

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS**  
**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL**  
**TUESDAY, JUNE 10<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 St. John the Baptist Parish Government Complex Chambers, LaPlace, Louisiana on Tuesday, June 10<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

Connie Powell, Director of Planning & Zoning led the Prayer and Chad Usey, Acadian Ambulance led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

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

Dawn Mores, Clarence Noble, Ebony Adams and Dawn Jones commented on Ordinance 25-29.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**ITEMS:** Approval of Minutes - May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025, Council Meeting; Permit Approval - St. John the Baptist Parish 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Independence Day Celebration

**MOTION:** Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes - May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025, Council Meeting; Permit Approval - St. John the Baptist Parish 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Independence Day Celebration. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin absent.

**REPORTS:**

**President's Report**

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

**25-29** (Tabled 05-27-25) 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 Councilwoman Johnson seconded the motion to REMOVE Ordinance 25-29 from the Table. The motion passed with Councilwomen Duhe-Griffin and Johnson absent.

**MOTION:** Councilman Bailey moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 25-29.

**SUBSTITUTE MOTION:** Councilwoman Johnson moved and Councilman Madere seconded the substitute motion to approve Ordinance 25-29 with the amendments spoken about in the Parade Workshop. The Substitute Motion passed with 7 yeas, 1 against (Torres) and 1 absent (Duhe-Griffin).

**ORDINANCE 25-29** 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 forty-six (46) units each which will consist of floats, cars, bands and dance teams. In the event that another organization applies, the total units for all parades would be a split of ninety-two (92) units. **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.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Tammy Houston - Selection of the L'Observateur as the Official Journal for St. John the Baptist Parish Government**

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

appoint the L'Observateur as the Official Journal for the Parish of St. John the Baptist. The motion passed with 7 yeas, 1 against (Torres) and 1 absent (Duhe-Griffin).

**Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-96 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to advertise and receive Requests for Qualifications (RFQ) for Engineering Services for the Reserve Sidewalk Restoration Project**

**MOTION:** Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-96. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to advertise and receive Requests for Qualifications (RFQ) for Engineering Services for the Reserve Sidewalk Restoration 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, the Louisiana Office of Community Development-Disaster Recovery (LOCD-DR) helps communities recover from disasters by administering federal disaster recovery funds to support housing, infrastructure, economic development and resilience; and, WHEREAS, St. John the Baptist Parish has received approval from the (LOCD-DR) for the Reserve Sidewalk Restoration Project in the amount of \$2,058,614 CDBG-DR Funds, under the Parish's Resilient Communities Infrastructure Project Allocation; and, WHEREAS, the successful completion of such projects requires the assistance of qualified professional engineer firms to provide planning, design and construction management services; and, WHEREAS, the project will consist of installing ADA compliant sidewalks from Central Avenue to East 31<sup>st</sup> Street in Reserve, LA; and, WHEREAS, the project will be funded through the Grant award received from LOCD-DR. NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, that St. John the Baptist Parish is hereby authorized to advertise and receive Requests for Qualifications (RFQ) for Engineering Services for the Reserve Sidewalk Restoration Project. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin absent.

**Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-97 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to advertise and receive Request for Proposals (RFP) for Veterinarian Services**

**MOTION:** Councilman Bailey moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-97. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to advertise and receive Request for Proposals (RFP) for Veterinarian 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, Veterinarian Services at the Animal Shelter are needed on an as-needed basis in an effort to increase spay and neuter programs at a lower cost to the residents; and, WHEREAS, services will be funded through the Animal Shelter Budget. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, that St. John the Baptist Parish is hereby authorized to advertise and receive Requests for Proposals for Veterinarian Services. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin absent.

**Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-98 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to advertise and receive Requests for Proposals (RFP) for the Fire Department's Property and Casualty Insurance**

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Ramirez moved and Councilman Arcuri seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-98. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to advertise and receive Requests for Proposals (RFP) for the Fire Department's Property and Casualty Insurance. 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 Parish is requesting proposals for the Fire Department's Property and Casualty Insurance which expires September 7, 2025 and is funded through the Office of Fire Services; and, NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, that St. John the Baptist Parish is hereby authorized to advertise and receive Requests for Proposals for the Fire Department's Property and Casualty Insurance. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin absent.

**Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-99 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to advertise and receive Requests for Proposals (RFP) for the Repairs of Submersible Pumps, Motors and Related Equipment**

**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.

**Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-100 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to advertise and solicit bids for the Interstate Lighting Repairs I-10 Ramps at U.S. Highway 51**

**MOTION:** Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-100. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to advertise and solicit bids for the Interstate Lighting Repairs I-10 Ramps at U.S. Highway 51. 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 will consist of replacing existing poles and lighting for the on-ramps to Interstate 10 at U.S. Highway 51 in LaPlace, LA; and, WHEREAS, the extents will be from U.S. Highway 51 on each of the ramps, excluding the portion of the ramps that are bridges; and, WHEREAS, the replacement poles and lights shall match the original design provided by DOTD; and, WHEREAS, the estimated cost of repairs is \$580,000 and will be funded through the Streetlights Budget. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, that St. John the Baptist Parish is hereby authorized to solicit bids for the Interstate Lighting Repairs I-10 Ramps at U.S. Highway 51. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin absent.

**Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-101 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to enter into an Indemnity and Hold Harmless Agreement with the Pontchartrain Levee District for the Annual Independence Day Celebration**

**MOTION:** Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Johnson seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-101. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to enter into an Indemnity and Hold Harmless Agreement with the Pontchartrain Levee District for the Annual Independence Day Celebration. 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 Annual Independence Day Celebration Fireworks Show takes place from a barge on the Mississippi River, Wednesday, July 2, 2025 on the east and west banks of the river; and, WHEREAS, the Pontchartrain Levee District is the public body with authority to regulate activities on the levee system related to maintenance and integrity of the levee structure; and, WHEREAS, this Agreement is required by the Pontchartrain Levee District to host the Annual Independence Day Celebration Fireworks show; and, WHEREAS, St. John the Baptist Parish will agree to maintain an insurance policy for public liability and property damage, with the Pontchartrain Levee District as the named additional insured, in the amount of \$1,000,000. 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 the Indemnity and Hold Harmless Agreement between St. John the Baptist Parish and the Pontchartrain Levee District. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin absent.

**Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-102 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) with**

**the Department of Energy and Natural Resources of the State of Louisiana for the Local Coastal Management Program Implementation**

**MOTION:** Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Johnson seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-102. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) with the Department of Energy and Natural Resources of the State of Louisiana for the Local Coastal Management Program Implementation. 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 CEA with the Louisiana Department of Energy and Natural Resources is to receive funding to continue implementation of the Parish's Local Coastal Resources Program which includes managing the coastal zone, processing coastal zone permits, conducting field investigations and submitting reports to the State of Louisiana; and, WHEREAS, the program was previously adopted by the Council and implementation serves to protect, develop and restore resources within the Parish's Coastal Zone. 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 the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between St. John the Baptist Parish and the Louisiana Department of Energy and Natural Resources. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin absent.

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:**

There were no ordinances introduced at this time.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

At 6:39 PM, Councilwoman Johnson moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin absent.

/s/Tammy Houston  
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche  
Council Secretary