please and we are both here for you to help us for this big loss from a lot that was owned by you. You can help us on that. I am looking at a few thousand dollars but it is a big loss. It will all go back to a good place like it was before. That is the issue and I don’t want to take any more time but I hope you understand what I am trying to say. I am not doing great on it but what is your situation?”

Mr. Octave Fontenot a resident stated, “My situation is that we don’t have anything anymore. My heart is full, I go to church every Sunday. I tried to take matters into my hands to help me carry my children and my wife on and dismiss it to help me out too.”

Mr. Donald Mayeaux Attorney, “It would not be an expensive thing. It would be just again by the Police Jury to do it although you really don’t have to do it.”

Councilman Ernest Blanchard stated, “Mr. Mayeaux the tree is going to be an Act of Nature.”

Mr. Donald Mayeaux Attorney, “Yes it is.”

Councilman Ernest Blanchard stated, “Or an Act of God, whatever the Insurance Company calls it. You did not have any insurance on your house Sir?”

Mr. Octave Fontenot a resident stated, “I did not own the house.”

Councilman Ernest Blanchard stated, “When you have an Act of God or an Act of Nature as the Insurance Company calls it each person pays its own and that is the way that the law states. I have had the same problem. So I know what it states.”

Mr. Donald Mayeaux Attorney, “But he did not own the house, Sir.”

Councilman Ernest Blanchard stated, “I am talking about the tree. The tree can fall any place. It is still an Act of Nature. Any how it comes from St. Landry Parish’s Property, St. Landry Parish is not responsible for it because it is an Act of Nature.”

Mr. Octave Fontenot a resident stated, “I am paying rent. I know that I don’t own the house. I am paying rent and I did not have no insurance on the house but not everybody in this world carry insurance or own insurance, not everybody is able to but still in all we are a poor family and we are trying to make it.”

Councilman Ernest Blanchard stated, “I understand that.”

Mr. Octave Fontenot a resident stated, “We are not here to say that I am as high as you but I know I am worth beyond and I am just asking you to have faith with your heart to help me and my children carry on. That is all that I am asking.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “I think that you accepted that responsibility because you said that the Parish don’t have to do anything. You are just asking, I think that is what you said. I am not sure maybe Mr. Bellard can answer because he understands we are not responsible. I am not understanding what kind of help you are asking for? Is it for the land, housing, I am not understanding.”

Mr. Octave Fontenot a resident stated, “Just help to build me and my children back into a better place to where we can live a comfortable life. A little change, a little money to put us back on our feet. That is all that I am asking.”

Mr. Donald Mayeaux Attorney, “They have been living in that house for almost 4 or 5 years. Then it is destroyed because of a tree on you all lot. You did not have to do anything but all of a sudden we heard quickly yes it has been done by the Police Jury, that is wonderful so I contacted them, will you help us? Oh no we don’t have to do it. Then they came back again the second time to make it just beautiful those two lots but they still won’t help the person that was on there and has incurred a lot. So I am here to ask if you all would consider helping him because you have help Mr. Caswell and the other two people and your lot looks good. Maybe you could sell it to someone else. It is an unusual thing and I am here because it was suggested that we could at least talk about it and we are begging for some help. If you say okay we will talk about it then we will have the itemize list of the things that could help us out and that is basically it.”

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “Are there any other comments from the Councilmembers? Mr. Bellard are you aware of what happened here? Are you aware that the Parish Council, Parish Government went to clean the property that he is talking about?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Yes, in fact I am was the one that did it. But we are not responsible for anything other than that. We cleaned up the property because we were able to do the adjudicated piece of property and the one that fell on his house we cleaned it up as well because the tree was on our property so we cleaned up that house but we are not responsible for anything beyond that.”

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, “I have a few comments Mr. Chairman. Mr. Mayeaux did two individuals unconnected with Parish Government offer your client some money like \$3,000.00?”

Mr. Donald Mayeaux Attorney, “Do you remember you told me that somebody came by.”

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “Can you speak into the Mic so we can understand and she can pick it up.”

Mr. Octave Fontenot a resident stated, “They had an automobile stop and offer some money to me. I told them no because I have a lawyer and I cannot accept no money from no stranger and they said okay and they just pulled away.”

Mr. Donald Mayeaux Attorney, “I wished we would have taken the money at that time.”

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “Mr. Garrett? Are you finished?”

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, “If you have a piece of property and the owner loses it because he did not pay his property tax then that piece of property is Adjudicated to the Parish Government. Whatever happens on that Adjudicated Property Parish Government is not Liable for. The owner who maybe would redeem it one day remains liable, that is in the Statue, Parish Government Statutorily Relieve the Liability for what happens on a piece of Adjudicated Property. In this particular case the tree fell on a house on the neighboring piece of property. I think the owner of that house is not here this evening, is he Mr. Mayeaux?”

Mr. Donald Mayeaux Attorney stated, “No, he has no claim. He has no claim.”

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, *Mr. Mayeaux’s client was living in the house as a renter and the house was completely vacated after the tree fell on it. When that Tropical Storm passed through people were signing agreements for the parish to remove the debris as we are legally authorized to do with I guess the money received to remove the debris. One of the people who signed that agreement was the owner of the house that was destroyed by the tree so that is why parish government removed that tree because an authorization was signed by the owner. The owner of that house is not here this evening because the tree did destroy the house so he did authorize Parish Government to remove the tree from the house.*”

Mr. Donald Mayeaux Attorney stated, “Which they did not have to do but you all did it and that is what we are asking here, please help this family. It is a one person situation, one family. We thank you all very much.”

Councilwoman Vivian Olivier questioned, “How old are those children that you have?”

Mr. Octave Fontenot a resident stated, “20, 16, 15, 14, 11, 12. I have a grandchild that is 2 years old.”

Councilwoman Vivian Olivier stated, “Do they need clothes?”

Mr. Octave Fontenot, a resident stated, “Yes, people have been helping out every now and then, somebody dropping a little clothes. There is still a long way to go. I am living in a 2 bedroom with all of these children. So you know what I need. We really need a 3 or 4 Bedroom like I had before. I will leave it all in God Hands if I don’t get help from here, maybe God will help me, I don’t know.”

Councilwoman Vivian Oliver stated, “Do you have a job? Can you pay rent?”

Mr. Octave Fontenot, a resident stated, “Yes, I can pay rent.”

Mr. Donald Mayeaux Attorney stated, “He has been paying almost \$500.00 for many years but that is not the issue. It is just a big loss and the issue is if you can do it like you all agree to do it why not this one more thing from the tree that you all owned, okay, thank you all very much.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “I feel for you and they have lots of people that have your same situation believe it or not during that last storm. I know someone personally who was renting and his whole house was destroyed. He did contract FEMA for help but it is just unfortunate that you did not own the house and you did not have any insurance. It seems like you are talking on death ears but you are not. I do feel for you but I just don’t see where the parish who is not responsible can help you. I really feel sorry, I am willing to make a donation, it is not going to make you get a whole house but it can help you get a meal or two but I don’t see where the parish would be responsible, it is unfortunate.”

Mr. Octave Fontenot, a resident stated, “Any blessing from anyone would help. So if you all help me thank God and thank you all.”

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “I have one question for you Mr. Fontenot. Have you applied for any Public Housing in Eunice?”

Mr. Octave Fontenot, a resident stated, “No, I was really waiting for the man that I rent from. He told me that he had another house and he was trying to get us in but I never heard from him. I guess I will just have to move on and find my own house. I am in a two bed room house now.”

Councilman Dexter Brown stated, “I will make a donation Mr. Fontenot. I work in Eunice and I will contact you tomorrow.”

Councilman Jimmie Edwards stated, “I will make one to. Mr. Chairman may I be recognized. I will make a donation to Mr. Octave Fontenot.”

Mr. Donald Mayeaux Attorney stated, “I am very impressive about the way you all operate this place. It is the first time that I have visited here and I am very impressed from all of you.”

Ms. Vicki Robin addressed the council. She stated, “My name is Vicki Robin. I live at 13 Hidden Hills Community which is an Arnaudville address. I am here to speak about Hidden Hills Community on behalf of Chris Hill DeBill, the president of Hidden Hills Community who apologies because she had a previous commitment that she could not move, I am here speaking for her. I am trying to answer some of the questions that they had at the last meeting. Part of the questions was whether the dumpsters could be moved into the community. So Hidden Hills were developed in 1971 and the infrastructure in the Hidden Hills Community was appropriated for the time but it certainly is not appropriated for today’s standards. Our roads are one lane and that is 10 feet wide, our water lines are 18 inches deep. The heavy truck that would have to go in and out and maneuver around that would end up running over those water lines and those water lines would fail. The roads, we just spent \$30,000.00 patching the roads and those roads are not Parish Roads, they are maintained by the house holders in the Hidden Hills Community through our HOA fees. The Dumpsters have been there for an access of 30 years and Hidden Hills have maintained the Dumpsters area. Just recently we put down asphalt in that dumpster area. Mr. Meche does not own the property behind the dumpsters that he was complaining about, that is owned by descendants of his brother. If we get to keep the dumpsters outside the gate we have talked to the parish and Mr. LeBouef and we are going to put a game camera there and if we can get the license plate numbers of the people who are coming in and dumping in our dumpsters then maybe we could reduce the number from 3 to 2 dumpsters and we will encourage our members and require our members to do a better job of keeping the area policed.”

Ms. Connie DeRanger addressed the council. She stated, “I am Connie DeRanger, 421 Moreau Road, Arnaudville, 70512. I have researched the Code of Ordinances and wish to speak to this council today regarding Chapter 26 Nuisances, Article 2, Weeds and Noxious Growth, Section 26:21 Prohibition B and C and Section 26:22. My next door neighbors are Dawn and Brandon Keith Ardoin, 365 Moreau Road, Arnaudville. These two properties of which I speak are divided by our 1389 feet of Electrified Fence separating our livestock pasture from their hay crop. There have been no maintenance on their side of the fence since 2021 and it has overgrown invasive weeds. They are 6 feet

tall and 5 feet to 10 feet in depth and it is a haven for rodents. We have offered to shred their side of the fence on two separate occasions and were refused. The growth is now so thick that a weed eater cord does not cut it and a metal rotating blade is necessary. On June 14th 2024 I weeded and our 17 year old 2000 pound Ox, Mo-Jo followed me and ate the cuttings. He was noticeably ill the next day and refused to eat until he died on June 23rd, 2024. A picture of the weeds were sent to our Vet who identified the weeds at Blue Vervain. On the 28th, I went to speak to Brandon Ardoin for the very first time and I offered to sherd the fence but he was too busy to speak to me. Several days later I contacted Brittany Zaunbrecher the Foraging Expert with the LSU Ag Center. She did a site visit and identified three dangerous weds. She also consulted with Stuart Gauthier who is the St. Martin Parish Extension Agent and he was aware of the adverse reactions from Blue Vervain causing Liver Toxicity, Agitation and Tremors. These were the symptoms that Mo-Jo had. We shred to the T-Pole to prevent the dangerous and the invasive weeds from overtaking our pasture. We then weed eat one foot under the fence to keep the taller weeds from coming through the fence. We rake and dispose of the cuttings away from the pasture. When it rains we walk the fence cutting with a Machete and Pruning Shears the weeds that are weighted down by the water over the fence top. Legally we are not allowed to use weed killer beyond the property line. I filed a complaint in July with Cynthia Fontenot of Code Enforcement and a sight visit was completed July 11, 2024. I believe Brandon Ardoin is in violation of the State Codes. He has controlled us for 3 years and we have been powerless to do anything. However these ordinance do give us power, protection and legal recourse. I am asking of you the following: All Weeds along our 1389 foot fence be cut to ground level. A Buffer Zone of 50 feet in depth should exist on to the hay property from the property line. The ordinances also do stipulate citations with \$100.00 fines and a scheduling and Civil Court to answer for these violations. I am reaching out to you the council for help and protection from Brandon Keith Ardoin. For the record he is the nephew of Mr. Ardoin and I respectfully request that you not be allowed to vote on this matter due to serious conflict of interest. I thank you all for your time and listening to me and I will be happy to answer any of your questions.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I have a comment, we will take care of it. There is no action from the council needed.”

Ms. Connie DeRanger stated, “I am desperate. My husband and I are 73 years old. I need a total knee replacement and he has heart failure, a pace maker and a defibrillator. We physically cannot do this anymore and we are trapped.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “But I am going to take care of it. It is going to be okay, I see the pictures. Evidently there is feud going on between neighbors.”

Ms. Connie DeRanger stated, “I don’t know what the feud is.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I don’t know but I am going to take care of it. Thank you.”

Ms. Connie DeRanger stated, “Thank you all for your time.”

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “I call Mr. Mike Meche to address the council.”

Mr. Mike Meche addressed the council. He stated, “My name is Mike Meche. My address is 1106 Acadian Drive, Ville Platte, LA. The address that is given is 1010 Lot 21 Hidden Hills, Arnaudville. This is the address that they assigned to me at the time I did anything to his property at the time. I want to thank you for your time listening to me for the second time. I want to make a couple of points that were brought out in the last meeting where this came about. This property has been in my family for over 90 years so that means for 60 years we did not have any problems with trash or dumpsters or anything of that nature. The community does not want the dumpsters inside of their community, it is real obvious and it is a liability, like I pointed out before. What I didn’t mention was they are using golf carts, lawn mowers, four wheelers or whatever they have. They are traveling out of the gate onto a public parish road in the opposite direction facing ongoing traffic using this facility. Like I mentioned before if this is tax

payers and I pay St. Landry Parish Taxes also and everyone can use it, I don't see how you can say that it is only for them. The whole thing got started and I have been through like 3 presidents of the HHC when I tried getting these things moved. Not only recently when I inherited, my mom passed in 2020, I started taking action and being out there more than I did before. Before we had someone taking care of it and doing it and it was out of sight, out of mind. The original land owner agreement was 50 years with them and that was when they violated it. It was suppose to be kept as a private road and it ended January 20, 2021. They had rocks put on it within a few years. Then they started grading it, my dad did not know. When I started looking at this the parish started taking over because they maintain it for years. We have no right to get the dumpsters moved, that is the reason I came in front of this board last time a couple of weeks ago. I am representing my Niece's behalf, Mandy Meche Gardineo. She was given the property and she is the sole heir of my deceased brother. The others donated it to her so I am speaking for her when I did all of this stuff. That is all, I don't want to take up your time. Does anyone have any questions? I appreciate your time and hopefully the outcome would be what I expect it to be and doing the right thing from the liability standpoint, from the beautification standpoint and all of the stuff that did apply to this area."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "I want to remind everyone that we are getting sued by Hidden Hills. I would recommend that nobody make any comments until we go to court next week."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "We have heard from you Mr. Meche. I appreciate you and Ms. Robin on this issue. So that takes care of item No. 5 of persons to address the council."

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, seconded by Councilman Faltery Jolivette to approve **the Regular Meeting Minutes from September 18th, 2024** as transcribed.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Alvin Stelly. **ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON**, this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

VII. PARISH PRESIDENT REPORT:

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "I don't have anything to report."

A motion was made by Councilman Ernest Blanchard, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to accept the Parish President's Report.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Alvin Stelly. **ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON**, this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

***Items passed through committee.**

1. Approve the Financial and Audit Report given by Steve Moosa for the next two years.

Councilman Harold Taylor questioned, "How can we approve an Audit that we have not gotten yet which is next year. I don't understand the question. Is it to approve the Audit Report?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "No, it is to approve what I have submitted in the Committee Meeting which is the Engagement Letters for the next two years."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "It had noting to do with the Audit Report. It is to renew the Engagement Letters for two years. Thank you very much."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Yes."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “So that is the way it should read for the Engagement Letters for a two year period with Moosa and them.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Yes Sir.”

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “Okay with that change do I have a motion.”

A motion was made by Councilman Ernest Blanchard, seconded by Councilman Jimmie Edwards to approve the Engagement Letters for a two year period with Steve Moosa.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Alvin Stelly. **ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON**, this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

2. Vote to appoint Robert Atkins for one appointment to St. Landry Parish Waterworks District No. 3. Mr. James Solar has resigned. (No Term Set).

A motion was made by Councilman Jimmie Edwards, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to appoint Robert Atkins for one appointment to St. Landry Parish Waterworks District No. 3. Mr. James Solar has resigned. (No Term Set).

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Alvin Stelly. **ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON**, this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

3. Vote to re-appoint Sandy Coleman, Lastie Cormier, and appoint Hals Beard for three appointments to Fire District No. 7 for a one-year and a two- year term. (11-18-2024- 11-18-2025) and (11-18-2024 – 11-18-2026).

A motion was made by Councilman Jimmie Edwards, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to re-appoint Sandy Coleman, Lastie Cormier, and appoint Hals Beard for three appointments to Fire District No. 7 for a one-year and a two- year term. (11-18-2024- 11-18-2025) and (11-18-2024 – 11-18-2026).

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Alvin Stelly. **ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON**, this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

4. Authorize to advertise for two appointments to Fire District No. 7 for a one-year and a two- year term. (11-18-2024- 11-18-2025) and (11-18-2024 – 11-18-2026).

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, seconded by Councilman Ken Marks to authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for two appointments to Fire District No. 7 for a one-year and a two- year term. (11-18-2024- 11-18-2025) and (11-18-2024 – 11-18-2026).

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Alvin Stelly. **ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON**, this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

5. Authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for five appointments to Ward 3 Consolidated Gravity Drainage District No. 1 for a four- year term. (12-21-2024 - 12-21-2028).

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, seconded by Councilman Faltery Jolivette to authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for five appointments to Ward 3 Consolidated Gravity Drainage District No. 1 for a four-year term. (12-21-2024 - 12-21-2028).

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Alvin Stelly. **ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON**, this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

- 6. Authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for five appointments to St. Landry Parish Economic Development (SLED) for a three- year term. (01-01-2025 – 01-01-2028).**

A motion was made by Councilman Ernest Blanchard, seconded by Councilman Dexter Brown to authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for five appointments to St. Landry Parish Economic Development (SLED) for a three- year term. (01-01-2025 – 01-01-2028).

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Alvin Stelly. **ABSTAINED:** None.
WHEREUPON, this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

- 7. Authorize the Council Clerk to send a certified letter to CBD LEASING INC. advising to come and address the council regarding the clean-up/demolition of their property located at 1485 HWY 10 WASHINGTON, LA. 70589 Parcel #0500328001.**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, seconded by Councilman Ken Marks to authorize the Council Clerk to send a certified letter to CBD LEASING INC. advising to come and address the council regarding the clean-up/demolition of their property located at 1485 HWY 10 WASHINGTON, LA. 70589 Parcel #0500328001.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Alvin Stelly. **ABSTAINED:** None.
WHEREUPON, this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

- 8. Authorize the Council Clerk to send a certified letter to CAROLYN ROSE DARBONNE advising to come and address the council regarding the condemnation/demolition of her property located at 116 KENNERSON ROAD, OPELOUSAS, LA. 70570. Parcel #0500929100.**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, seconded by Councilman Jimmie Edwards to authorize the Council Clerk to send a certified letter to CAROLYN ROSE DARBONNE advising to come and address the council regarding the condemnation/demolition of her property located at 116 KENNERSON ROAD, OPELOUSAS, LA. 70570 Parcel #0500929100

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Alvin Stelly. **ABSTAINED:** None.
WHEREUPON, this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

- 9. Authorize the Council Clerk to send a certified letter to VISION ACQUISITION LLC advising to come and address the council regarding the condemnation/demolition of their property located at 111 SHERRY STREET, OPELOUSAS, LA. 70570. Parcel #0103774710.**

A motion was made by Councilman Ernest Blanchard, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to authorize the Council Clerk to send a certified letter to VISION ACQUISITION LLC advising to come and address the council regarding the condemnation/demolition of their property located at 111 SHERRY STREET, OPELOUSAS, LA. 70570. Parcel #0103774710.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Alvin Stelly. **ABSTAINED:** None.
WHEREUPON, this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

- 10. Authorize the Council Clerk to send a certified letter to LINDA GAIL NAQUIN CASTILLE advising to come and address the council regarding demolition and debris removal of her property located at 151 RICHARD KOLDER LANE, OPELOUSAS, LA. 70570 Parcel #0104119800.**

A motion was made by Councilman Dexter Brown, seconded by Councilman Jimmie Edwards to authorize the Council Clerk to send a certified letter to LINDA GAIL NAQUIN CASTILLE advising to come and address the council regarding demolition and debris removal of her property located at 151 RICHARD KOLDER LANE, OPELOUSAS, LA. 70570 Parcel #0104119800.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Alvin Stelly. **ABSTAINED:** None.
WHEREUPON, this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

11. Authorize the Council Clerk to send a certified letter to JAMES WAYNE GUILLORY ETALS advising to come and address the council regarding the demolition and debris removal of his property located at ACADIANA ROAD, OPELOUSAS, LA. 70570 Parcel #0603153000.

A motion was made by Councilman Jody White, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to authorize the Council Clerk to send a certified letter to JAMES WAYNE GUILLORY ETALS advising to come and address the council regarding the demolition and debris removal of his property located at ACADIANA ROAD, OPELOUSAS, LA. 70570. Parcel #0603153000.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Alvin Stelly. **ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

12. Authorize the Council Clerk to send a certified letter to LUCIUS JONES JR advising to come and address the council regarding the demolition and debris removal of his property located at 214 GORDON, OPELOUSAS, LA. 70570 Parcel # 0603301000

A motion was made by Councilman Ken Marks, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to authorize the Council Clerk to send a certified letter to LUCIUS JONES JR advising to come and address the council regarding the demolition and debris removal of his property located at 214 GORDON, OPELOUSAS, LA. 70570. Parcel # 0603301000.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Alvin Stelly. **ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

13. Authorize the Council Clerk to send a certified letter to ALMA DAVENPORT advising to come and address the council regarding the demolition and debris removal of her property located at HWY 10 MELVILLE LA 71353 Parcel # 0401499500.

A motion was made by Councilman Ernest Blanchard, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to Authorize the Council Clerk to send a certified letter to ALMA DAVENPORT advising to come and address the council regarding the demolition and debris removal of her property located at HWY 10 MELVILLE LA 71353 Parcel # 0401499500.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Alvin Stelly. **ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

14. Further, discuss donating Adjudicated Property to a Nonprofit Committee Garden.

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “Yes, I was just asking the council if they would consider or maybe letting a doctor that is locally residing in Opelousas and he was interested in doing a Community Garden. That is basically it. It would be Non-Profit and it would be maintained.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “Mr. Chairman would it be best if we did a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement allowing him to use it for Community Gardens rather than giving it to him and having to take it back. It would make more sense to do it that way. If we are in order I could certainly support that.”

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, “Mr. Chairman, the item on the agenda says donate adjudicated property. As long as it is adjudicated property the property itself can be sold to an adjoining land owner if they kept up the property for over a year or somebody can purchase it by bidding on it. As long as St. Landry Parish Government retains the Adjudicate Property for itself, after the Redemption Period 3 years have come and gone St. Landry Parish Government can put construction on the property and do different things for the property. So that is what we can and cannot do with it.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard questioned, “So we can do some type of Endeavor with a Non-Profit as a Mutual Agreement?”

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, “As long as we hold on to it for ourselves we can do something with it as far as construction, right-of-ways, constructing things and doing things as long as

we hold on to it. After the three year Redemptive Period is when we can make changes to it with a Non-Profit.”

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, Mr. Bellard will you try to locate a piece of proper?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “If she has something in here District she can let us know and we will take care of it. We can work it out between Garrett and whatever attorney they have and bring it back to the council. I think we need to find the piece of property and get the CEA drawn up and bring it back to the council”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “That will be fine”

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “No other action is needed in this? Now on Items No. 15, 16, and 17, we will go into Executive Session and I will ask that we go ahead with our Agenda and we will continue with these three items after when have finished with the rest of the agenda.”

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, “As the law mandates we will state on the record that No, 15 on the agenda is a lawsuit, Item No. 16 on the agenda is a lawsuit and Item No. 17 is a possible litigation. An example of which we have a letter here concerning the Parish Jail. So those are the reasons why the council can go into Executive Session if it chooses to do so by vote.”

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “Correct, but we are going to go ahead and handle the rest of the agenda and come back to these items. We don’t need a vote on this, we are just going to go ahead with our Regular Agenda.”

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, “Correct.”

15. Discuss Lawsuit filed by Chem Spray Inc., against St. Landry Parish Government in Executive Session.

Discussed in Executive Session.

16. Discuss Lawsuit filed by Hidden Hills Inc. against St. Landry Parish Government in Executive Session.

Discussed in Executive Session.

17. Discuss possible Litigation related to Jail Expenses in Executive Session.

Discussed in open meeting.

IX. ORDINANCES TO BE INTRODUCED:

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-040
(Sponsored By: Councilman Ernest Blanchard)

AN ORDINANCE TO ABOLISH HOSPITAL SERVICE DISTRICT NO. 1 IN ST. LANDRY PARISH AND TO REPEAL SECTION 20-27, SECTION 20-28, AND SECTION 20-29 IN CHAPTER 20 OF THE ST. LANDRY PARISH CODE OF ORDINANCES IN ORDER TO ABOLISH HOSPITAL SERVICE DISTRICT NO. 1

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-041
(Sponsored By: Councilman Alvin Stelly)

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “Mr. Alvin Stelly ask that this be put on the agenda. He is not here tonight, he was just released from the Hospital. I will ask him to go ahead and sponsor this ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE 2024-024 WHICH WAS ENACTED BY THE ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL ON JULY 17, 2024, AND WHICH IS AN ORDINANCE THAT REQUIRES ALL APPLICANTS WHO ARE APPLYING TO BE APPOINTED TO A BOARD OR COMMISSION TO BE INTERVIEWED BY THE ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL AT A ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING PRIOR TO THE PARISH COUNCIL MAKING THE APPOINTMENT TO THE BOARD OR COMMISSION

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-042
(Sponsored By: Councilwoman Nancy Carriere)

AN ORDINANCE TO SELL PROPERTIES THAT HAVE BEEN ADJUDICATED TO ST. LANDRY PARISH GOVERNMENT.

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-043
(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)

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-044
(Sponsored By: Councilman Jimmie Edwards)

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

X. ORDINANCES TO BE ADOPTED:

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to Adopt Ordinance 2024-038.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Alvin Stelly. **ABSTAINED:** None.
WHEREUPON, this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-038
(Sponsored By: Chairman Wayne Ardoin)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 2014-004, WHICH IS IN ARTICLE IV, DRAINAGE DISTRICTS, IN CHAPTER 36, IN THE ST. LANDRY PARISH CODE OF

ORDINANCES, IN ORDER TO ADOPT A REVISED OFFICIAL DRAINAGE MAP OF THE WARD ONE SOUTH GRAVITY DRAINAGE DISTRICT NO. 1 ST. LANDRY PARISH, LOUISIANA, AND DECLARING WARD ONE SOUTH GRAVITY DRAINAGE DISTRICT NO. 1 DRAINAGE PROJECT A PUBLIC NECESSITY THEREBY AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF ANY AND ALL NECESSARY IMMOVABLE PROPERTY RIGHTS, INCLUDING SERVITUDES, EASEMENTS, RIGHTS-OF-WAY, AND ANY AND ALL OTHER PROPERTY RIGHTS REQUISITE TO THE CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE SAID DRAINAGE PROJECT EITHER ON AN AMICABLE BASIS OR THROUGH THE USE OF THE EXPROPRIATION PROCESS, IF NECESSARY

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL FOR ST. LANDRY PARISH GOVERNMENT THAT Ordinance No. 2014-004, in Article IV, Drainage Districts, in Chapter 36, in the St. Landry Parish Code of Ordinances is hereby amended and shall now read as follows:

SECTION 1: The St. Landry Parish Council wishes to avail itself of the provisions of LSA-R.S. 38: 113 with regards to the establishment of drainage servitudes within the Ward One South Gravity Drainage District No.1.

SECTION 2: The St. Landry Parish Council does hereby declare the Ward One South Gravity Drainage District No.1, St. Landry Parish, Louisiana Project to be a public necessity.

SECTION 3: The public purpose to be served by this project is for the adoption, maintenance, enhancement, and improvement of the existing drainage system within Ward One South Gravity Drainage District No.1.

SECTION 4: The project limits are defined and located within the identified area of the official drainage map adopted by the Ward One Gravity Drainage District No. 1, St. Landry Parish, Louisiana, a copy of which is attached and incorporated by reference thereto.

SECTION 5: The Chairman of Ward One South Gravity Drainage District No.1 is hereby authorized to acquire such land, servitudes, easements, rights-of-way, or other property rights as are found to be necessary under engineering standards to provide for the construction, enhancement, and maintenance of said project; he is authorized to do so on an amicable basis or by the proper use of the power of expropriation granted under applicable state law. In pursuing such acquisitions, he is authorized to acquire conventionally or otherwise, said land, servitudes, easements, rights-of-way, or other property rights and to settle the matters thus presented, on such terms and conditions as he shall deem proper and in the best interest of the St. Landry Parish Council.

SECTION 6: All ordinances or resolutions, or parts thereof, in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

A motion was made by Councilman Ernest Blanchard, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to Adopt Ordinance 2024-039.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Alvin Stelly. ABSTAINED: None.

WHEREUPON, this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2024-039
(Sponsored By: Councilman Harold Taylor)**

AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH REQUIREMENTS FOR ACCESSORY STRUCTURE FOR FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION

WHEREAS, Article I, Section 1-06 of the St. Landry Parish Home Rule Charter states that the parish government shall have the power to pass all ordinances necessary to promote, protect, and preserve the general welfare, safety, health, peace, and orderly conduct of the parish, and this

includes the power to pass ordinances on all subject matters not inconsistent with the constitution or denied by state law;

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL FOR ST. LANDRY PARISH GOVERNMENT THAT THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH REQUIREMENTS FOR ACCESSORY STRUCTURES FOR FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION SHALL BE ENACTED INTO CHAPTER 18, FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION, OF THE ST. LANDRY PARISH CODE OF ORDINANCES, AND IS HEREBY ENACTED:

ACCESSORY STRUCTURES

Accessory structures to be placed on sites within Zones A1-30, AH, AO and AE on the St. Landry Parish FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP (FIRM) shall comply with the following:

- (a) The structure shall be used only for parking and limited storage.
- (b) The structure shall not be used for human habitation. Prohibited activities or uses include but are not limited to working, sleeping, living, entertainment, cooking, or restroom use.
- (c) The structure shall be unfinished on the interior.
- (d) Structures shall be small in size, and not exceed the size of a single story two car garage.
- (e) Structures exceeding the size of a single story two car garage will be required to meet all applicable standards of St. Landry Parish ordinances Section 18-5, Section 18-84 (2) and (3), Section 18-86 (2), Section 40-351, and Section 40-426 (d)(3), including relevant subsections.
- (f) Service facilities such as electrical and heating equipment must be elevated to or above the BASE FLOOD ELEVATION (BFE), plus 1 foot.
- (g) The structure shall be constructed and placed on the building site so as to offer the minimum resistance to the flow of floodwaters.
- (h) The structure shall be considered low in value, designed to have low flood damage potential, and constructed with flood resistance materials.
- (i) The structure shall be firmly anchored to prevent flotation, collapse, and lateral movement.
- (j) Floodway requirements must be met in the construction of the structure.
- (k) Openings to relieve hydrostatic pressure during a flood shall be provided below the BASE FLOOD ELEVATION (BFE), and be placed on a minimum of two (opposing) walls with the net area of not less than 1 square inch for every square foot of the size of the footprint of the structure (Flood Vents);
- (l) The openings (flood vents) shall be located no higher than 1 foot above grade.
- (m) The openings may be equipped with screens, louvers, valves, or other coverings or devices provided that they permit the automatic entry and exit of floodwaters.

XI. RESOLUTIONS TO BE ADOPTED:

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Jimmie Edwards to adopt **Resolution 016-2024**.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard.

NAYS: None. **ABSENT:** Jody White, Alvin Stelly. **ABSTAINED:** None.

WHEREUPON, this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

RESOLUTION NO. 016-2024

Resolution authorizing the filing of an application with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development for a grant under any of the following FTA programs managed through Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development.

- 49 CFR 5311, Formula Grant for Rural Areas

WHEREAS, the Secretary of Transportation and Development is authorized to make grants for mass transportation projects;

WHEREAS, the contract for financial assistance will impose certain obligations upon the applicant, including the provisions by it of the local share of project costs;

WHEREAS, it is required by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development in accord with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, that in connection with the filing of an application for assistance that it will comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the U.S. Department of Transportation requirements thereunder; and

WHEREAS, it is the goal of the Applicant that minority business enterprise be utilized to the fullest extent possible in connection with this project, and that definitive procedures shall be established and administered to ensure that minority businesses shall have the maximum feasible opportunity to compete for contracts when procuring construction contracts, supplies, equipment, or consultant and other services:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by St. Landry Parish Government. :

1. That the Parish President is authorized to execute and file an application on behalf of St. Landry Parish Government Community Action Agency with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, to aid in the financing of operating and/or capital assistance projects pursuant to FTA transit programs.
2. That the Parish President is authorized to execute and file with such applications an assurance or any other document required by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development effectuating the purposes of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended.
3. That the Parish President is authorized to furnish such additional information as the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development may require in connection with the application or financial reimbursement of the project.
4. That the Parish President is authorized to set and execute affirmative minority business policies in connection with the project's procurement needs.
5. That the Parish President is authorized to execute grant contract agreements on behalf of St. Landry Parish Government Community Action Agency with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development for aid in the financing of the operating or capital assistance projects.
6. This resolution is applicable for a period of one year unless revoked by the governing body and copy of such revocation shall be furnished to the DOTD.

A motion was made by Councilman Jimmie Edwards, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to adopt **Resolution 020-2024**.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Alvin Stelly. **ABSTAINED:** None.

WHEREUPON, this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

RESOLUTION NO. 020-2024

WHEREAS, Title 2 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950 provides that cities, towns, parishes, and other political subdivisions of this State may separately or jointly acquire, establish, construct, expand, own, lease, control, equip, improve, maintain, operate, regulate, and police airports and landing fields for the use of aircraft; and,

WHEREAS, the State of Louisiana, Department of Transportation and Development, Division of Aviation (formerly the LA DOTD-OAPT) is charged by Title 2 with the responsibility for the development of aviation facilities within the State to foster air commerce and to safeguard the interests of those engaged in all phases of the aviation industry and of the general public; and, WHEREAS, the St. Landry Parish Government hereinafter referred to as "Sponsor", has completed an FAA and DOTD approved Master Plan, Action Plan, and/or Airport Layout Plan which outlines the specific future development of the St. Landry Parish Airport; and, the sponsor is desirous of implementing a portion of the approved Plan recommendations which provide for the critically needed improvements as stated below to substantially improve the safety and usability of

the Airport, but does not have sufficient funds of its own required for completing the needed improvements; and,

WHEREAS, the LA DOTD, Division of Aviation, is authorized by Title 2 to expend funds for the construction or enlargement of airports for the safety and advancement of aeronautics;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

SECTION I

That the St. Landry Parish Government, hereinafter referred to as "Sponsor" does hereby formally request that the LA DOTD, Division of Aviation provide funds required to complete the airport improvements at the St. Landry Parish Airport specifically as described in the Six (6) year Capital Improvement Program Application for State Financial Assistance which is dated August 1, 2024 and which commences in the year 2025.

SECTION II

That the said LA DOTD, Division of Aviation be and is hereby assured that all necessary servitudes, rights-of-way, rights of ingress and egress and means thereof will be furnished by the Sponsor and the titles thereto will be valid and indefeasible, and that the Sponsor will assume ownership, financial reporting, and complete responsibility for the maintenance and upkeep of the airport after completion of said improvement.

SECTION III

That the Sponsor will save and hold the said LA DOTD, Division of Aviation, its officers, agents, and employees harmless from any liability or claim for damages arising out of the project, including death or injuries to third parties including, but not limited to, liability or claim for damages out of the negligence of said LA DOTD, Division of Aviation, its officers, agents, or employees, and expressly agrees to defend any suit of any nature brought against the DOTD Division of Aviation as a result of this project.

SECTION IV

That the President of the Sponsor be and is hereby authorized and directed to evidence this agreement by affixing his signature at the place provided therefore on this resolution and on subsequent related documents/agreements as required by the rules and regulations of the Federal Aviation Administration and the State of Louisiana and the Clerk is hereby authorized to attest said execution.

SECTION V

That this resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its adoption.

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Jimmie Edwards to adopt **Resolution 021-2024**.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Alvin Stelly. **ABSTAINED:** None.

WHEREUPON, this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

RESOLUTION NO. 021-2024

WHEREAS, the St. Landry Government, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and Louisiana Department of Transportation & Development (LA-DOTD) have determined it to be in their mutual interest to facilitate the development of the herein described project at the St. Landry Parish Airport, to wit:

PARKING APRON – NORTH HALF – DESIGN - NPE

WHEREAS, the estimated total cost of the Project is \$25,100 and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) agrees to participate in the project cost up to the maximum amount of ninety percent (90%) or \$22,590 and the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LA-DOTD) agrees to participate in the Project cost up to the maximum amount of ten percent (10%) or \$2,510 of the estimated total cost of the project; and

WHEREAS, both parties now wish to formalize the arrangement on the Louisiana Airport Construction and Development Priority Program Airport Grant Application Form for Funding Year 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. St. Landry Parish Government confirms its desire to enter into an agreement with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LA-DOTD); and
2. Project amounts will be as follows:
 - a. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA): 90% or \$22,590
 - b. Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LA-DOTD): 10% or \$2,510
3. Jessie Bellard, Parish President, is herein specifically authorized to enter into and sign such documents as may be necessary, including future modifications, time extensions, and project scope changes with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development.

A motion was made by Councilman Ken Marks, seconded by Councilman Faltery Jolivette to adopt **Resolution 022-2024**.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Harold Taylor, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Mildred Thierry, Alvin Stelly. **ABSTAINED:** None.

WHEREUPON, this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

RESOLUTION NO. 022-2024

WHEREAS, the St. Landry Government, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and Louisiana Department of Transportation & Development (LA-DOTD) have determined it to be in their mutual interest to facilitate the development of the herein described project at the St. Landry Parish Airport, to wit:

NEW HANGAR - DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION - 2025 BIL

WHEREAS, the estimated total cost of the Project is \$298,885 and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) agrees to participate in the project cost up to the maximum amount of ninety percent (90%) or \$268,997 and the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LA-DOTD) agrees to participate in the Project cost up to the maximum amount of ten percent (10%) or \$29,888 of the estimated total cost of the project; and

WHEREAS, both parties now wish to formalize the arrangement on the Louisiana Airport Construction and Development Priority Program Airport Grant Application Form for Funding Year 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. St. Landry Parish Government confirms its desire to enter into an agreement with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LA-DOTD); and
2. Project amounts will be as follows:
 - a. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA): 90% or \$268,997
 - b. Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LA-DOTD): 10% or \$29,888
3. Jessie Bellard, Parish President, is herein specifically authorized to enter into and sign such documents as may be necessary, including future modifications, time extensions, and project scope changes with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development.

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Jimmie Edwards to adopt **Resolution 023-2024**.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Alvin Stelly. **ABSTAINED:** None.

WHEREUPON, this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

RESOLUTION NO. 023-2024

WHEREAS, the St. Landry Government, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and Louisiana Department of Transportation & Development (LA-DOTD) have determined it to be in their mutual interest to facilitate the development of the herein described project at the St. Landry Parish Airport, to wit:

PARKING APRON – NORTH HALF – CONSTRUCTION - NPE

WHEREAS, the estimated total cost of the Project is \$285,988 and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) agrees to participate in the project cost up to the maximum amount of ninety percent (90%) or \$257,389 and the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LA-DOTD) agrees to participate in the Project cost up to the maximum amount of ten percent (10%) or \$28,599 of the estimated total cost of the project; and

WHEREAS, both parties now wish to formalize the arrangement on the Louisiana Airport Construction and Development Priority Program Airport Grant Application Form for Funding Year 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. St. Landry Parish Government confirms its desire to enter into an agreement with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LA-DOTD); and
2. Project amounts will be as follows:
 - a. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA): 90% or \$257,389
 - b. Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LA-DOTD): 10% or \$28,599
3. Jessie Bellard, Parish President, is herein specifically authorized to enter into and sign such documents as may be necessary, including future modifications, time extensions, and project scope changes with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development.

A motion was made by Councilman Jimmie Edwards, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to adopt **Resolution 024-2024**.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Alvin Stelly. **ABSTAINED:** None.

WHEREUPON, this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

RESOLUTION NO. 024-2024

WHEREAS, the St. Landry Government, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and Louisiana Department of Transportation & Development (LA-DOTD) have determined it to be in their mutual interest to facilitate the development of the herein described project at the St. Landry Parish Airport, to wit:

NEW HANGAR - DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION -2026 BIL

WHEREAS, the estimated total cost of the Project is \$280,685 and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) agrees to participate in the project cost up to the maximum amount of ninety percent (90%) or \$252,617 and the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LA-DOTD) agrees to participate in the Project cost up to the maximum amount of ten percent (10%) or \$28,068 of the estimated total cost of the project; and

WHEREAS, both parties now wish to formalize the arrangement on the Louisiana Airport Construction and Development Priority Program Airport Grant Application Form for Funding Year 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. St. Landry Parish Government confirms its desire to enter into an agreement with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LA-DOTD); and
2. Project amounts will be as follows:
 - a. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA): 90% or \$252,617
 - b. Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LA-DOTD): 10% or \$28,068
3. Jessie Bellard, Parish President, is herein specifically authorized to enter into and sign such documents as may be necessary, including future modifications, time extensions, and project scope changes with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development.

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Jimmie Edwards to adopt **Resolution 025-2024**.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Alvin Stelly. **ABSTAINED:** None.

WHEREUPON, this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

RESOLUTION NO. 025-2024

WHEREAS, the St. Landry Government, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and Louisiana Department of Transportation & Development (LA-DOTD) have determined it to be in their mutual interest to facilitate the development of the herein described project at the St. Landry Parish Airport, to wit:

OBSTRUCTION REMOVAL – RUNWAY 18-36 – PHASE 2 - CONSTRUCTION

WHEREAS, the estimated total cost of the Project is \$1,202,450 and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) agrees to participate in the project cost up to the maximum amount of ninety percent (90%) or \$1,082,205 and the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LA-DOTD) agrees to participate in the Project cost up to the maximum amount of ten percent (10%) or \$120,245 of the estimated total cost of the project; and

WHEREAS, both parties now wish to formalize the arrangement on the Louisiana Airport Construction and Development Priority Program Airport Grant Application Form for Funding Year 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. St. Landry Parish Government confirms its desire to enter into an agreement with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LA-DOTD); and
2. Project amounts will be as follows:
 - a. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA): 90% or \$1,082,205
 - b. Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LA-DOTD): 10% or \$120,245
3. Jessie Bellard, Parish President, is herein specifically authorized to enter into and sign such documents as may be necessary, including future modifications, time extensions, and project scope changes with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development.

RESOLUTION NO. 026 -2024

A RESOLUTION GIVING PRELIMINARY APPROVAL TO THE ISSUANCE OF NOT EXCEEDING THREE MILLION DOLLARS (\$3,000,000) OF REVENUE BONDS (THE “BONDS”), OF THE PARISH OF ST. LANDRY, STATE OF LOUISIANA; PROVIDING CERTAIN TERMS OF SAID) BONDS; MAKING APPLICATION TO THE STATE BOND COMMISSION FOR APPROVAL; AND PROVIDING FOR MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

BE IT RESOLVED by the St. Landry Parish Council, State of Louisiana, acting as the governing authority (the "Governing Authority"), of the Parish of St. Landry (the "Parish"), State of Louisiana, that:

WHEREAS, the Governing Authority desires to provide funding of not exceeding Three Million and 00/100 Dollars (\$3,000,000) of Revenue Bonds (taxable and/or tax-exempt), in one or more series (the "Bonds") for a term not to exceed eight (8) years from the date of issuance, and to bear interest at a rate or rates not to exceed six per centum (6%) per annum, for the purpose of funding operations and expenses, including capital projects and improvements (the "Authorized Purposes"), and paying the costs of issuance of the Bonds; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Consolidated Local Government Indebtedness Act, Title 39, Subtitle II, Chapter 4, and particularly 39:1430 (Revenue Bond) of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended (the "Act"), and other applicable constitutional and statutory authority, it is now the desire of the Parish to adopt this Resolution to provide for the issuance of the Bonds, which will be secured by and payable from a pledge and dedication of the revenues, and receipts of the St. Landry Parish General Fund, including available tax revenues; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Authority desires to grant preliminary approval for the issuance of the Bonds and to make a formal application to the Louisiana State Bond Commission for approval to issue the Bonds.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Authority as follows:

SECTION 1. Preliminary Approval of the Bonds. Preliminary approval is given to the issuance of not exceeding \$3,000,000 aggregate principal amount of the Parish of St. Landry State of Louisiana, Revenue Bonds, taxable and/or tax-exempt in one or more series, for the purposes of providing funding for the Authorized Purposes and paying the costs of issuance of the Bonds. The Bonds will be payable from and secured by an irrevocable pledge and dedication of the revenues and receipts of the St. Landry Parish General Fund. The Bonds shall bear interest at a rate or rates not to exceed six percent (6%) per annum, to be sold at the prices and in the manner to be determined by subsequent proceedings of this Governing Authority, and will mature over a period not exceeding eight (8) years from the date issuance, all in the manner provided by the Act.

SECTION 2. State Bond Commission Approval/Swan Approval. Application is hereby formally made to the State Bond Commission, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, for its consent and authority to issue and sell the aforesaid Bonds, and a certified copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the State Bond Commission on behalf of the Governing Authority, together with a letter requesting the prompt consideration and approval of this application. By virtue of the Parish's application for, acceptance and utilization of the benefits of the Louisiana State Bond Commission's approval(s) resolved and set forth herein, it resolves that it understands and agrees that such approval(s) are expressly conditioned upon, and it understands, agrees and binds itself, its successors and assigns to, full and continuing compliance with the "State Bond Commission Policy on Approval of Proposed Use of Swaps, or other forms of Derivative Products Hedges, Etc.", adopted by the Commission on July 20, 2006, as to the borrowing(s) and other matter(s) subject to the approval(s), including subsequent application and approval under said Policy of the implementation or use of any swap(s) or other product(s) or enhancement(s) covered thereby. For purposes of meeting the requirements of the May 11, 2009, memorandum of the Director of the State Bond Commission to all bond counsel, any proceedings of the Parish relating to the Bonds that refers to a principal amount or interest rate of the Bond shall be deemed to include the words "not to exceed" or "not exceeding" whether so stated or not, and any reference to a final maturity date or term contained herein shall be deemed to include the words "to mature on or before" whether so stated or not.

SECTION 3. Bond Counsel. This Governing Authority finds and determines that areal necessity exists for the employment of special bond counsel in connection with the issuance of the Bonds, and accordingly, LaFleur & Laborde is hereby employed as Bond Counsel to do and perform comprehensive legal and coordinate professional work with respect to the issuance and sale of the Bonds ("Bond Counsel"). Bond Counsel shall prepare and submit to this Governing Authority for adoption all of the proceedings incidental to the authorization, issuance, sale, and delivery of the Bonds, shall counsel and advise this Governing Authority as to the issuance and sale of the Bond, and shall furnish its opinion covering the legality of the issuance of the Bonds. The fee of Bond

Counsel shall be fixed at a sum not exceeding the maximum fee allowed by the Attorney General's fee schedule for comprehensive, legal, and coordinated professional work in the issuance of revenue bonds and based on the amount of bonds issued, sold, delivered and paid for, plus "out-of-pocket" expenses, said fees to be contingent upon the issuance, sale and delivery of said Bonds. A certified copy of this resolution shall be submitted to the Attorney General of the State of Louisiana for his written approval of the employment and of the fees described herein, and the Clerk is hereby empowered and directed to issue payment or to authorize payment Bond Counsel upon completion of the work and under the conditions specified herein.

SECTION 4. Municipal Advisor. Sisung Securities Corporation, New Orleans, Louisiana, is hereby appointed and employed as a municipal advisor (the "Municipal Advisor") to the Parish pursuant to a Municipal Advisor Engagement Letter in substantially the form submitted to the Parish concurrently herewith, with such changes as may be approved by the Executive Officers.

SECTION 5. Declaration of Official Intent. Before the delivery of the Bonds, the Parish anticipates that it or the District may pay a portion of the costs of the Authorized Purposes from their General Fund and other available funds. Upon the issuance of the Bonds, the Parish reasonably expects to reimburse any such expenditures of other available funds from a portion of the proceeds of the Bonds. Any such allocation of proceeds of the Bonds for reimbursement will be with respect to capital expenditures (as defined in Reg. 1. 150- I (b)) and will be made upon the delivery of the Bonds and not later than one year after the later of (i) the date such expenditure was paid or (ii) the date on which the project was placed in service. This Section is intended to be a declaration of official intent within the meaning of Reg. 1.150-2.

SECTION 6. Executive Officers. The Chairman, the Parish President, and the Clerk of the Governing Authority are hereby authorized to do all things necessary on the advice of Bond Counsel and Municipal Advisor, to effectuate and implement this Resolution, including the publication and recordation hereof as may be required by the Act.

SECTION 7. Electronic Signatures. The Governing Authority consents and agrees to the execution of documents by electronic signature in accordance with the Louisiana Uniform Electronic Transactions Act (La. R.S. 9:2601, et. seq.), and electronically executed documents are deemed binding and legal on all parties to the extent allowed by the provisions of that act.

SECTION 8. Effective Date. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption or at the earliest date allowed by law.

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Mr. Chairman, in reference to this Resolution it was suppose to be \$3,000,000.00 in eight years."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "Can you say that again please."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "Three Million for a line of credit for eight years and not ten years."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "We make that correction."

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "I would request that we make that correction so it is not five it is three million and it is for eight years and not ten years."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "We got a budget two weeks ago. We were ready to present it and one week later we get the message that you needed another \$3,000,000.00, what happen between the week before and that week, what happened?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, "The budget that was put in place, I am not going to even introduce that budget."

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, "Is it not in order? What is the deal? Are we short \$3,000,000.00 for this year?"

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “That is the budget that is not the Amended Budget. That is the budget for 2025.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “Okay, I understand but how much money do you need for 2024?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “We will need about \$1,500,000.00.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “So we overspent the budget by \$1,500,000.00.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Right.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “What did we spend that on?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Across the street at the Jail and the Natural Disasters.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “That was for the COVID Money.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “The Jail.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “The \$1,200,000.00.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “That is built. It is ready to go.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “Okay so where did we spend that money? On the Jail here?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Our Jail that is here. It is not so much the jail as it is the inmates right now and that is one of the talking points in the Executive Session, the problem is the inmates. We are having to pay out of Parish Inmates and it is not going down it is just increasing. The Trustee Dorm is not even open.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “It probably won’t get open I was told.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Well.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “So if we borrowed \$3,000,000.00 this year and we pay let’s say roughly \$600,000.00 a year to pay that loan back how do we cover it next year?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “That is the budget that we are going to be proposing with the cuts that are coming into place to pay that Bond Issuance.”

Councilman Ken Marks questioned? “It haven’t been applied yet?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “That is why I introduced it.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “We set up a line of credit for \$5,000,000.00 and unbeknownst to us you exercised an option on it and took \$1,300,000.00 to buy what?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “That is not correct.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “Okay.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “So we exercised that option with the council’s knowledge of that happening. A choice was given to the council either we would buy it with that money the equipment or we would use the ARA Money. That is why we used that option.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “So we are paying back about \$200,000.00 a year on that bond.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I am not exactly sure what the amount is, something like that.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “Yes, roughly. So if we are out of whack of \$2,000,000.00 on the budget where are we going to get or how are we going to generate more revenue to cover that?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “That is the talking points that we are going to have in Executive Session.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “I can’t image applying to do this without having all of the numbers Jessie. For God sake in a weeks’ time we went from a budget that we wanted to present to a \$3,000,000.00 dollar deficit. I have to have more information.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “It is not a \$3,000,000.00 deficit.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “This money is for 2024?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “This money is for 24. \$1,500,000.00.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “Okay with \$1,500,000.00 where are we going to get it? Do we have another \$1,500,000.00 coming in next year to cover this?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “We have money coming back from the State on the Natural Disaster that we had.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “That is a onetime promise.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “That is the payback on some of this money.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “We have to pay this over eight years.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “No, No. Whenever we get the money from the State then that is when we are going to pay it back into the bond. We are not going to borrow the money unless we absolutely have to borrow the money.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “I need more information before I can affirm it.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Which is why I asked anybody who had any questions they could have contacted me and we could have sat down and I could have shown them.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “Well you know I am not on your preferred list. I don’t get your text messages okay. You give it to everybody else but Mr. Ardoin and I don’t get those messages. I am so sorry that you feel that way, I think that it is childish but that is just me. Thank you.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Yes, that is good.”

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “Now, are there any other questions in reference to this Resolution? Are there any other questions? Do I have a motion? It has been changed to \$3,000,000.00. From \$5,000,000.00 to \$3,000,000.00 in an 8 year pay-out time. Do I have a motion? Do I have a motion on Resolution 026-2024?”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “I am going to Abstain but I want say this. I spoke to Mr. Moosa and I was confident as though a lot of you. I did receive the text disappointingly. I am going to vote, I said Abstain but I am going to vote “**No**” for those reasons because of Mr. Moosa. So it is a “No.”

Councilman Faltery Jolivette stated, “Mr. Chairman, I would request that I get a little more information and understanding. Pardon my ignorance and my ability to not be caught up in the matter but I would not want to say No and I don’t have and I don’t quite understand why. I understand it was a cost factor but I think this council should investigate and listen to Mr. Bellard’s cost factors so we can make a better decision and that is where I am at. So I really don’t know if I should abstain or say no or say yes. I really would like more explanations from Mr. Bellard.”

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “So you would pass right now is what you are saying?”

Councilman Faltery Jolivette stated, “If I can is what I am saying.”

A motion was made by Councilman Dexter Brown, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to **Adopt Resolution 026-2024**. Change the amount borrowed from \$5,000,000.00 to \$3,000,000.00. **On roll call vote: YEAS:** Jody White, Mildred Thierry, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** Nancy Carriere, Harold Taylor and Ken Marks. **ABSENT:** Alvin Stelly. **ABSTAINED:** Faltery Jolivette. **WHEREUPON**, this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

RESOLUTION 027-2024

A RESOLUTION GIVING PRELIMINARY APPROVAL TO THE ISSUANCE OF FOUR MILLION FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$4,500,000.00) OF REVENUE NOTES, PARISH OF ST. LANDRY, STATE OF LOUISIANA; PROVIDING CERTAIN TERMS OF SAID BONDS; MAKING APPLICATION TO THE STATE BOND COMMISSION FOR APPROVAL; AND PROVIDING FOR MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “I spoke with Mr. Bellard before the meeting started because of this amount because it was for Road District No. 9 in my District and it is Fund 42. It was supposed to be for \$2,500,000.00 and the other \$2,000,000.00 is for the equipment that we have leased at this time for the Graders, correct Mr. Bellard? Is it Graders?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “It is the Graders and the Excavators.”

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “So \$2,000,000.00 would be for the equipment which we have leased and the \$2,500,000.00 would be for Fund 42.”

Councilman Harold Taylor questioned, “Mr. Chairman I have a question. Why are these combined? I want to vote for one but I can’t vote for the other one. Now I am caught in the middle. Can we delay this and get it separated?”

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “We can delay it because it is not a pressing thing unless his equipment is a pressing thing. Mr. Bellard out of all truthfulness in this thing this should have been looked at before it was handed to us this evening. Where did it come from? Your office?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “We got it this afternoon from Eric LeFleur’s Office.”

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “Can we wait on this matter right here?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “That is up to you all. There is no skin off of my back. I can tell you all right now no matter what I present to you all Harold Taylor is going to vote against it.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “I object Mr. Chairman that is not true.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “You can object all you want to.”

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “Let’s be real.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Well it is real. This is separated right here. You can do the separation right here but it is up to you all.”

Councilman Harold Taylor questioned, “How can we do the separation?”

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “Let it be worded correctly Mr. Bellard.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “It says it in here Fund 42. It don’t matter to me. I don’t care.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “Point of Order.”

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “Let it be worded correctly and we will bring it up at the next Council Meeting in the month of November.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Whatever you all want to do. Let me take that back. Whatever Mr. Taylor wants to do because obviously that is what he decided.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “This is childish Jessie.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “I have called for Point of Order three times.”

A motion was made by Councilman Harold Taylor, seconded by Councilman Ernest Blanchard to withdraw **Resolution 027-2024** and separate it into two parts, Lease Equipment and Fund 42 and present the new Resolutions to the council for approval in November.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Alvin Stelly. **ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON**, this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

RESOLUTION NO. 028-2024

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “I think I asked earlier and Mr. Bellard stated that this was not the final list.”

Cynthia Fontenot, Code Enforcement stated, “No, Ma’am. These are the properties that we have accumulated so far. We may add some or replace some incase some fall off. This is the list that we will be submitting with the applications.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere questioned, “I noticed one of my constituents have a property and she has to come before the council. I just want to ask a lot of these properties do they have to come before the council at the next meeting is it possible that they can be put on that list if they would choose to be?”

Cynthia Fontenot, Code Enforcement stated, “Yes Ma’am.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “I think I am going to talk to my constituent. That might be at her best interest because it is going to be free verses the Parish. Can you tell me when all of this will be finalized? I know this is what you are presenting for the Grant and I know that you said it had to be up to \$500,000.00.”

Cynthia Fontenot, Code Enforcement stated, “Up to \$500,000.00 or whatever the state approves as far as we have to show them these in the parish. We have to submit the application by De ember 16th, 2024 and we are aiming to submit our application early and they recommend that we do so we are trying to get everything done so we can submit by December 9th, 2024.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “That is fine. I just wanted to know because I don’t think that we are voting on this. You just presented that list.”

Cynthia Fontenot, Code Enforcement stated, “We have to pass a Resolution and we have to attach this Resolution to the application for the council to approve .”

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “I need a motion.”

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to approve **Resolution 028-2024**

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Alvin Stelly. **ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON**, this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

Resolution 028-2024

Resolution authorizing the filing of an application with the State of Louisiana FY 2025 Community Development Block Grant (LCDBG) Program.

WHEREAS, there are many dilapidated and potentially dangerous buildings and structures in St. Landry Parish.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the St. Landry Parish Council that the St. Landry Parish Government approves the project to demolish all structures listed on the map attached to this resolution.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the St. Landry Parish Council that the St. Landry Parish Government shall be responsible for all legal fees that are incurred during the preparation and/or implementation of this program. The following is a list of the dilapidated and potentially dangerous buildings and structures in St. Landry Parish.

PARCEL NUMBER	PROPERTY OWNER	ADDRESS
0104311600	DARIA DAVE	712 HWY 3043, OPELOUSAS, LA.
0106070000	JOSEPH AUZENNE	625 COUNTRY RIDGE RD, OPELOUSAS, LA
0104015000	DAVID SEBASTIEN	113 LOFTON STREET, OPELOUSA,S LA.
0400353000	MIKEL WAYNE HAYES, ETALS	MELVILLE. LA.
0300536800	AGATHA BOXIE	903 BOXIE RD, ARNAUDVILLE, LA.
0300535000	MARIE EAGLIN TRAVIS	897 BOXIE RD, ARNAUDVILLE, LA.
0401049375	CYNTHIA C WILTZ	LOUISE ST, MELVILLE, LA.
0300536000	EUGENE BOXIE	783 BOXIE RD LOT A, ARNAUDVILLE, LA.
0103501000	PEARL WINFREY	825 HALPHEN ST, OPELOUSAS, LA.
0400374700	IRENE CHAMPAGNE	121 GUM STREET, MELVILLE, LA.
0400180600	ROBERT LAMARK	130 GUM STREET, MELVILLE, LA.
0400107700	VERNON SCOTT	425 WALNUT ST, MELVILLE, LA.
0400027500	LUKE BOUDREAUX	448 WALNUT ST., MELVILLE, LA.
0400079000	JUANITA BROWN	548 GUM ST, MELVILLE, LA.
0400277000	JACOB SOILEAU	218 FONTENOT ST, MELVILLE, LA.
0400057000	CLINTON COLLINS	527 EMMA ZION ST., MELVILLE, LA.
0400344500	IRENE VAUGHNS	727 LANDRUM ST, MELVILLE, LA.
0400122500	BARBARA CASTLE	636 DODGE ST., MELVILLE, LA.
0400367000	RUDOLPH WILLIAMS	1015 2 ND ST., MELVILLE, LA.
0400163500	LEE ANDREW JOHNSON	732 BURTON ST, MELVILLE, LA.
0400187000	CYNTHIA D. SEMIEN	720 BURTON ST, MELVILLE, LA.
0400164000	CLYDE JONES, JR	229 ASH STREET, MELVILLE, LA.
0400018010	DEBBIE CLARK	306 CHURCH ST, MELVILLE, LA.
0400099600	LAURA FONTENOT	26 GUM ST, MELVILLE, LA.
0400085537	GEORGE MORGAN	104 TEXAS ST, MELVILLE, LA.
0400165500	HARVEY/LILLIE JONES	540 LANDRUM ST., MELVILLE, LA.
0400197800	GEORGIA MCINNIS	526 LANDRUM ST, MELVILLE, LA.
0400325500	CARLTON STELLY	335 WALNUT ST., MELVILLE, LA.
0400365150	LEONA LIZZIE WILLIAMS	626 PAYTON ST., MELVILLE, LA.
0400375000	RUBY YOUNG	441 FRONT ST., MELVILLE, LA.
0400197450A	CHARLES TERRELL	827 JACKSON LN, MELVILLE, LA.
0400000700	ERIC J. THIBODEAUX	1010 JACKSON LN, MELVILLE, LA.
0400232260	ANNASTASIA THOMAS	LANDRUM, MELVILLE, LA.
0400033150	PATRICK MCNEIL	426 THIRD ST., MELVILLE, LA.
0400138875	VELMA DURESEAU HENDRIX	1705 BURTON ST., MELVILLE, LA.
0400117000	SHIRLEY GOUDEAU	BURTON ST., MELVILLE, LA.
0400319450	AL JOLSON SMITH	1218 SECOND ST., MELVILLE, LA.
0400017050	DONNIE CHARLES	133 SEOND ST, MELVILLE, LA.
0400055000	MRS. ROGERS CLARK	441 JONES ST., MELVILLE, LA.

0400262005	CLARA PERRY	1226 SECOND ST, MELVILLE, LA.
0400129500	DAVE HARDEN	1242 FIRST ST., MELVILLE, LA.
0400038500	RUFUS BUTLER	1242 FIRST ST., MELVILLE, LA.
0400194000	ODELIA LONZO	1126 1 ST ST., MELVILLE, LA.
0400364500	JOSEPH WILLIAMS	619 PAYTON ST., MELVILLE, LA.
0400118000	VIRGINIA GOUDEAU	999 2 ND ST., MELVILLE, LA.
0400353300	DANA CHANEY	318 HAVARD ST., MELVILLE, LA.
0400356500	GERALD JACKSON	106 HAVARD ST, MELVILLE, LA.
0400107500	LEONARD GANSON	210 WALNUT ST., MELVILLE, LA.
0400138500	ELIJAH HEATH	224 224 WALNUT ST., MELVILLE, LA.
0400084005	JOHNNY LEE DUMES	316 WALNUT ST., MELVILLE, LA.
0400235500	PEARL MOUILE	245 CHURCH ST., MELVILLE, LA.
0400353000	MICKEL HAYNES	286 CHURCH ST., MELVILLE, LA.
0400215900	ALVIN MARTIN	415 CHURCH ST., MELVILLE, LA.
0400099010	KENNETH WASHINGTON	131 TEXAS ST., MELVILLE, LA.
0400232267A	DEAN NAPOLI	201 CHURCH ST., MELVILLE, LA.
	WEBSTER REED	554 REGINA ST., KROTZ SPRINGS, LA.
	WEBSTER REED	544 REGINA ST., KROTZ SPRINGS, LA.
	WEBSTER REED	550 REGINA ST., KROTZ SPRINGS, LA.
	RONALD ARDOIN	208 SECOND ST., KROTZ SPRINGS, LA.
	RONALD ARDOIN	208 SIXTH ST., KROTZ SPRINGS, LA.
	DOTTI NEZAT	229 KROTZ ST., KROTZ SPRINGS, LA.
	DOTTI NEZAT	329 PARK ST., KROTZ SPRINGS, LA.
	SIDNEY DREYFUS	333 PARK ST., KROTZ SPRINGS, LA.
	JOHN TERRELL	415 PARK ST., KROTZ SPRINGS, LA.
	GLENDA KELLY	334 MORAN ST., KROTZ SPRINGS, LA.
	GLENDA KELLY	131 RAILROAD., KROTZ SPRINGS, L.A.
	GLENDA KELLY	111 KROTZ ST., KROTZ SPRINGS, LA.
	LISA MORAN	TRAILER BEHIND 131 RAILROAD (BURNT)
		545 VINE ST, MELVILLE, LA.
		718 HALPHEN ST., OPELOUSAS, LA.
		813 HALPHEN ST., OPELOUSAS, LA.
		815 HALPHEN ST., OPELOUSAS, LA.
		817 HALPHEN ST., OPELOUSAS, LA.
		802 HIRAM ST., OPELOUSAS, LA.
		106 FEDERAL RD., OPELOUSAS, LA.
0400232240	MICHAEL J BROWN	318 GUM ST., MELVILLE, LA.
0100945800	ALBERT THOMPSON JR	2010 EDWARDS ST., OPELOUSAS, LA.
	MICHAEL MORRIS	418 N OAK ST., OPELOUSAS, LA.
		120 HARVARD ST., MELVILLE LA.
		119 3 RD ST., MELVILLE, LA.
		1234 PAR RD 4-227, MELVILLE, LA.
		1123 PAR RD 4-227, MELVILLE, LA.
		VICTOR ST., MELVILLE, LA.
		303 VICTOR ST., MELVILLE, LA.
		515 OLLIE ST., MELVILLE, LA.
		701 OLLIE ST., MELVILLE, LA.
		156 TRESLE ST., MELVILLE, LA.
		200 4 TH ST., MELVILLE, LA.
		242 4 TH ST., MELVILLE, LA.
		118 3 RD ST., MELVILLE, LA.
		3 RD STREET, MELVILLE, LA.
		924 JACKSON LN, MELVILLE, LA.
		1037 PAR RD 4-227, MELVILLE, LA.
		1123 PAR RD 4-227, MELVILLE, LA.
		407 HAGEN ST., MELVILLE, LA.
		405 HAGEN ST., MELVILLE, LA.

		122 3 RD ST., MELVILLE, L.A.
		411 HAGEN ST., MELVILLE, LA.
		609 PAYTON ST., MELVILLE, LA.
		1024 2 ND ST., MELVILLE, LA.
		308 VICTOR ST., MELVILLE, LA.
		1030 FOREST ST., MELVILLE, LA.
		111 MCNEIL ST., MELVILLE, LA.
		718 LA-105, MELVILLE, LA.
		LEE STREET, MELVILLE, LA.
		301 WALNUT ST. MELVILLE, LA.
		607 DODGE ST., MELVILLE, LA.
		111 OAK ST., MELVILLE, LA.
		RAILROAD ST. MELVILLE, LA.
		1273 2 ND ST., MELVILLE, LA.
0603904000	CURTIS ROUGEAU	133 DORA LN, LAWTELL, LA.
0603750350	JAMES FONTENOT	140 DORA LN., LAWTELL LA.
0602381800	KENNETH BELLARD	190 BOLLIICH RD, EUNICE, LA.
0603561000	MICHAEL MARSHALL	111 SPATZ RD, EUNICE, LA.
0601073500	KYRIES D HEBERT SR	200 KYRIES HEBERT ST., EUNICE, LA.
0601195475	GERALD J GUILLORY	311 ST JOSEPH ST N, EUNICE, LA.
0604083000	GAVENS STEVENS	139 NILE LN, EUNICE, LA.
0103234830	ROLTON THOMAS	RAYMOND ST., OPELOUSAS LA.

XII. COMMITTEE MINUTES:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy Carriere, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to accept the **Public Works Committee Meeting Minutes** from Wednesday October 2nd, 2024 as transcribed.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Alvin Stelly. **ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

A motion was made by Councilman Dexter Brown, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to accept the **Administrative Finance Committee Meeting Minutes** from **Wednesday, October 2nd, 2024** as transcribed.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Alvin Stelly. **ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON,** this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

Councilman Dexter Brown stated, “Before we go into Executive Session I would to make an announcement. One of our own Honorable Judge Jimmie Genovese will be inducted as the President of North Western State University on October 25th. I was there just this Saturday. They had an inside view for all of the incoming freshman’s and whoever wanted to go there starting in the spring. I would like to ask the councilmembers or anyone in the public or anyone listing could they go and support the Honorable Judge Genovese who is retired as a President of North Western State University on October 25th, at 10 a.m.”

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “At this time I am going to ask for a motion to go into Executive Session.

Harlan Kirgan, Editor Eunice News stated, “I wish to make an objection particularly to discuss possible litigation related to Jail Expenses in Executive Session. My radar went up here and it does sound like it is budgetary matter and that should be in open session.”

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “Mr. Kirgan, I asked the same question. I was told by our attorney Mr. Garrett Duplechain that it has to deal with this Attorney Letter where we have an inmate that got hurt and that is what it suppose to be about. That is why we are going into Executive Session. I know

what it says on the agenda but I asked if we needed to go into Executive Session with that and he stated that it is to deal with this lawsuit that have been presented to us by this law firm.”

Harlan Kirgan, Editor Eunice News stated, “So the discussion will be limited to that.”

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, “Mr. Chairman. I was only using that as an example.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I don’t have a problem discussing this in open session.”

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “Well if you want to discuss that item Mr. Bellard.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I am good with that because I don’t have nothing to hide on this one.”

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “You want to discuss this item which is item No. 17 in open session before we go into Executive Session.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I am good with that, wise choice.”

17. Discuss Possible Litigation related to Jail Expenses.

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “So this is the problem. Everybody knows that the jail is a monster and it is costing us an arm and a leg to operate it and it is not going down. In July of this year I went and approached the Sheriff and I asked him to pay the \$17.00 per day per State Inmate to the Parish Government because the Sheriff collects \$26.39 per day for every State Inmate that is incarcerated in our jail. At the same time the sheriff has the authorization to ship any Parish Inmate out to another facility and negotiate the price with that sheriff with no talk with us at all and that is what the law states. I am not arguing that point but what I am saying is we are shipping out Parish Inmates, we are holding State Inmates and the Sheriff is getting the money of \$26.39 per day per State Inmate and only paying us \$3.50 a day to feed the inmates. It is costing Parish Government \$17.13 per day per inmate that we house across the street whether it be State or Parish. The Sheriff agreed to do it then he said no I am not doing it and talk to my attorney. So at that point of course I got with Lance who is my Attorney and I wanted to make sure that what we were stating was correct and everything that points to what the parish should be paying. We are paying everything across the street except the deputies. So the option on the table that I want to present is that the Sheriff pays us the \$17.00 a day per State Inmate because that is what it cost the Parish Government as we speak. If not then we go to court. Or he take over the nurses and take over the Kitchen, it is up to him because that cost should be on the Sheriff, the Nurses, the Medical Department and the Kitchen and we pay him three-fifty a day to this this. So what has been done in the past July 1, 2008 we took over the nurses area and the kitchen to help out the Sheriff’s Office at that time and that is fine because it is paid out of a different fund and that is not a big problem and we have the burden of paying for the medical across the street with these inmates so it is better for us to be able to control these inmates whether they go to hospital or not and of course the overall care that we have to pay for. So we did that in 2008. Now with the problems that we are having as far as the inmates all we are asking is that he pay is the \$17.00 a day per State Inmate that is what it cost us and he does not agree to doing that and I am just at a point where that is fine but I am not going to let the Sheriff tell us what he is going to pay and not pay. That is why I want to take him to court and let the Judge decide how much he owe us. I have a meeting next week with DOC because the law says that the Sheriff or the Operator collects that \$26.39. I will meet with DOC and I will find out from DOC what do they define as an operator of the Jail. I am pretty sure they are going to go with us because we pay all of the bills. I am at a point and that is why I don’t care if we do it in an open session and let the Media cover it, I don’t care. I don’t have the money to waste like that across the street. We have problems and it is not getting any better. We built a \$1,200,000.00 Trustee Dorm that he does not staff so it is closed. So what do we do next? We are at the whim of what the Sheriff wants to do or not do but it is costing the tax payers. With this new reform coming up in November if that passes like they say it is going to pass which I don’t think it will I think they are going to have some negotiations with that we will be in more of a shortfall. We have a lot of stuff coming up and this is one of those things where we have to address the immediate need. We have been in conversation with his attorney and it is what it is.”

Chairman Wayne Ardoin questioned, “Who is his attorney on record?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Mike Leger.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune questioned, “How many State Inmates do we have right now in the jail, currently?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Today, 58.”

Councilman Harold Taylor questioned, “Is that out of a 244 capacity?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Correct, Yes Sir.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune questioned, “I would like to know how many inmates could go to the Trustee Dorm?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “68.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune questioned, “What does it cost us to put an Inmate in the Trustee Dorm?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “The \$17.00 per day.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune questioned, “What does it cost us to house them in our jail?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “That is the same price. The \$17.00 a day to house that inmate at our facility whether it would be the dorm or it would be at the jail.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune questioned, “So I understand that you are saying we have these State Inmates and he does not want to support housing the Trustee Dorm but could you explain to me and the public how the Inmate Dorm would benefit the cost of operations totally. What would you do if you moved all of these people to the dorm? Then what happens?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Our problem is we have over 60 Parish Inmates in other facilities. We are paying \$26.39 to another Sheriff.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “Okay.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “So the plan was to bring these back and house them in a Trustee Dorm which would open up. The Trustees from the Parish Jail would move across the street opening up a Dorm and bringing some. Now we all agree that there are some that cannot be moved back over here because of the gang affiliations and everything else, we get that so we are thinking about 10 of them might have to be out in another facility and that is okay, we can manage that but not 60 something.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune questioned, “So if you were to correct a State Inmate Issue and move, just follow me, and move those people from the jail to the dorm and transfer the people from out of Parish Prison back to our Parish Prison how much money would save per day? Do you have a close amount? Do you have an estimated amount?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “From \$17.00 to \$26.39 is what we would be saving.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “Six Dollars a day per individual.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “It would be around \$9.39. It is \$26.39 out of Parish and it cost us \$17.00 roughly across the street so about \$9.39 per inmate per day.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “Wow, okay no further questions.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere questioned, “The Trustee Dorm is completed? I thought it was not complete.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Oh yes Ma’am. It is ready to go.”

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “But there is no personnel?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “He is saying that he is having hard time finding people to come to work.”

Councilman Ernest Blanchard stated, “They need about 18 people I was told and they can’t get none.”

Councilman Ken Marks stated, “Mr. President, there is law that the Statue that is written is that correct for this?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Yes Sir.”

Councilman Ken Marks questioned, “I don’t know the reason why it was written the way it was but it seems to me litigations needs to be looked at from a lawful standpoint to where equal distribution is being done rather than someone making that decision on a local basis I guess is what I am getting at. Is that possible?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “So the mandates that are put in place as you all know has been in place for years and has not been looked at in years. There are 26 Parish Presidents in the State of Louisiana and what we are doing right now is looking at all of these mandates and coming back next session and saying okay in the 1960 okay I understand it but know we are in 2024-2025 and it is time for these mandates to go away. To give you all an example our General Fund, we collect \$4,200,000.00 in Taxes in our General Fund. Our Mandated Expenses in General Fund is \$4,600,000.00 and that is the bear minimum and not anything extra. It is out of whack and with the Special Session starting in November I meet yesterday in Baton Rouge with the Commissioner of Administration and expressed our concern with the taxes that they want to be cut again and just the overall plan. I am not against the overall plan, I think it might work if they give us some type of subsidy to offset the \$800,000.00 we might get cut or cut out some of these Mandates.”

Councilman Ken Marks stated, “So this problem is not just our problem it is a State Wide Problem?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “It is State Wide. Everybody has got the same problems. In the state of Louisiana whenever we meet as Parish President, the jail and Animal Control.”

Councilman Ken Marks questioned, “You have an organized association as Parish President for the State of Louisiana?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Yes we are meeting on the 25th of this month, yes.”

Councilman Ken Marks questioned, “Okay and you all meet regularly?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Correct.”

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “Are there any other questions? Mr. Bellard you are asking for a motion out of this item #17. Do you want to litigate this? Do you want to file suite?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I want to bring this to a head. It is time. We have been playing with this long enough. This has been going on for years and I have already made the request with him. He agreed to pay the \$17.00 and then now he said he is not going to pay us because it is not in his budget and talk to his attorney.”

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “Mr. Duplechain do you want to horn in on this? Have you been talking to Mr. Leger?”

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, “Not about this. I have spoken to Mr. Leger about Litigations concerning the Parish Jail but not about this, I have not spoken to him about this. If the Council want to Green Light the Litigations then it will be there if the Executive Branch of our Government needs it.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I don’t know if they would have a conflict on the DA’s Office to represent us, that is another problem.”

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, “There could be a conflict on the part of the DA’s Office but if the council wants to Green Light the Litigation if it is needed then perhaps we are looking for a vote by the council to Green Light the Litigation if it is needed.”

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “This would be asking for a Declaratory Judgement in reference to these cost?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I am not exactly sure what litigation he wants to pursue but yes it would be something to the fact of who pays this cost and who is obligated to pay the cost.”

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “That is what you would call it Mr. Duplechain? You would ask for a Declaratory Judgement in reference to the Prisoner Cost.”

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, “Yes, something along those lines to resolve this situation.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “Since he is our attorney he should at least get with your attorney and say yes I am okay with this. I mean he represents us so don’t you think that is a great idea?”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I am good. I am just bringing it to the light of the council.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “If the DA barks on this we have a problem.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I don’t think the DA can represent us in this case.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “I understand but I just want to get his blessings to go forward with it is my point.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “I don’t think the DA can give a blessing one way or the other because he can’t represent us on this case.”

Councilman Harold Taylor questioned, “Mr. Duplechain, what do you have to say about this? Can you understand my question?”

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, “You are asking if the District Attorney can object to this. I don’t think that is an issue. If it is an issue I will let you know but I don’t believe that it is going to be an issue in this case.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “Fair enough.”

Chairman Wayne Ardoin questioned, “Can you come back to us at the next Committee Meeting in the Finance Administration and give us your finding of what you have found out after you have talked to Mike Leger, the District Attorney and Chad Pitre and see what we can come up with. Some kind of solutions.”

Legal Counsel Garrett Duplechain stated, “I can talk to the District Attorney about it. In the end the council can do whatever it want. This could end up in litigation. The council can green light it or not tonight it is up to you all.”

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, “I just think that we might be moving a little hastily as a council to go with a Declaratory Judgement. Let’s try and sit down and try to iron the situation out.”

Councilman Harold Taylor stated, “I think that is a good idea.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “So what do you suggest?”

Councilman Ernest Blanchard stated, “I make a motion that we Table it until next meeting.”

Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “So what do you suggest? Just to Table it.”

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, “I think what Mr. Bellard is asking to take action on this so that we can move forward to try and settle this problem because the Sheriff has not negotiated is what he is saying and he feels the only way to solve this because the Sheriff said talk to my lawyer is to

move forward with the lawsuit. I think what we is asking if we want to green light it. We are going backward and forwards with saying what the DA thinks, what Garrett thinks and what his lawyer thinks. His lawyer thinks in order to settle this is to get a lawyer. That is where we are at. I don't think it is about waiting 2 weeks for Committee to try to decide that the DA is not going to get involved or Garrett cannot represent us. We are at this point where we need to get this settled before the year is up. Because the Sheriff said that then we should let the attorneys settle it and if we loose we lose we will have to face that consequence because we will have to end up paying our bills or paying the bill. I think that is where we are at."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "You just want to lower the cost?"

Parish President Jessie stated "I want the Sheriff to pay his fair share. He is collecting \$26.39 per day per state inmate. It is costing us as a Government \$17.13 per day. How is that fair? Almost everyone on this council at one time or another behind closed doors saying you need to do something about. I am here doing something about it so now it is time for this council does something about. It is time we get from behind closed doors and get to the table and make some decisions so we can move forward. I am tired passing it on, passing it on. Let's make it happen or don't make it happen. Either way it goes I brought it to you all attention. If the council takes no action then we get what we get. But these behind closed door deals it is time for it to stop."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "What is the wishes of the council?"

Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, "Ms. Nancy, did you make that as a Sub-motion?"

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "I will make it as a Sub-Motion that we move forward and let the attorneys handle it."

Councilman Jody White stated, "I will second it."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "Mr. Ernie you offered a motion to Table this matter."

Councilman Ernest Blanchard stated, "Until we find out more information but I will withdraw my motion."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated, "I have a motion by Ms. Nancy. Can you repeat your motion?"

Councilwoman Nancy Carriere stated, "Based on what Mr. Bellard have said the Sheriff should pay his fair share. My motion is that he hire his attorney to move forward with this and let us see where it goes."

A motion was made by Councilwoman Nancy Carriere, seconded by Councilman Jody White to authorize the Parish President's Attorney to move forward with the litigations on housing the inmates at the jail.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Mildred Thierry, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Alvin Stelly. **ABSTAINED:** Harold Taylor. **WHEREUPON**, this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to Enter into Executive Session, turn off the recording system, and ask the public to exit the council chambers to further discuss Item 15 and Item 16 on the agenda.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Alvin Stelly. **ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON**, this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

A motion was made by Councilman Jimmie Edwards, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to enter back into Regular Session.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Alvin Stelly. **ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON**, this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

15. **Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated**, “On Item No. 15 the lawsuit filed by Chem Spray Inc. against St. Landry Parish Government, the Parish Government will be represented by Mr. Paul Gibson. That hearing will be on next Wednesday at 9:00 or 10:00 in the morning. Do I have a motion to let that continue?”

A motion was made by Councilman Ernest Blanchard, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to authorize Mr. Paul Gibson to represent the council in the lawsuit filed by Chem. Spray Inc.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Alvin Stelly. **ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON**, this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

16. **Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated**, “On Item No. 16 which is the lawsuit filed by the Hidden Hills Inc. against St. Landry Parish Government, The District Attorney’s Office, Mr. Garett Duplechain will represent St. Landry Parish Government on this matter. It is also set for next Wednesday morning at 9:00 or 10:00 a.m. in Judge Meches’ Court.”

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Jimmie Edwards to authorize Legal Counsel Garett Duplechain to represent the St. Landry Parish Government regarding the Lawsuit filed by Hidden Hills Inc.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Alvin Stelly. **ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON**, this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

XIII. ADJOURN:

A motion was made by Councilman Jody White, seconded by Councilman Ken Marks to Adjourn the Regular Meeting.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jody White, Nancy Carriere, Faltery Jolivette, Mildred Thierry, Harold Taylor, Ken Marks, Vivian Olivier, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Jimmie Edwards and Ernest Blanchard. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Alvin Stelly. **ABSTAINED:** None. **WHEREUPON**, this motion was adopted on this, the 16th, day of October 2024.

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