

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH, 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 Monday, November 10th, 2025, at 12:00 PM.

CALL TO ORDER: 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

Tracy Shields led the Prayer and Robert Figuero led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

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

There were no public comments at this time.

Jaclyn Hotard - Presentation - November 29th as Small Business Saturday

CONSENT AGENDA:

ITEMS: Approval of Minutes - October 28th, 2025 - Council Meeting; Permit Approval - Greater New Plymouth Rock Baptist Church Harvest Festival - Saturday, November 22nd, 2025, beginning at 12:00 noon until 6:00 pm. Greater New Plymouth Rock Baptist Church requests the closure of Northwest 13th in Reserve, LA for the upcoming Harvest Festival, to ensure the safety of our participants and attendees

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to approve consent agenda items consisting of Approval of Minutes - October 28th, 2025 - Council Meeting; Permit Approval - Greater New Plymouth Rock Baptist Church Harvest Festival - Saturday, November 22nd, 2025, beginning at 12:00 noon until 6:00 pm. Greater New Plymouth Rock Baptist Church requests the closure of Northwest 13th in Reserve, LA for the upcoming Harvest Festival, to ensure the safety of our participants and attendees. The motion passed Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin absent.

REPORTS:

President's Report

PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSIDERATION ON ORDINANCE(S)

25-67 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the resubdivision of Lot A-1 and Lot A-2, of the River Oaks Subdivision, located at 2979 Highway 18, Edgard, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZS-1448) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Johnson seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 25-67. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin absent.

25-68 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving the resubdivision of Original Parcel 1-1, Parcel 1-1, Parcel I-2, Block 18, SJA-1, SJA-2, SJA-3, and SJA-4, of Reserve Plantation Subdivision, located at 355 Airport Road, Reserve, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZS-1449) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)

MOTION: Councilman Bailey moved and Councilman Arcuri seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 25-68. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin absent.

Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin arrived at 12:11 PM.

25-69 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving excavation within Parish Rights-of-way for the installation of fiber optics along West 4th Street by municipal address 105 West 4th Street, Reserve, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 18806) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Torres seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 25-69. The motion passed unanimously.

25-70 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving excavation within Parish Rights-of-way for the installation of fiber optics throughout the Spring Meadow Subdivision by municipal address 420 Indigo Parkway, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 19163) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)

MOTION: Councilman Arcuri moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 25-70. The motion passed unanimously.

25-71 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving excavation within Parish Rights-of-way for the installation of fiber optics along Greenwood Drive by municipal address 501 Greenwood Drive, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 19167) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 25-71. The motion passed unanimously.

25-72 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving excavation within Parish Rights-of-way for the installation of fiber optics along Martin Drive by municipal address 114 Martin Drive, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 19168) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 25-72. The motion passed unanimously.

25-73 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance to approve and adopt the annual operating budgets for the St. John the Baptist Parish General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, Enterprise Funds, Capital Projects Funds, and Debit Service Funds for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2026, and ending December 31, 2026 (J. Hotard)

MOTION: Councilman Bailey moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 25-73. The motion passed unanimously.

25-74 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance amending Ordinance No. 94-74 to rename a portion of the following private street. **St. Pierre Lane to Anderson Lane** (J. Hotard)

MOTION: Councilman Torres moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 25-74. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-179 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to advertise and solicit bids for the REGALA Park Pedestrian Trail Lights Project

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-179. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to advertise and solicit bids for the REGALA Park Pedestrian Trail Lights 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 project includes adding pedestrian trail lights to the existing trail at REGALA Park which is approximately 2,800 ft; and, WHEREAS, the estimated cost of the project is \$242,000 and will be funded through the Street Lights 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 REGALA Park Pedestrian Trail Lights Project. The motion passed with 8 yeas and 1 abstaining (Torres).

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-180 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to advertise and solicit bids for the River Road WWTP Aeration Basin and Grit Chamber Rehabilitation Project

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-180. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to advertise and solicit bids for the River Road WWTP Aeration Basin and Grit Chamber 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, the existing aeration basin and grit chamber at the River Road WWTP are both beyond their useful life and need rehabilitation; and, WHEREAS, the estimated cost of the project is \$3,000,000 and 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 solicit bids for the River Road WWTP Aeration Basin and Grit Chamber Rehabilitation Project. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-181 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) with the Pontchartrain Levee District for the 2025 Festival of the Bonfires

MOTION: Councilwoman Ramirez moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-181. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) with the Pontchartrain Levee District for the 2025 Festival of Bonfires. 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 Agreement is required with the Pontchartrain Levee District to participate in the Christmas Bonfire Program and, WHEREAS, the insurance requirement to participate will be satisfied with a \$2M policy; and, WHEREAS, the premium will be funded through the Public Safety 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 sign and execute the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Pontchartrain Levee District for the 2025 Festival of the Bonfires. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-182 - 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 \$50,000 to St. John the Baptist Parish Government for the Andouille Festival

MOTION: Councilwoman Johnson moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-182. 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 \$50,000 to St. John the Baptist Parish Government for the Andouille Festival. 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 \$50,000 has been allocated for the Andouille Festival; and, WHEREAS, the public purpose for the described funding is for tourism and economic development initiatives; 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 unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R25-183 - 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 \$200,000 to St. John the Baptist Parish Government for the Comprehensive Water Improvement Program

MOTION: Councilwoman Johnson moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-183. 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 Regular Legislative Session of the Louisiana Legislature in the sum of \$200,000 to St. John the Baptist Parish Government 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 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 \$200,000 has been allocated for the Comprehensive Water Improvement Program; and, WHEREAS, the public purpose for the described funding is the Comprehensive Water Improvement Program which involves building a new intake facility and RO System in order to provide clean water throughout the Parish; 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 Comprehensive Water Improvement Program. The motion passed unanimously.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

25-75 An ordinance to set out the requirements to employ a Secretary to the Council, pursuant to Article III, Section A5(c) - Organization; Officers; Council Secretary - of the St. John the Baptist Parish Home Rule Charter. (T. Houston)

25-76 An ordinance approving excavation within Parish Rights-of-way for the installation of fiber optics along Carrollwood Drive by municipal address 1401 Carrollwood Drive, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 19025) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)

25-77 An ordinance approving excavation within Parish Rights-of-way for the installation of fiber optics along Elm Street by municipal address 487 Elm Street, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 19026) J. Hotard/C. Powell)

25-78 An ordinance approving excavation within Parish Rights-of-way for the installation of fiber optics along West Airline Highway by municipal address 1917 West Airline Highway, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish,

LA (Permit No. 19027) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)

- 25-79** An ordinance approving excavation within Parish Rights-of-way for the installation of fiber optics along Champions Drive by municipal address 2137 Champions Drive, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 19215) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)
- 25-80** An ordinance approving excavation within Parish Rights-of-way for the installation of fiber optics along Colonial Drive by municipal address 2137 Colonial Drive, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 19216) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)
- 25-81** An ordinance approving excavation within Parish Rights-of-way for the installation of fiber optics along Lafitte Street by municipal address 1701 Lafitte Street, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 19217) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)
- 25-82** An ordinance approving excavation within Parish Rights-of-way for the installation of fiber optics along Greenwood Drive by municipal address 2124 Greenwood Drive, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 19218) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)
- 25-83** An ordinance approving excavation within Parish Rights-of-way for the installation of fiber optics along Saint Andrews Boulevard by municipal address 271 Saint Andrews Boulevard, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 19219) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)
- 25-84** An ordinance approving excavation within Parish Rights-of-way for the installation of fiber optics along Augusta Drive by municipal address 2140 Augusta Drive, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 19220) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)
- 25-85** An ordinance approving excavation within Parish Rights-of-way for the installation of fiber optics along Saint Andrews Boulevard by municipal address 376 Saint Andrews Boulevard, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 19221) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)
- 25-86** An ordinance approving excavation within Parish Rights-of-way for the installation of fiber optics along Country Club Drive by municipal address 66 Country Club Drive, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 19260) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)
- 25-87** An ordinance approving excavation within Parish Rights-of-way for the installation of fiber optics along Belle Pointe Boulevard by municipal address 1506 Belle Pointe Boulevard, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 19261) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)
- 25-88** An ordinance approving excavation within Parish Rights-of-way for the installation of fiber optics along Jefferson Street by municipal address 1636 Jefferson Street, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 19262) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)
- 25-89** An ordinance approving excavation within Parish Rights-of-way for the installation of fiber optics along La Salle Drive by municipal address 700

La Salle Drive, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 19263)
(J. Hotard/C. Powell)

25-90 An ordinance to set out the necessary duties, mandates, requirements, time-delays and penalties to ensure the uninhibited exercise of the Parish Council's power to make investigation of Parish affairs and make inquiries into the conduct of any department, office, agency, or special district of the Parish, as fully articulated in Article III, Section A7(c)(iv) - Power and Duties of the Parish Council - of the St. John the Baptist Parish Home Rule Charter. (T. Houston)

ADJOURNMENT :

At 12:39 PM, Councilman Wright moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

/s/Tammy Houston
COUNCIL CHAIR

/s/Donna Barber
LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANT