

**ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL  
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
OLD CITY MARKET, 131 W. BELLEVUE ST.  
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA**

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

1. Public Works Chairwoman Vivian Olivier called this meeting of the Public Works Committee of the St. Landry Parish Council to order.
2. **Roll Call:** Jody White, Mildred Thierry, Alvin Stelly, Timmy Lejeune and Jimmie Edwards. Ex-Officio Wayne Ardoin. **ABSENT:** None.
3. **Person to address the Committee:**

*Mr. Brian Anthony Romar addressed the council. He stated, “How are you all doing this evening? My name Brian Anthony Romar. I am from Rideau Settlement that was established in 1857. I had a problem with Animal Control. I am not saying that I was all the way right but I was not all the way wrong. Animal Control seized 71 head of animals from me. If 71 head of animals would have been out they still would have been running around trying to catch them. All the animals that they picked up was not out. They did it in two sessions. One time they came and they did not have a search warrant and they picked up 17 heads of horses. They waited three days to four days later and they came back with a warrant and the cattle was pinned up and they could not get out and they had not been out for at least a week but they seized them too. I think I was wrongfully treated and I would like to present this to the council and let them know how I feel about the situation. I went to get my animals and they told me that I had a fine of \$17,000.00. I told them that I would pay it and they told me that I still could not get my animals. I ask them why not? They said because you can’t you will have to go to court. I asked about the court date and they could not tell me. They told me to go down to the DA’s Office and I went down to the DA’s Office. The DA did not know anything about it. I ask why did the Animal Control send me here, I don’t know. If you have power use it in the right way. If you got me right you got me right but if you are wrong you are wrong. That is all that I have to say.”*

*Councilman Dexter Brown stated, “Mr. Romar can you step back to the microphone please. In total how many of your horses were confiscated? Roughly.”*

*Mr. Brian Anthony Romar stated, “17 and 6. That would be 23 total.”*

*Councilman Dexter Brown questioned, “The rest of the animals that were confiscated were cattle. Did Animal Control tell you the reason why?”*

*Mr. Brian Anthony Romar stated, “They said because they had been getting out. I had some animals that had never been out. I am not saying that I did not have some animals out but it was not 71 head.”*

*Councilman Dexter Brown stated, “Did you have fencing around?”*

*Mr. Brian Anthony Romar stated, “Where the horses were they had not been out in a long period of time. They had a drought, they had wind come through and they had several trees on it. I am only me, I don’t have anybody to help me with this so it takes me time.”*

*Councilman Dexter Brown stated, “So you are basically out of 48 head of cattle that they confiscated.”*

*Mr. Brian Anthony Romar stated, “No together 71 heads with the horses. With the cattle it is probably about 62 or 63 heads.”*

*Councilman Dexter Brown stated, “Did you call Mr. Bellard?”*

*Mr. Brian Anthony Romar stated, “He did not want to talk to me.”*

**Councilman Dexter brown questioned,** “Mr. Bellard, can you say anything about this? Is it under investigation or what?”

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,** “No it is not under investigation. The DA’s Office has the matter and they are going to bill him with the proper charges. The \$17,000.00 he is speaking about is not a fine it is a bond in order for us to feed the animals and stuff. But it is not an issue it is an issue with the DA’s Office and they are handling the case. So it is between him and the District Attorney’s Office.”

**Mr. Brian Anthony Romar stated,** “If I was charged with something why didn’t I get a citation or something saying I was charged with that?” Why? Answer me that.”

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,** “Your argument is with the District Attorney’s Office.”

**Mr. Brian Anthony Romar stated,** “My Argument is why I did not get something when you picked the animals up saying what I was charged with?”

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,** “So let me do this Dexter if you don’t mind. I was trying not to embarrass people but I am just going to tell you what is happening. This has been going on for about 18 months. Over the time there have been calls after calls after calls. We worked with Mr. Romar for the last 18 months on this same issue to no resolve. So at this point there is nothing else for us to do. I like to give people opportunities to fix their fences and make sure their animals don’t get out. I have animals, you have animals, a lot of us do and things happen, however this is an ongoing problem and it is not getting fixed so now he is being charged with the District Attorney’s Office and they are going to proceed further in court. It is out of our hands but we tried for 18 months working with Mr. Romar. So we are not working with him anymore.”

**Councilman Dexter Brown stated,** “Okay, thank you sir.”

**Mr. Brian Anthony Romar stated,** “You said 18 months. You said 18 months. It was not constantly 18 months.”

**Parish President Jessie Bellard stated,** “Like I explained to Mr. Brown I am not working with you anymore.”

**Councilman Dexter Brown stated,** “Mr. Romar if you don’t mind can you get together with Mr. Chad Pitre and his office the District Attorney and see what type of resolution can come about. Try to repair your fence up to standard and everything else. I have horses and I have to have all of my fencing up because I don’t want them to get into the road because I don’t want a car to hit them and injure the people in the car.”

**Mr. Brian Anthony Romar stated,** “I understand that. Right now I have a pasture that I am leasing and it has 5 strands of barb-wire all the way around it. I have somewhere to put the animals.”

**Councilman Dexter Brown stated,** “If you don’t mind can you get in contact with Mr. Chad Pitre office to see what type of resolution that can come about.”

**Mr. Brian Anthony Romar stated,** “Yes sir, thank you for your time.”

**Public Works Chairwoman Vivian Olivier called Mr. Gilbert Guillory to speak.**

**Mr. Gilbert Guillory addressed the council. He stated,** “My name is Gilbert Guillory. I have been serving on District 6 Fire Board. I was told that I should come to a meeting and present myself. I was here to ask you all if you all see fit to re-appoint me for another year to this board.”

**Chairman Wayne Ardoin stated,** “Can you give us your address Mr. Guillory.”

**Mr. Gilbert Guillory stated,** “I live at 535 Guillory Road, Church Point, LA. 70525.”

*Chairman Wayne Ardoin questioned, “Is that in the Fire District or Road District?”*

*Mr. Gilbert Guillory stated, “District 6.”*

**4. Public Works Report:**

*Mr. Barry Soileau, Public Works Director addressed the council. He stated, “For the month of October we:*

Boom Axed	13 Roads
Widen Roads-Side Dressing	2 Roads
Culvert Installation	13 Roads
Debris Removal	36 Roads
Ditching	15 Roads
Grading	61 Roads
Material Spreading	5 Roads
Patching	8 Roads
Shredding/Grass Cutting	7 Roads
Sign Installation	34 Roads
Tree Removal	4
Washout	3

**Authorize the final approval showing a Subdivision ‘Daly Estates’ of 143.52 Acre Tract of land being partitioned as lots 1-15 located along Hwy 182 and Hwy 178 situated in Section 174 &175 Township 7 South, Range 4 East Opelousas, LA.**

*Councilman Timmy Lejeune questioned, “What type of subdivision is this going to be?”*

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “A regular subdivision like we always have. Regular homes, not trailers.”*

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024** to authorize the final approval showing a Subdivision ‘Daly Estates’ of 143.52 Acre Tract of land being partitioned as lots 1-15 located along Hwy 182 and Hwy 178 situated in Section 174 and 175 Township 7, Range 4 East Opelousas, LA.

**On roll call vote: YEAS:** Jody White, Mildred Thierry, Alvin Stelly, Timmy Lejeune, and Jimmie Edwards **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

**Motion forwarded.**

Authorize the Final Construction Review and Approval Request for Portion of Jackie Drive located in Country Ridge Estates (North) and Final Subdivision Plat Review MGA Project 5#566 (19875).

*Parish President Jessie Bellard stated, “Mr. Gerald recommends that we take it in.”*

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to forward to Regular Meeting held on **Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024** to authorize the Final Construction Review and Approval Request for Portion of Jackie Drive located in Country Ridge Estates (North) and Final Subdivision Plat Review MGA Project 5#566 (19875).

**On roll call vote: YEAS:** Jody White, Mildred Thierry, Alvin Stelly, Timmy Lejeune, and Jimmie Edwards **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

**Motion forwarded.**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to accept the Public Works Report.

**On roll call vote: YEAS:** Jody White, Mildred Thierry, Alvin Stelly, Timmy Lejeune, and Jimmie Edwards. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

**Motion carried.**

**5. Forward all applications received 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 Councilman Alvin Stelly, seconded by Councilman Jimmie Edwards to forward to Regular Meeting held on *Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024* all applications received 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, Mildred Thierry, Alvin Stelly, Timmy Lejeune, and Jimmie Edwards **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

*Motion forwarded.*

**6. Forward all applications received for five appointments to St. Landry Parish Economic Development (SLED) for a three-year term. (01-01-2025 – 01-1-2028).**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, seconded by Councilman Jody White to forward to Regular Meeting held on *Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024* all applications received 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, Mildred Thierry, Alvin Stelly, Timmy Lejeune, and Jimmie Edwards. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

*Motion forwarded.*

**7. Forward all applications receive 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 Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry to forward to Regular Meeting Held on *Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024* all applications received 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, Mildred Thierry, Alvin Stelly, Timmy Lejeune, and Jimmie Edwards **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

*Motion forwarded.*

**8. Authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for one appointment to Fire District No. 3 for a four-year term. (01-01-2025 – 1-01-2029).**

A motion was made by Councilman Jimmie Edwards, seconded by Councilman Jody White to forward to Regular Meeting Held on *Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024* to authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for one appointment to Fire District No. 3 for a four-year term. (01-01-2025 – 01-01-2029).

**On roll call vote: YEAS:** Jody White, Mildred Thierry, Alvin Stelly, Timmy Lejeune, and Jimmie Edwards **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

*Motion forwarded.*

**9. Authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for two appointments to Fire District No. 5 for a two-year term. (01-01-2025 – 01-01-2027).**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, seconded by Councilman Jimmie Edwards to forward to Regular Meeting Held on *Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024* to authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for two appointments to Fire District No. 5 for a two-year term. (01-01-2025 – 01-01-2027).

**On roll call vote: YEAS:** Jody White, Mildred Thierry, Alvin Stelly, Timmy Lejeune, and Jimmie Edwards **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

*Motion forwarded.*

**10. Authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for three appointments to Fire District No. 6 for a two-year term. (01-01-2025 – 01-01-2027).**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune to forward to Regular Meeting Held on *Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024* to authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for three appointments to Fire District No. 6 for a two-year term. (01-01-2025 – 01-01-2027).

**On roll call vote: YEAS:** Jody White, Mildred Thierry, Alvin Stelly, Timmy Lejeune, and Jimmie Edwards **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.  
*Motion forwarded.*

**11. Authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for one appointment to St. Landry Agricultural Arena Authority for a five-year term. (01-18-2025 – 01-18-2030).**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mildred Thierry, seconded by Councilman Jody White to forward to Regular Meeting Held on *Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024* to authorize the Council Clerk to advertise for one appointment to St. Landry Agricultural Arena Authority for a five-year term. (01-18-2025 – 01-18-2030).

**On roll call vote: YEAS:** Jody White, Mildred Thierry, Alvin Stelly, Timmy Lejeune, and Jimmie Edwards **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.  
*Motion forwarded.*

**12. Discuss Live Oak Road and Grassy Lane. (Councilman Timmy Lejeune).**

*Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “I placed this on the agenda and I have a constituent that notified me and asked me to place it on there. Mr. Soileau I would ask you this question. I think maybe I called you on this issue and my question is this: How far advanced are we on this? Are we getting there? Do you have material that is going to be headed in that direction?”*

*Mr. Barry Soileau, Public Works Director stated, “No. Grassy Lane is just what it is. It is a turn road for two farmers. We maintain it. When one of the farmers called me I sent a Grader. They Bush-Hog and it is grass. It goes to a Bayou and it is a dead-end road and it serves two farmers. It would be a waste of money to place Limestone with all of these roads that need Limestone, I don’t feel justifiable. If the road would be used and it would need Limestone I would do what I have to do. At this point I don’t see that it is necessary but it is up to you all to tell me what to do. I just don’t think that it is necessary to waste limestone on this road. It is actually two turn roads for farmers. We provide drainage and we do the ditches and we do everything else.”*

*Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “Live Oak Road.”*

*Mr. Barry Soileau, Public Works Director stated, “Live Oak Road same thing. We maintain it.”*

*Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “It connects to that.”*

*Mr. Barry Soileau, Public Works Director stated, “Correct.”*

*Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “Grassy Lane and that whole road exits on two state highways.”*

*Mr. Barry Soileau, Public Works Director stated, “Correct. Hwy 358.”*

*Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “One time we had to change a culvert out on a bridge because you could not get through there. Exiting on both sides of the highway there is material on both sides of that road so it is suitable for passage if someone cuts across? I am going to use the word accident, if they have an accident in that curb where that state bridge is located and they have to use that as an alternate route for a minute can cars or vehicles pass down there?”*

*Mr. Barry Soileau, Public Works Director stated, “Certainly, the only time there is an issue is when the cane farmers are working you are going to have some mud on the road. The farmer who does that really accommodates. He picks up all of the debris and he will call me after it dries, I go and re-grade and pull the road and we put material as needed.”*

*Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “I am going to make a request that if we get some Black Gold or anything that we can get from the state we can address those roads and we are not*

purchasing Limestone or some material of some kind. I would appreciate it that we would take that into consideration.”

*Mr. Barry Soileau, Public Works Director stated, “Sure will.”*

*Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “I know that this guy have been trying to get some of that done for quite a long time. It is the second time that I have placed this on the agenda. I am asking that we could please look at that.”*

*Mr. Barry Soileau, Public Works Director stated, “We could put some crush cement down there but this is what is going to happen, when they get on the bush-hog they are going to start complaining because material will be flying into the fields and everywhere else. I will take it into consideration. As soon as we get crush cement I will put them some.”*

*Councilman Timmy Lejeune stated, “Thank you very much.”*

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

*Councilman Faltery Jolivette stated, “I would like to make an acknowledgement if you would allow me to. I would like to acknowledge our very own Ms. Cynthia Fontenot who has been newly wedded. We would like to congratulate her and her new life. Congratulations.”*

**14. Adjourn.**

A motion was made by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Jimmie Edwards adjourn the Public Works Committee.

**On roll call vote: YEAS:** Jody White, Mildred Thierry, Alvin Stelly, Timmy Lejeune, and Jimmie Edwards. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

*Motion carried.*

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