

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, MAY 27th, 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 St. John the Baptist Parish Government Complex Chambers, LaPlace, Louisiana on Tuesday, May 27th, 2025, at 6:00 PM.

CALL TO ORDER:

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

ABSENT: Michael Wright

Councilwoman Ramirez led the Prayer and Councilman Madere led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Legal Counsel Keith Green, Jr., was present.

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

There was no public comment at this time.

CONSENT AGENDA:

ITEMS: Approval of Minutes - May 13th, 2025, Council Meeting; Councilman Bailey - Appointment of Julie Cupit to the Library Board of Control

MOTION: Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes - May 13th, 2025, Council Meeting; Councilman Bailey - Appointment of Julie Cupit to the Library Board of Control. The motion passed with 7 yeas, 1 against (Torres) and 1 absent (Wright).

REPORTS:

President's Report

Jaclyn Hotard - Monthly Financial Report (April 2025)

PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSIDERATION ON ORDINANCE (S)

25-29 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance to amend Ordinance **24-64 - Sec. 28-90** - Parade Permits, (b) General Conditions for permit issuance. (i) to omit ~~for the entire parade~~; and add: *Which indicates that we have two (2) organizations (Krewe*

of Dage' and Krewe of Agape) both organizations will have thirty (30) floats each and sixteen (16) units (consisting of dance team, cars, and bands) each for the Parade. In the event that another organization applies, the total floats for all parades would still be sixty (60). **Sec. 28-91** - General Parading regulations (iii) Throws prohibited to add: The parade route begins on Main Street.

PARADE PARTICIPANTS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO THROW UNTIL THEY HAVE REACHED MAIN STREET. Adding **(g) Floats.** The parade organization shall ensure that all floats used in connection with its parade comply with the following requirements: Floats, including tandem floats, shall be no more than sixty (60) feet long, including the pull unit, no more than twelve (12) feet wide, and no more than seventeen (17) feet six (6) inches in height from the street level. **(h) Truck-floats.** The parade organization shall ensure that all truck-floats used in connection with its parade comply with the following requirements: Truck-floats shall be no more than sixty (60) feet in length, including the pull unit, no more than ten (10) feet in overall width, including all decorations and no more than seventeen (17) feet six (6) inches in height from the street level (V. Bailey)

MOTION: Councilman Bailey moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to TABLE Ordinance 25-29. The motion passed with 6 yeas, 2 against (Arcuri, Torres) and 1 absent (Wright).

NEW BUSINESS:

Robby Arcuri - Resolution - R25-91 - A Resolution conferring authority upon the President/vice-president of the Library Board of Control for St. John the Baptist Parish to execute a construction manager at risk agreement on behalf of the board with The Lemoine Company to provide construction manager at risk services for the Edgard and LaPlace Branch Library Building Projects

MOTION: Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-91. A Resolution conferring authority upon the President/vice-president of the Library Board of Control for St. John the Baptist Parish to execute a construction manager at risk agreement on behalf of the board with The Lemoine Company to provide construction manager at risk services for the Edgard and LaPlace Branch Library Building Projects. 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; the St. John the Baptist Parish Library advertised a Request for Qualifications (the "RFQ") for Construction Manager at Risk Services for the project referred to as the St. John the Baptist Parish Library Edgard and LaPlace Branch Building projects 2979 Highway 18 (River Road) Edgard and 2920 Hwy 51 in LaPlace, Louisiana; and WHEREAS; the St. John the Baptist Parish Library advertised the RFQ in accordance with Louisiana Public Bid Law; and WHEREAS, the RFQ established a committee (the "Selection Review Committee") to review and evaluate the proposals submitted in response to the RFQ; and WHEREAS, the St. John the Baptist Parish Library received one proposal in response to the RFQ; and WHEREAS, the Selection Review Committee reviewed the proposal received in response to the RFQ; and WHEREAS, the Selection Committee scored the proposal in response to the RFQ; and WHEREAS, based on its review and evaluation of the proposal, the Selection Review Committee has recommended that the Parish Council authorize the award of the contract for Construction Manager at Risk Services for the project referred to as the St. John the Baptist Parish Library Edgard and

LaPlace Branch Building projects 2979 Highway 18 (River Road) Edgard and 2920 Hwy 51 in LaPlace, Louisiana to The Lemoine Company; and WHEREAS, the Parish Council wishes to ratify the recommendation of the Selection Review Committee and authorizes the St. John the Baptist Parish Library to enter into a contract with The Lemoine Company to provide Construction Manager at Risk Services for the project referred to as the St. John the Baptist Parish Library Edgard and LaPlace Branch Building Projects 2979 Hwy 18 (River Road) and 2920 Hwy 51 in LaPlace, Louisiana. The motion passed with 7 yeas, 1 against (Torres) and 1 absent (Wright).

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-92 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to extend the Professional Services Agreement with Xavier University of Louisiana to serve as the Fiscal Agent for the Louisiana Small Business Development Center (LSBDC)

MOTION: Councilwoman Ramirez moved and Councilwoman Johnson seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-92. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to extend the Professional Services Agreement with Xavier University of Louisiana to serve as the Fiscal Agent for the Louisiana Small Business Development Center (LSBDC). 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, Xavier University of Louisiana provides technical assistance through the Business Training Center; and, WHEREAS, assistance includes workshops/seminars, Kauffman FastTrac 10-week sessions and other entrepreneurial training courses in connection with the Small Business Development Center; and, WHEREAS, Extension No. 1 will add one (1) year to the original Agreement; and, WHEREAS, Extension No. 1 maintains the same pricing and is funded through the Economic Development Department Budget. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, that St. John the Baptist Parish is hereby authorized to extend the Professional Services Agreement between St. John the Baptist Parish and Xavier University of Louisiana. The motion passed with Councilman Wright absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-93 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 1 with Jones Construction Solutions, LLC for the Animal Shelter Renovation Project

MOTION: Councilwoman Ramirez moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-93. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 1 with Jones Construction Solutions, LLC for the Animal Shelter Renovation 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. 1 increases the original Agreement in the amount of \$79,338.38 and adds an additional forty-two (42) calendar days; and, WHEREAS, the increase is due to additional work that includes enlarging windows in the cat viewing rooms, new walls and doors for separate office space, kennel top additions, BoraCare in all walls prior to completion

and rebuilding the HVAC Plenum; and, WHEREAS, additional days due to weather delays; and, WHEREAS, the project will be funded through the Animal Shelter 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 the Change Order No. 1 between St. John the Baptist Parish and Jones Construction Solutions, LLC. The motion passed with Councilman Wright absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-94 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) with the State of Louisiana, Department of Treasury required in connection with a line-item appropriation in Act 776 of the 2024 Regular Legislative Session of the Louisiana Legislature in the sum of \$250,000 to St. John the Baptist Parish for Drainage Improvements

MOTION: Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-94. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) with the State of Louisiana, Department of Treasury required in connection with a line-item appropriation in Act 776 of the 2024 Regular Legislative Session of the Louisiana Legislature in the sum of \$250,000 to St. John the Baptist Parish for 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, Acts of the 2024 Regular Legislative Session of the Louisiana Legislature, which were adopted in accordance with Article VII, Section 10, of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, is the appropriation for the expenditure of State funds, and said Act 776 contains a line item appropriation within the Agency's budget for the benefit of St. John the Baptist Parish Council of which the sum of \$250,000 has been allocated for the Drainage Improvements; and, WHEREAS, the public purpose for the described funding is to make improvements to the drainage in Reserve that will increase the drainage rate by 2 inches per house in which storm water exits the streets during a storm event; and, WHEREAS, St. John the Baptist Parish desires to cooperate with the State of Louisiana, Department of Treasury in the implementation of said improvements; and WHEREAS, this CEA will allow the Parish to be reimbursed by the State Treasury for funds expended for the purpose of appropriations. 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 sign and execute a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the State of Louisiana, Department of Treasury for Drainage Improvements. The motion passed with Councilman Wright absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-95 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) with the State of Louisiana, Department of Treasury required in connection with a line-item appropriation in Act 776 of the 2024 Regular Legislative Session of the Louisiana Legislature in the sum of \$150,000 to St. John the Baptist Parish for the Comprehensive Water Improvement Program

MOTION: Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-95. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) with

the State of Louisiana, Department of Treasury required in connection with a line-item appropriation in Act 776 of the 2024 Regular Legislative Session of the Louisiana Legislature in the sum of \$150,000 to St. John the Baptist Parish for the Comprehensive Water Improvement Program. 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, Acts of the 2024 Regular Legislative Session of the Louisiana Legislature, which were adopted in accordance with Article VII, Section 10, of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, is the appropriation for the expenditure of State funds, and said Act 776 contains a line item appropriation within the Agency's budget for the benefit of St. John the Baptist Parish of which the sum of \$150,000 has been allocated for the Comprehensive Water Improvement Program; and, WHEREAS, the public purpose for the described funding is for the Comprehensive Water Improvement Program in St. John the Baptist Parish to include installation of the Lions Water Treatment Plant filter and sludge return and media replacement; and, WHEREAS, St. John the Baptist Parish desires to cooperate with the State of Louisiana, Department of Treasury in the implementation of said improvements; and WHEREAS, this CEA will allow the Parish to be reimbursed by the State Treasury for funds expended for the purpose of appropriations. 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 sign and execute a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the State of Louisiana, Department of Treasury for the Comprehensive Water Improvement Program. The motion passed with Councilman Wright absent.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

There were no ordinances introduced at this time.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 6:26 PM, Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilman Wright absent.

/s/Tammy Houston
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
Council Secretary