

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9TH, 2025
CHAIRWOMAN - 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, December 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, Warren Torres, Jr., Councilman District II, Tammy Houston, Councilwoman District III, Councilwoman District IV, Robert Arcuri, Councilman District V, Vernon Bailey, Sr., Councilman District VI, Dixie Ramirez, Councilwoman District VII

ABSENT: Virgie Johnson, Tyra Duhe-Griffin

Michelle Miller, Director of Economic Development, led the Prayer and Bella Price, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

David Duhe commented on Ordinance 25-92. Geraldine Cox commented on Ordinance 25-96.

Jaclyn Hotard - Presentation - 2024 Miss Andouille Queen, Layla Jackson and 2024 Teen Andouille Queen, Elle Johnson - Keys to the Parish

Jaclyn Hotard - Proclamation - January as National Donor Month

CONSENT AGENDA

ITEMS: Approval of Minutes - November 25th, 2025 - Council Meeting

MOTION: Councilman Bailey moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve consent agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes - November 25th, 2025, Council Meeting. The motion passed with Councilwomen Duhe-Griffin and Johnson absent.

REPORTS:

President's Report

PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSIDERATION ON ORDINANCE(S)

25-91 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving proposing an amendment to Article III, Section A.2 of the St. John the Baptist Home Rule Charter (V. Bailey)

MOTION: Councilman Bailey moved and Councilman Arcuri seconded the motion to TABLE Ordinance 25-91. The motion passed with 6 yeas, 1 against (Torres) and 2 absent (Duhe-Griffin, Johnson).

25-92 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the request to rezone Lot 1A, of the Willie Jacob Subdivision from the Residential District One [R-1] and the Commercial District Two [C-2] to the Industrial District One [I-1] located at 109 East 15th Street, Reserve, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZR-1744) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Torres seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 25-92. The motion passed with Councilwomen Duhe-Griffin and Johnson absent.

25-93 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the resubdivision of Parcel 1-A-2 of the New Era Subdivision, located at 1950 West Airline Highway, Reserve, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZS-1450) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Torres seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 25-93. The motion passed with Councilwomen Duhe-Griffin and Johnson absent.

25-94 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the resubdivision of Lot 1, Block 2, of the LaPlace Plantation Subdivision, located at Persimmon Street, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZS-1452) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)

MOTION: Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 25-94. The motion passed with Councilwomen Duhe-Griffin and Johnson absent.

Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin arrived in the meeting at 6:17 PM.

25-95 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance to establish the rules to govern the St. John the Baptist Parish Council Members, as required by Article III, Section A5(f) - Organization; Officers; Council Secretary-of the St. John the Baptist Parish Home Rule Charter (T. Houston/R. Arcuri/M. Wright)

MOTION: Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 25-95. The motion passed with 6 yeas, 2 against (Duhe-Griffin, Torres) and 1 absent (Johnson).

25-96 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance to establish the rules of good order to members of the public for attendance and participation in St. John the Baptist Parish Council meetings, as authorized by Article III, Section 7(b) - Powers and Duties of the Parish Council - of the St. John the Baptist Parish Home Rule Charter (T. Houston/R. Arcuri, Wright)

MOTION: Councilman Bailey moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 25-96. The motion passed with 6 yeas, 2 against (Duhe-Griffin, Torres) and 1 absent (Johnson).

25-97 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance amending the annual operating budgets for St. John the Baptist Parish for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2025, and ending December 31, 2025. (J. Hotard)

MOTION: Councilman Bailey moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 25-97. The motion passed with 6 yeas, 2 against (Duhe-Griffin) and 1 absent (Johnson).

25-98 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the following excavations within Parish Rights-of-way for the installation of fiber optics by Comcast: **1.** Along Pinehurst Drive by municipal address 2127 Pinehurst Drive, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 19286); **2.** Along Grant Drive by municipal address 1534 Grant Drive, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 19287); **3.** Along Sonora Court by municipal address 11 Sonora Court, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 19289); **4.** Along Riverlands Drive by municipal address 101 Riverlands Drive, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 19315); **5.** Along West Frisco Drive by municipal address 1800 West Frisco Drive, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 19316) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)

MOTION: Councilwoman Ramirez moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 25-98. The motion passed with Councilwoman Johnson absent.

NEW BUSINESS:

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-189 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to advertise and solicit bids for Sampling Stations for Water Mains

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-189. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to advertise and solicit bids for Sampling Stations for Water Mains. 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 request is for the purchase of ninety sampling stations for water mains to collect water samples for quality testing purposes; and, WHEREAS, the estimated cost is \$140,000 and will be funded through the Community Water Enrichment Fund (CWEF) Grant. 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 Sampling Stations for Water Mains. The motion passed with Councilwoman Johnson absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-190 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to award the bid for the Hurricane Francine National Resource Conservation Services (NRCS) Drainage Canal Cleaning Project to Chem Spray South, Inc.

MOTION: Councilwoman Ramirez moved and Councilman Arcuri seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-190. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to award the bid for the Hurricane Francine National Resource Conservation Services (NRCS) Drainage Canal Cleaning Project to Chem Spray South, 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, Chem Spray South, Inc. of Gonzales, LA submitted the lowest responsive and responsible bid in the amount of \$731,378.75, WHEREAS, this project will include the clearing and snagging of fallen trees and debris from eleven (11) drainage canals throughout the Parish; and, WHEREAS, project will be funded with eligible NRCS Funds with a 25% match which will be funded through the Public Works 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 Hurricane Francine NRCS Drainage Canal Cleaning Project to Chem Spray South, Inc. The motion passed with Councilwoman Johnson absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-191 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 3 with RAMJ Construction, LLC. for the Wastewater Collection and Treatment Maintenance/Emergency Repairs Project

MOTION: Councilman Bailey moved and Councilman Arcuri seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-191. A Resolution authorizing S. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 3 with RAMJ Construction, LLC. for the Wastewater Collection and Treatment Maintenance/Emergency Repairs 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. 3 increases the original Agreement amount by \$1,000,000; and, WHEREAS, the increase is for additional required wastewater collection repairs and future task orders for emergency and/or miscellaneous maintenance work on the Parish's Wastewater Collection System; and, WHEREAS, Change Order No. 3 will be funded through the Wastewater 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.3 between St. John the Baptist Parish and RAMJ Construction, LLC. The motion passed with Councilwoman Johnson absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-192 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 4 with Bip & Sons Services, LLC for the St. John Parish Water Distribution and Treatment Maintenance/Emergency Repairs Project

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Torres seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-192. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 4 with Bip & Sons Services, LLC for the St. John Parish Water Distribution and Treatment Maintenance/Emergency Repairs 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 increases the original Agreement by \$1,000,000 for additional required water distribution repairs and future task orders for emergency and/or other miscellaneous maintenance work on the Parish's Water Distribution and Treatment System; and, WHEREAS, Change Order No. 4 will be funded through the Utilities Department Fund. 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 Bip & Sons Services, LLC. The motion passed with Councilwoman Johnson absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-193 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 4 with Pintail Contracting Services, LLC for the Lions Water Treatment Plant One Million Gallon Per Day (MGD)

Filter, Sludge Return and Existing Media Filter Replacement Project

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-193. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 4 with Pintail Contracting Services, LLC for the Lions Water Treatment Plant One Million Gallon Per Day (MGD) Filter, Sludge Return and Existing Media Filter 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. 4 decreases the original Agreement in the amount of \$15,425.40 and adds an additional ninety (90) days; and, WHEREAS, the decrease is due to the reduction of valves used and driveways; and, WHEREAS, the additional days are needed to complete the coating of the old filter building to ensure the coating product's temperature and curing time specifications are met during the winter season; and, WHEREAS, project is funded through the Water Sector Commission Grant and the 2022 Bond Issue. 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 Pintail Contracting Services, LLC. The motion passed with Councilwoman Johnson absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-194 - 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 461 of the 2025 Regular Legislative Session of the Louisiana Legislature in the sum of \$40,000 to St. John the Baptist Parish Government for the Reserve Sidewalks

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Torres seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-194. 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 461 of the 2025 Regular Legislative Session of the Louisiana Legislature in the sum of \$40,000 to St. John the Baptist Parish Government for the Reserve Sidewalks. 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 2025 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 461 contains a line item appropriation within the Agency's budget for the benefit of St. John the Baptist Parish Government of which the sum of \$40,000 has been allocated for the Reserve Sidewalks; and, WHEREAS, the public purpose for the described funding is for updating, upgrading, improving and repairing multiple sidewalks in Reserve, LA; and, WHEREAS, St. John the Baptist Parish desires to cooperate with the State of Louisiana, Department of Treasury in the implementation of said funding; 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 Andouille Festival. The motion passed with Councilwoman Johnson absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Jason Akers - Resolution - R25-195 - A Resolution providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the special election held in the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, on Saturday, November 15, 2025, to authorize the renewal of special taxes therein

MOTION: Councilwoman Rameriz moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-195. A Resolution providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the special election held in the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, on Saturday, November 15, 2025, to authorize the renewal of special taxes therein. BE IT RESOLVED by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), that: SECTION 1. Canvass. This Governing Authority does now proceed in open and public session to examine the official tabulations of votes cast at the special election held in the Parish on Saturday, November 15, 2025 (the "Election"), to authorize the renewal of special taxes therein pursuant to the following propositions (the "Propositions"): PROPOSITION NO. 1 OF 3(PUBLIC BUILDINGS TAX RENEWAL) Shall the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana(the "Parish"), continue to levy a special tax of 1 mill on all property subject to taxation in the Parish (an estimated \$950,000 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year), for a period of 10 years, beginning with the year 2026 and ending with the year 2035, for the purpose of constructing, operating, and maintaining the Parish courthouse, jail and office buildings of the Parish? PROPOSITION NO. 2 OF 3 (HEALTH UNIT TAX RENEWAL) Shall the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), continue to levy a special tax of .96 mills on all property subject to taxation in the Parish (an estimated \$925,000 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year), for a period of 10 years, beginning with the year 2028 and ending with the year 2037, for the purpose of maintaining, operating and improving medical and public health facilities and services in the Parish? PROPOSITION NO. 3 OF 3 (LIBRARY TAX RENEWAL) Shall the Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), continue to levy a special tax of 9.94 mills on all property subject to taxation within the Parish (an estimated \$9,500,000 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year), for a period of 10 years, beginning with the year 2028 and ending with the year 2037, for the purpose of maintaining, constructing and operating public libraries in St. John the Baptist Parish? This Governing Authority does further proceed to examine and canvass the returns of the Election thereof. SECTION 2. Election Results. According to the official certified tabulation of votes cast at said Election, (i)there was a total of 1,450 votes cast IN FAVOR OF Proposition No. 1 and a total of 1,074 votes cast AGAINST Proposition No. 1, resulting in a majority of 376 votes cast IN FAVOR OF Proposition No. 1; (ii) there was a total of 1,544 votes cast IN FAVOR OF Proposition No. 2 and a total of 986 votes cast AGAINST Proposition No. 2, resulting in a majority of 558 votes cast IN FAVOR OF Proposition No. 2; and (iii) there was a total of 1,518 votes cast IN FAVOR OF Proposition No. 3 and a total of 1,020 votes cast AGAINST Proposition No. 3, resulting in a majority of 498 votes cast IN FAVOR OF Proposition No. 3. The Propositions were therefore duly CARRIED by a majority of the votes cast by the qualified electors voting at the Election. SECTION 3. Promulgation of Election Result. The results of said election shall be promulgated by publication in the manner provided by law, after receipt from the Secretary of State's office of the actual costs of the election, as

required by §18:1292 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended. SECTION 4. Declaration. The foregoing results of the Election are hereby declared by this Governing Authority and shall be published as required by law. SECTION 5. Procès Verbal. A *Procès Verbal* of the canvass of the returns of the Election shall be made and a certified copy thereof shall be forwarded to the Secretary of State, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, who shall record the same in her office; another certified copy thereof shall be forwarded to the Clerk of Court and *Ex-Officio* Recorder of Mortgages in and for the Parish of St. John the Baptist, who shall record the same in the Mortgage Records of said Parish; and another copy thereof shall be retained in the archives of this Governing Authority. The motion passed with Councilwoman Johnson absent.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

25-99 An ordinance approving the request to rezone Lot 7A-1 and Lot 7B, of the Elvina Subdivision from the Residential District One [R-1] and the Batture District One [B-1] to the Industrial District One [I-1] located at 900/901 Highway 628, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZR-1748) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)

25-100 An ordinance approving the request to rezone Lot 1A and Lot 2A, of the Woodland Estates Subdivision from the Commercial District Three [C-3] to the Industrial District One [I-1] located at 216A/216B Woodland Drive, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZR-1749) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)

25-101 An ordinance approving the resubdivision of Lot 71, Lot 72, and 73 of the Lac Des Allemands Cove Subdivision, located at 184 Rue St. Charles, Des Allemands, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZS-1453) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)

25-102 An ordinance approving the resubdivision of Lot B, of the Hope Plantation Subdivision, located on Garyville Northern Street, Garyville, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZS-1455) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)

ADJOURNMENT:

At 6:59 PM, Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilwoman Johnson absent.

/s/Tammy Houston
COUNCIL CHAIR

/s/Donna Barber
LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANT