

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, JULY 8th, 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, July 8th, 2025, at 6:00 PM.

CALL TO ORDER:

ROLL CALL: Michael Wright, Councilman-at-Large, Div. B, Virgie Johnson, Councilwoman District I, Tammy Houston, Councilwoman District III, Robby Arcuri, Councilman District V, Vernon Bailey, Councilman District VI, Dixie Ramirez, Councilwoman District VII

ABSENT: Lennix Madere, Tyra Duhe-Griffin, Warren Torres

Hannah Hauck led the Prayer and Rashanna Sylvain, Legislative Assistant, 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 – June 24th, 2025, Council Meeting

MOTION: Councilman Bailey moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes – June 24th, 2025, Council Meeting. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin and Councilmen Madere and Torres absent.

REPORTS:

President's Report

PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION ON ORDINANCE (S)

25-30 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the rezoning of Lot 5-B of the Vilemont Subdivision from the Residential District One (R-1) to the Residential District Two (R-2) located at 123 Apple Street, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZR-1703) (J. Hotard & C. Powell)

MOTION: Councilman Bailey moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 25-30. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin and Councilmen Madere and Torres absent.

25-31 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the rezoning of Lot 5-A of the Vilemont Subdivision from the Residential District One (R-1) to the Residential District Two (R-2) located at 121 Apple Street, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZR-1704) (J. Hotard & C. Powell)

MOTION: Councilwoman Johnson moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 25-31. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin and Councilmen Madere and Torres absent.

25-32 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance granting approval to the proposed 20' Access Servitude and the 20'X 66' Sewer Lift Station Servitude on Tract 1 Whitlow Court; as well as the associated revocations of existing servitudes on the adjacent Tract 1T Torres Tract, which include a 25'X 25'Sewer Force Main Servitude & 25'X 50' Access/Egress Servitude; all of which are situated in Sections 76 & 94, T-11-S, R-7-E, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana, and are more particularly shown and set forth in the Survey Plat prepared by Stephen P. Flynn, Riverlands Surveying Co., dated April 22, 2025 (J. Hotard)

MOTION: Councilwoman Ramirez moved and Councilman Arcuri seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 25-32. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin and Councilmen Madere and Torres absent.

NEW BUSINESS:

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-107 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to advertise and receive Requests for Qualifications (RFQ) for Engineering Services for the Street Lighting and Replacement Project

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-107. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to advertise and receive Requests for Qualifications (RFQ) for Engineering Services for the Street Lighting and Replacement 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 Street Lighting and Replacement Project in the amount of \$1,100,000 CDBG-DR Funds, under the Parish's Resilient Communities Infrastructure Project Allocation; and, WHEREAS, the successful completion of such projects requires assistance from qualified professional engineering firms to provide planning, design and construction management services; and, WHEREAS, the project will consist of replacing streetlight Parish wide; 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 Street Lighting and Replacement Project. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin and Councilmen Madere and Torres absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-108 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to reject all bids received for the REGALA Park Flag Football Field Synthetic Turf and Lighting Project

MOTION: Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilwoman Johnson seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-108. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to reject all bids received for the REGALA Park Flag Football Field Synthetic Turf and Lighting 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, all bids received are being rejected due to being over the Engineer's opinion of probably construction cost; and, WHEREAS, installation of a new synthetic turf and lighting is needed for the REGALA Park Flag Football Field; and, WHEREAS, the project will be funded through the Recreation 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 reject all bids received for the REGALA Park Flag Football Field Synthetic Turf and Lighting Project. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin and Councilmen Madere and Torres absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-109 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to re-advertise and solicit bids for the REGALA Park Flag Football Field Synthetic Turf and Lighting Project

MOTION: Councilwoman Ramirez moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-109. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to re-advertise and solicit bids for the REGALA Park Flag Football Field Synthetic Turf and Lighting 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, installation of a new synthetic turf and lighting is needed for the REGALA Park Flag Football Field; and, WHEREAS, the project will be funded through the Recreation 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 advertise and solicit bids for the REGALA Park Flag Football Field Synthetic Turf and Lighting Project. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin and Councilmen Madere and Torres absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-110 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 7 with Pittsburgh Tank & Tower Co. for the elevated Water Tower and Storage Tank Rehabilitation Project

MOTION: Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-110. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 7 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. 7 is a no-cost change order which adds an additional two (2) 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.7 between St. John the Baptist Parish and Pittsburgh Tank & Tower Co. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin and Councilmen Madere and Torres absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-111 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute the Certificate of Substantial Completion with Pittsburgh Tank & Tower Co. for the Elevated Water Tower and Storage Tank Rehabilitation Project

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-111. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute the Certificate of Substantial Completion 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, this project has been deemed substantially complete by the Project Engineer; and, WHEREAS, all punch list items were identified and near completion. 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 Pittsburgh Tank & Tower Co. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin and Councilmen Madere and Torres absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-112 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to settle and pay the July 31, 2024 Property Damage Claim to Frank Puglia of 221 W. 4th Street, Reserve, LA 70084

MOTION: Councilwoman Ramirez moved and Councilwoman Johnson seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-112. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to settle and pay the July 31, 2024 Property Damage Claim to Frank Puglia of 221 W. 4th Street, Reserve, LA 70084. 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, Louisiana Claims Administrators (LoCA) recommended, and Legal Counsel approved the settlement amount of \$703; and, WHEREAS, the settlement will be funded through the Settlement line item of the Wastewater Budget. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, that St. John the Baptist Parish is hereby authorized to settle and pay the July 31, 2024 Property Damage Claim to Frank Puglia of 221 W 4th Street, Reserve, LA 70084. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin and Councilmen Madere and Torres absent.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

There were no ordinances introduced at this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 6:16 PM, Councilman Wright moved and Councilwoman Johnson seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin and Councilmen Madere and Torres absent.

/s/Tammy Houston
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

/s/Jackie Landeche
Council Secretary