

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9TH, 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 Sorapura Chambers, Edgard, Louisiana on Tuesday, September 9th, 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, Jr., Councilman District II, Tammy Houston, Councilwoman District III, Tyra Duhe-Griffin, Councilwoman District IV, Robert Arcuri, Councilman District V, Vernon Bailey, Sr., Councilman District VI, Dixie Ramirez, Councilwoman District VII

ABSENT: None

Iyanla Williams led the Prayer and Zoe Oubre led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

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

Gala Holden - Board of Review Appeal

MOTION: Councilman Bailey moved and Councilman Arcuri seconded the motion to suspend the rules to amend the agenda. The motion FAILED with 8 Yeas, 1 Against (Torres).

MOTION: Councilman Bailey moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the motion to amend the agenda to add Board of Review Request for Appeal by Charo and Gala Holden. The motion FAILED with 8 Yeas, 1 Against (Torres).

BOARD OF REVIEW

This Board of Review has been opened to receive any written or oral complaints from taxpayers who wish to protest their assessment as determined by the Assessor. Complaining taxpayers must comply with ACT 705 of 1976 in order for the Board of Review to consider any protest.

BOARD OF REVIEW - REQUEST FOR APPEAL BY CHARO AND GALA HOLDEN

CONSENT AGENDA:

ITEMS: Approval of Minutes - August 26th, 2025, Council Meeting; Permit Approval - Suicide Awareness Walk "Walking out of Darkness" A Night Outside Against Suicide - Sunday, September 28, 2025, at 7:15 PM. - The walk will begin on the corner of Beech Grove Drive and Railroad Avenue and end at 110 NW 13th Street which is the address of the Greater New Plymouth Rock Baptist Church in Reserve, LA (The

distance should be about 1.2 miles); Permit Approval - West St. John High School Annual Homecoming Parade - October 10, 2025 - The parade will run from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM - The parade will start turning right onto LA-18(River Road) out of the Juan Anthony Joseph Park - stopping in front of Central Avenue, Castle Drive, West St. John Elementary and the St. John Parish Courthouse - turn right onto Hwy. 640 - then turn left onto Hwy. 3127 - returning and ending at West St. John High School; Permit Approval - D.A.G.E. - Sunday, February 15, 2026, beginning at 11:00 AM - The parade route will begin lineup at the St. John Community Center and end at the corner of Fairway Drive and Belle Terre Blvd.

MOTION: Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilwoman Johnson seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes - August 26th, 2025, Council Meeting; Permit Approval - Suicide Awareness Walk "Walking out of Darkness" A Night Outside Against Suicide - Sunday, September 28, 2025, at 7:15 PM. - The walk will begin on the corner of Beech Grove Drive and Railroad Avenue and end at 110 NW 13th Street which is the address of the Greater New Plymouth Rock Baptist Church in Reserve, LA (The distance should be about 1.2 miles); Permit Approval - West St. John High School Annual Homecoming Parade - October 10, 2025 - The parade will run from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM - The parade will start turning right onto LA-18(River Road) out of the Juan Anthony Joseph Park - stopping in front of Central Avenue, Castle Drive, West St. John Elementary and the St. John Parish Courthouse - turn right onto Hwy. 640 - then turn left onto Hwy. 3127 - returning and ending at West St. John High School; Permit Approval - D.A.G.E. - Sunday, February 15, 2026, beginning at 11:00 AM - The parade route will begin lineup at the St. John Community Center and end at the corner of Fairway Drive and Belle Terre Blvd. The motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS:

President's Report

PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSIDERATION ON ORDINANCE(S)

25-51 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the resubdivision of Lots 12 and 13, Block 35, of the Hope Plantation Subdivision, located at 575 and 581 Garyville Northern Street, Garyville, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZS-1438) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 25-51. The motion passed unanimously.

25-50 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the request to rezone the proposed Lot 13A, Block 35, of the Hope Plantation Subdivision from the Residential District One (R-1) to the Industrial District One (I-1) located at 575 Garyville Northern Street, Garyville, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZR-1707) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)

MOTION: Councilwoman Ramirez moved and Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 25-50. The motion passed unanimously.

25-52 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the resubdivision of Lot 1-B-1 of the LaPlace Plantation Subdivision, located at 1410 and 1412 West Airline Highway, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZS-1441) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)

MOTION: Councilman Bailey moved and Councilman Arcuri seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 25-52. The motion passed unanimously.

25-53 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the resubdivision of Lot K-1 located on Highway 61, Mt. Airy, St. John the Baptist Parish (PZS-1442) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Johnson seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 25-53. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-142 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist to advertise and solicit bids for Concrete mix

MOTION: Councilman Bailey moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-142. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist to advertise and solicit bids for Concrete mix. 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, various departments require concrete mix to complete regular maintenance operations; and, WHEREAS, purchases will be on an as-needed basis and will be funded through various Department Funds. 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 Concrete Mix. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-143 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to advertise and solicit bids for Water & Sewage Fittings

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-143. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist to advertise and solicit bids for Water & Sewage Fittings. 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, purchases will be on an as-needed basis and will be funded through the Utilities Department and Wastewater Fund. 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 Water & Sewage Fittings. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-144 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to advertise and solicit bids for Structural Firefighter Bunker Gear

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Johnson seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-144. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist to advertise and solicit bids for Structural Firefighter Bunker Gear. 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, purchases will be on an as-needed basis and will be funded through the Office of Fire Services. 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 Structural Firefighter Bunker Gear. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-145 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to advertise and solicit bids for Plastic and Corrugated Metal Culverts

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-145. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist to advertise and solicit bids for Plastic and Corrugated Metal Culverts. 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, purchases will be on an as-needed basis and will be funded through the Public Works Department. 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 Plastic and Corrugated Metal Culverts. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-146 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to advertise and solicit bids for Granular Chlorine, Chlorine Gas and Sulfur Dioxide Gas

MOTION: Councilman Michael Wright moved and Councilman Vernon Bailey seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-146. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist to advertise and solicit bids for Granular Chlorine, Chlorine Gas and Sulfur Dioxide Gas. 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, purchases will be on an as-needed basis and will be funded through the Utilities Department. 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 Granular Chlorine, Chlorine Gas and Sulfur Dioxide Gas. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-147 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to advertise and solicit bids for Fuel Requirements

MOTION: Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilwoman Johnson seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-147. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist to advertise and solicit bids for Fuel Requirements. 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, purchases will be on an as-needed basis and will be funded through

various Departments. 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 Fuel Requirements. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-148 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to award the bid for the Interstate Lighting Repairs I-10 Ramps at U.S. Highway 51 to Preferred Electric Inc.

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-148. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist to award the bid for the Interstate Lighting Repairs I-10 Ramps at U.S. Highway 51 to Preferred Electric Inc. 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, Preferred Electric, Inc. of New Iberia, LA submitted the lowest responsive and responsible bid in the amount of \$594,780; and, WHEREAS, this project will consist of replacing existing poles and lighting for the on-ramps (excluding the portion of the ramps that are bridges) to Interstate 10 at U.S. Highway 51 in LaPlace, LA; and, WHEREAS, the replacement poles and lights shall match the original design provided by DOTD; and, WHEREAS, the project 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 award the bid for the Interstate Lighting Repairs I-10 Ramps at U.S. Highway 51 to Preferred Electric, Inc. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-149 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with McKim & Creed, Inc. for the Reserve Wastewater Treatment Pond Capacity Expansion Project

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-149. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with McKim & Creed, Inc. for the Reserve Wastewater Treatment Pond Capacity Expansion 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, McKim & Creed, Inc. of Gonzales, LA was selected as the Engineer for the Reserve Wastewater Treatment Pond Capacity Expansion Project; and, WHEREAS, the new Agreement adds time to the original Agreement and Amendment No. 1 to complete the project; and, WHEREAS, to consolidate four (4) existing Regional Wastewater Treatment Plants on the Eastbank, the Reserve Wastewater Treatment Pond capacity needs to be expanded from 5 MGD to 12 MGD to treat additional flow; and, WHEREAS, the estimated cost of the Agreement is \$735,802.22 and will be funded through the Wastewater Fund with reimbursement from the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality Clean Water State Revolving Loan. 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 Professional Services Agreement between St. John the Baptist Parish and McKim & Creed, Inc. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-150 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute a Contract with Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals Office of Public Health for the Strategic National Stockpile Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI) Grant

MOTION: Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-150. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute a Contract with Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals Office of Public Health for the Strategic National Stockpile Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI) Grant. 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 is an annual Contract that allows the Parish to participate in a collaborative planning initiative for mass dispensing response capabilities and to foster regional partnerships; and, WHEREAS, the cost of this Contract is \$19,866 and is 100% federally funded. 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 a Contract between St. John the Baptist Parish and Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals Office of Public Health. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-151 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 2 with Jones Construction Solutions, LLC for the Animal Shelter Renovation Project

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Johnson seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-151. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 2 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. 2 is a no-cost change order that adds an additional nine (9) calendar days; and, WHEREAS, additional days are 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. 2 between St. John the Baptist Parish and Jones Construction Solutions, LLC. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-152 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 2 with Kevin Clark Electrical Services, LLC for the Utilities Generator Replacement Project

MOTION: Councilwoman Johnson moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-152. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 2 with Kevin Clark Electrical Services, LLC for the Utilities Generator 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, Change Order No. 2 increases the original Agreement in the amount of \$38,020.62; and, WHEREAS, the increase is for replacement of the electrical power generator feeds at the Lions Water Treatment Plant from the new emergency generator set to the existing disconnect at the main building; and, WHEREAS, the replacement will reduce the possibility of equipment failure and safety hazards; and, WHEREAS, Change Order No. 2 will be funded through the Hurricane Ida Fund with FEMA Reimbursement. 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. 2 between St. John the Baptist Parish and Kevin Clark Electrical Services, LLC. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-153 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to formally commit funds for the Reserve Relief Pump Station Project

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-153. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist to formally commit funds for the Reserve Relief Pump Station 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, St. John the Baptist Parish is a political subdivision of the State of Louisiana; and WHEREAS, St. John the Baptist Parish has been awarded a grant of \$14,000,000.00 for the Reserve Relief Pump Station Project through the Office of Community Development Louisiana Watershed Initiative (LWI) Round 2 Program; and, WHEREAS, the project budget for the Reserve Relief Pump Station Project is \$16,799,913; and, WHEREAS, to make up the difference, St. John the Baptist Parish will agree to formally commit funds in the amount of \$2,799,913 which will be funded through the Levee Protection Fund. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, that St. John the Baptist Parish agrees to formally commit funds for the Reserve Relief Pump Station Project. The motion passed unanimously.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

- 25-54** - An ordinance approving excavation within Parish Rights-of-way for the installation of fiber optics along Woodland Drive by municipal address 27 Sawgrass Drive, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 18954) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)
- 25-55** - An ordinance approving excavation within Parish Rights-of-way for the installation of fiber optics along Rue De Sante by municipal address 502 Rue De Sante, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 18955) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)
- 25-56** - An ordinance approving excavation within Parish Rights-of-way for the installation of fiber optics along Gail Drive by municipal address 101 Gail Drive, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 18956) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)

- 25-57** - An ordinance approving excavation within Parish Rights-of-way for the installation of fiber optics along Farm Road by municipal address 136 Farm Road, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 18956) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)
- 25-58** - An ordinance approving excavation within Parish Rights-of-way for the installation of fiber optics along Frisco Drive by municipal address 500 Frisco Drive, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 18959) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)
- 25-59** - An ordinance approving excavation within Parish Rights-of-way for the installation of fiber optics along East Airline Highway by municipal address 901 East Airline Highway, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 19024) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)

ADJOURNMENT :

At 6:42 PM, Councilman Bailey moved and Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

/s/Tammy Houston
COUNCIL CHAIR

/s/Ranshawa Sylvain
COUNCIL CLERK