

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, JANUARY 13TH, 2026
CHAIRMAN ROBERT ARCURI
VICE-CHAIRWOMAN TAMMY HOUSTON

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 Courthouse, Rudolph Sorapuru Chambers, Edgard, Louisiana on Tuesday, January 13th, 2026, at 6:00 PM.

CALL TO ORDER: Lennix Madere, Jr., Councilman-at-Large, Div. A, 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, Councilman District VI, Dixie Ramirez, Councilwoman District VII

ABSENT: Vernon Bailey, Sr. and Michael Wright

Bella Price led the Prayer and Kurt Becnel led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

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

Miles Grant - 1800 Baronne Street, New Orleans, LA 70113

COUNCIL - Selection of Officers: Council Chairman; Council Vice-Chairman

MOTION: Councilwoman Johnson moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the motion to nominate Councilman Arcuri as the Chairman of the Parish Council. The motion passed with Councilman Bailey and Councilman Wright absent.

MOTION: Councilwoman Johnson moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to nominate Councilwoman Houston as the Vice-Chairwoman of the Parish Council. The motion passed with 4 yeas, 3 nays and 2 absent (Bailey and Wright).

Jaclyn Hotard - Council Consideration of Sydni Henke - Appointment as Director of Communications

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the motion to consider the appointment of Sydni Henke as the Director of Communications. The motion passed with Councilman Bailey and Councilman Wright absent.

Councilman Michael Wright arrived in the meeting at 6:10 PM.

CONSENT AGENDA: Approval of Minutes - December 22nd, 2025, Council Meeting; Permit Approval - West St. John Civic Association Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. March and Memorial Program West St. John Civic Association Annual March and Memorial Program in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. - Monday, January 19th, 2026, beginning at Noon from the Roland Borne Sr. Memorial Library, located at 2979 Hwy. 18 in Edgard, and will move East along River Road toward West St. John Elementary School. The memorial program will begin immediately after the march at the school auditorium.

MOTION: Councilwoman Johnson moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve consent agenda consisting of Approval of Minutes - December 22nd, 2025, Council Meeting; Permit Approval - West St. John Civic Association Annual Dr. Martin Luther

King, Jr. March and Memorial Program West St. John Civic Association Annual March and Memorial Program in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. - Monday, January 19th, 2026, beginning at Noon from the Roland Borne Sr. Memorial Library, located at 2979 Hwy. 18 in Edgard, and will move East along River Road toward West St. John Elementary School. The memorial program will begin immediately after the march at the school auditorium. The motion passed with Councilman Bailey absent.

REPORTS:

President's Report

NEW BUSINESS:

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R26-01 - A Resolution to authorize the Finance Authority of New Orleans ("FNO"), a Public Trust created by the State of Louisiana, or Alternate Duly-authorized entity, to execute a payment in lieu of tax ("PILOT") at the property known as Place Dubourg to facilitate its continued Affordable Senior-Focused Housing status upon its transfer from a property tax-exempt Archdiocese of New Orleans entity (THE "ARCHDIOCESE") to new ownership

MOTION: Councilwoman Ramirez moved and Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin seconded the motion to approve Resolution R26-01. A Resolution to authorize the Finance Authority of New Orleans ("FNO"), a Public Trust created by the State of Louisiana, or Alternate Duly-authorized entity, to execute a payment in lieu of tax ("Pilot") at the property known as Place Dubourg to facilitate its continued Affordable Senior-Focused Housing status upon its transfer from a property tax-exempt Archdiocese of New Orleans entity (THE "ARCHDIOCESE") to new ownership. 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 Council supports the continuation of the Archdiocese's mission of affordable senior-focused housing at Place Dubourg; and, WHEREAS, the Archdiocese's current bankruptcy necessitates the sale of its affordable senior-focused housing portfolio, known as the Christopher Homes Portfolio, including Place Dubourg in St. John the Baptist Parish; and, WHEREAS, FNO has authority under State Law as a statutorily created Public Trust to enter into PILOT Agreements in St. John the Baptist Parish subject to the St. John the Baptist Parish Council consenting via Resolution. NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the St. John the Baptist Parish Council does hereby resolve that the Finance Authority of New Orleans, or other duly-authorized entity, may enter into a PILOT Agreement with the new private owners of the real property known as Place Dubourg pursuant to its acquisition from the Archdiocese under terms reasonable to facilitate the continuation of the current affordable senior-focused mission. The motion passed with Councilman Bailey absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R26-02 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to award the bid for the River Road WWTP Aeration Basin and Grit Chamber Rehabilitation Project to Industrial and Mechanical Contractors, Inc.

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to approve Resolution R26-02. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to award the bid for the River Road WWTP Aeration Basin and Grit Chamber Rehabilitation Project to Industrial and Mechanical Contractors, 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, Industrial and Mechanical

Contractors, Inc. of Jefferson, LA submitted the lowest responsive and responsible bid in the amount of \$1,459,708; WHEREAS, the existing aeration basin and grit chamber at the River Road WWTP are both beyond their useful life and need rehabilitation; and, WHEREAS, the project will be funded through the St. John Parish 2022 Wastewater Bonds. 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 River Road WWTP Aeration Basin and Grit Chamber Rehabilitation Project to Industrial and Mechanical Contractors, Inc. The motion passed with Councilman Bailey absent.

Jaclyn Hotard/Kali Price - Resolution - R26-03 - A Resolution authorizing and approving a Grant Agreement between St. John the Baptist Parish and the Louisiana Housing Cooperation (LHC) for administration of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) for Grant October 1, 2026 - September 30, 2028, and further authorizing the Parish President to execute all documents related thereto

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to approve Resolution R26-03. A Resolution authorizing and approving a Grant Agreement between St. John the Baptist Parish and the Louisiana Housing Cooperation (LHC) for administration of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) for Grant October 1, 2026 - September 30, 2028, and further authorizing the Parish President to execute all documents related thereto. 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 requirement to obtain funding through LIHEAP; and, WHEREAS, the allocation for St. John Parish is \$405,585. 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 all documents related to the Grant Agreement between St. John the Baptist Parish and the Louisiana Housing Corporation. The motion passed with Councilman Bailey absent.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

- 26-01** An ordinance authorizing the incurring of debt of issuance of Forty-Three Million Dollars (\$43,000,000) of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2026, of Parish of St. John the Baptist, State of Louisiana, and providing for other matters in connection therewith (J. Hotard)
- 26-02** An ordinance approving the resubdivision of Lots 1-5 of the Octave Montz Succession and Lots 2-5 of the Charles St. Martin Tract, located at 228-372 Pine Street, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZS-1454) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)
- 26-03** An ordinance approving the resubdivision of Lots 1-D3 and Lot 1-D4 of the George Haik Tract Subdivision, located at 136 West 4th Street, Reserve, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZS-1460) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)
- 26-04** An ordinance approving the resubdivision of a portion of the Terre Haute Plantation Subdivision, located on 4336 West Airline Highway, Reserve, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZS-1462) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)
- 26-05** An ordinance approving the resubdivision of the Sorapuru Brothers Tract, located at 791 Highway 18, Lucy, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZS-1463) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)

26-06 An ordinance to amend **Ordinance 24-64 - Sec. 28-91 - (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) seventy (70) 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) seventy (70) 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. (J. Hotard)

ADJOURNMENT:

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

/s/Robert Arcuri
COUNCIL CHAIR

/s/Ranshawa Sylvain
COUNCIL CLERK