

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS**  
**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL**  
**TUESDAY, MARCH 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025**  
**CHAIRMAN TAMMY HOUSTON**  
**VICE-CHAIR ROBBY ARCURI**

The Council of the Parish of St. John the Baptist Parish, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session in the Rudolph Sorapuru Chambers, Edgard, Louisiana on Tuesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 6:00 PM.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

**ROLL CALL:** Lennix Madere, Jr., Councilman-at-Large, Div. A, Michael Wright, Councilman-at-Large, Div. B, Virgie Johnson, Councilwoman District I, Warren Torres, Councilman District II, Tammy Houston, Councilwoman District III, Robby Arcuri, Councilman District V, Vernon Bailey, Councilman District VI, Dixie Ramirez, Councilwoman District VII

**ABSENT:** Tyra Duhe-Griffin

A'Sasha Smith led the Prayer and Jeremy Geason led the Pledge.

Legal Counsel Keith Green, Jr. and Kennilyn Schmill were present.

**PUBLIC COMMENT - AGENDA ITEMS ONLY (3 minutes per citizen)**

There was no public comment at this time.

**Jaclyn Hotard - Proclamation - March as National Kidney Month, March 13<sup>th</sup> - World Kidney Day**

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**ITEMS:** Approval of Minutes - February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025, Council Meeting

**MOTION:** Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes - February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025, Council Meeting. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin absent.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*Bridget A. Dinvaut, in her official capacity as District Attorney v. St. John the Baptist Parish Governing Authority and St. John the Baptist Parish Council, 40<sup>th</sup> JDC Docket No. 77055*

**MOTION:** Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the motion to go into Executive Session to discuss *Bridget A. Dinvaut, in her official capacity as District Attorney v. St. John the Baptist Parish Governing Authority and St. John the Baptist Parish Council, 40<sup>th</sup> JDC Docket No. 77055*. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin absent.

Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin arrived at 6:15 PM.

**MOTION:** Councilman Bailey moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the motion to go back into regular session. The motion passed unanimously.

There was no action taken as a result of the Executive Session.

**REPORTS:**

**President's Report**

**PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION ON ORDINANCE (S)**

**25-07** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish, through the Office of the Parish President, to purchase and/or expropriate certain portions of ground described as Lot 7A-1 and Lot 7B as depicted in Exhibit A (J. Hotard)

**MOTION:** Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 25-07. The motion passed 8 yeas and 1 abstaining (Torres).

Councilman Torres commented that he abstained from voting because he hadn't received Exhibit A in a timely manner.

**25-08** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the rezoning of the West Half of Plot 2 and the East Half of Plot 2 of the Reine Subdivision from the Residential District One (R-1) to the Industrial District One (I-1) located at 211-275 McReine Road, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZR-1654) (J. Hotard & C. Powell)

Tom McGee, Audrey Sylvain, Doris Grey and Brent Torres commented on Ordinance 25-08.

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Johnson moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to DENY Ordinance 25-08. The motion passed with 4 yeas (Johnson, Madere, Houston, Bailey), 3 against (Ramirez, Arcuri, Wright) and 2 abstaining (Duhe-Griffin, Torres).

**25-09** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the rezoning of Lot 3B-2 of Farm Lot 5 of Woodland Plantation from the Commercial District Three (C-3) to the Industrial District One (I-1) located at 505 Main Street, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZR-1656) (J. Hotard & C. Powell)

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Johnson moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 25-09. The motion passed with 1 against (Torres).

**25-10** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the resubdivision of the lower half of Lot 10 of the Bonnet Carre Crevasse Subdivision, located at 140 Crevasse Avenue, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZS-1420) (J. Hotard & C. Powell)

Otis Kenner commented on Ordinance 25-10.

**MOTION:** Councilman Bailey moved and Councilwoman Johnson seconded the motion to

approve Ordinance 25-10. The motion passed unanimously.

**25-11** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the resubdivision of Tract D and other portions of the John Esparros Tract, located at 1107-1359 East Airline Highway, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZS-1423) (J. Hotard & C. Powell)

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Ramirez moved and Councilman Arcuri seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 25-11. The motion passed unanimously.

**25-12** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the resubdivision of Tract A of an undesignated subdivision, located at 5895 Highway 18, Wallace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZS-1425) (J. Hotard & C. Powell)

Brenda Preston commented on Ordinance 25-12.

**MOTION:** Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 25-12. The motion passed unanimously.

**25-13** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the resubdivision of Lot 1-A of the Myrtles Subdivision, located at 2513 Main Street, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZS-1427) (J. Hotard & C. Powell)

**MOTION:** Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 25-13. The motion passed unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-32 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to amend the Professional Services Agreement with Meyer Engineers, LTD for the Reserve Relief Homewood Pump Station Replacement and Drainage Improvement Engineering Services**

**MOTION:** Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-32. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to amend the Professional Services Agreement with Meyer Engineers, LTD for the Reserve Relief Homewood Pump Station Replacement and Drainage Improvement Engineering Services. WHEREAS, Article IV, Section H (2) and (5) of the St. John the Baptist Parish Home Rule Charter permits the Parish Council to adopt a resolution when authorizing a designated person(s) to execute a previously approved contract on its behalf and/or to perform a ministerial act related to the administrative business of the Parish; and WHEREAS, Amendment No. 1 includes locating existing process piping utilizing subsurface exploration methods and investigation with a ground penetrating radar; and, WHEREAS, Amendment No. 1 also reallocates supplemental services fees; and, WHEREAS, this project is a part of the Local Watershed Initiative Program, and all services must be in compliance with the Disaster Recovery CDBG Program requirements; and, WHEREAS, project is funded through an allocation St. John the Baptist Parish received from the Office of Community Development Disaster Recovery Mitigation Funds. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, that Parish President Jaclyn Hotard is hereby duly authorized and empowered on behalf of St. John the Baptist Parish Council to sign and execute the Professional Services Agreement between St. John the Baptist Parish and Meyer Engineers, LTD. The motion passed unanimously.

**Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-33 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 4 with J. Caldarera & Company, Inc. for the St. John Parish 2023 Parish Wide Canal Drainage Improvements**

**MOTION:** Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-33. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 4 with J. Caldarera & Company, Inc. for the St. John Parish 2023 Parish Wide Canal Drainage Improvements. WHEREAS, Article IV, Section H (2) and (5) of the St. John the Baptist Parish Home Rule Charter permits the Parish Council to adopt a resolution when authorizing a designated person(s) to execute a previously approved contract on its behalf and/or to perform a ministerial act related to the administrative business of the Parish; and WHEREAS, Change Order No. 4 is a close-out change order which increases the original Agreement amount by \$2,064,099.25 and an additional 43 calendar days; and, WHEREAS, this increase is to adjust quantities and materials used to complete all work at the Airport Retention Pond and the canal cleaning at Montz Canal, Woodland Canal, I-55 Canal and Dugas Canal; and, WHEREAS, Change Order No. 4 is funded through the Public Works Budget. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, that Parish President, Jaclyn Hotard is hereby duly authorized and empowered on behalf of the St. John the Baptist Council to execute Change Order No. 4 between St. John the Baptist Parish and J. Caldarera & Company, Inc. The motion passed unanimously.

**Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-34 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute the Certificate of Substantial Completion with J. Caldarera & Company, Inc. for the St. John Parish 2023 Parish Wide Canal Drainage Improvements**

**MOTION:** Councilman Bailey moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-34. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute the Certificate of Substantial Completion with J. Caldarera & Company, Inc. for the St. John Parish 2023 Parish Wide Canal Drainage Improvements. WHEREAS, Article IV, Section H (2) and (5) of the St. John the Baptist Parish Home Rule Charter permits the Parish Council to adopt a resolution when authorizing a designated person(s) to execute a previously approved contract on its behalf and/or to perform a ministerial act related to the administrative business of the Parish; and WHEREAS, this project has been deemed substantially complete by the Project Engineer; and, WHEREAS, all punch list items were identified and completed. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, that Parish President Jaclyn Hotard is hereby duly authorized and empowered on behalf of the St. John the Baptist Parish Council to execute the Certificate of Substantial Completion between St. John the Baptist Parish and J. Caldarera & Company, Inc. The motion passed unanimously.

**Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-35 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 4 with Pittsburgh Tank & Tower Co. for the Elevated Water Tower and Storage Tank Rehabilitation Project**

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Ramirez moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-35. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 4 with Pittsburgh Tank & Tower Co. for the

Elevated Water Tower and Storage Tank Rehabilitation Project. WHEREAS, Article IV, Section H (2) and (5) of the St. John the Baptist Parish Home Rule Charter permits the Parish Council to adopt a resolution when authorizing a designated person(s) to execute a previously approved contract on its behalf and/or to perform a ministerial act related to the administrative business of the Parish; and WHEREAS, Change Order No. 4 is a no-cost change order that adds an additional 65 calendar days; and, WHEREAS, the additional days are due to inclement weather delays; and, WHEREAS, the project is funded through the Utilities Budget. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, that Parish President Jaclyn Hotard is hereby duly authorized and empowered on behalf of the St. John the Baptist Parish Council to execute Change Order No.4 between St. John the Baptist Parish and Pittsburgh Tank & Tower Co. The motion passed unanimously.

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:**

There were no ordinances introduced at tonight's meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

At 6:57 PM, Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Johnson seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

/s/Tammy Houston  
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche  
Council Secretary