

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, MARCH 24TH, 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 Government Complex Chambers, LaPlace, Louisiana on Tuesday, March 24th, 2025, at 6:00 PM.

CALL TO ORDER: Lennix Madere, Jr., Councilman-at-Large, Div. A, Michael Wright, Councilman-at-Large, Div. B, Virgie Johnson, Councilwoman District I, Tammy Houston, Councilwoman District III, Robert Arcuri, Councilman District V, Vernon Bailey, Sr., Councilman District VI, Dixie Ramirez, Councilwoman District VII

ABSENT: Tyra Duhe-Griffin and Warren Torres, Jr.

Vernon Bailey, Sr. led the Prayer and Virgie Johnson 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.

SPECIAL BUSINESS:

Robert Arcuri - Presentation - Phillip Kuhn, Entergy's Construction Resiliency Manager & Flo Dumas, Entergy's Customer Service Manager - Information on the Resiliency Project for St. John the Baptist Parish

Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin arrived in the meeting at 6:08 PM.

Jaclyn Hotard - Presentation - April as Fair Housing Month

Jaclyn Hotard - Proclamation - St. John the Baptist Parish Birthday Recognition

CONSENT AGENDA: Approval of Minutes - March 10th, 2026, Council Meeting; Tammy Houston - Appointment of Alex Cook, Sr. to the Historic District Commission

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to approve consent agenda consisting of Approval of Minutes - March 10th, 2026, Council Meeting; Tammy Houston - Appointment of Alex Cook, Sr. to the Historic District Commission. The motion passed with Councilman Torres absent.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Green Leaf Dispensary, LLC v. Connie Powell, St. John the Baptist Planning & Zoning, et al, 40th JDC No. 83027 Div. "A"

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to go into Executive Session to discuss *Green Leaf Dispensary, LLC v. Connie Powell, St. John the Baptist Planning & Zoning, et al*. 40th JDC No. 83027 Div. "A". The motion passed with Councilman Torres absent.

Councilman Torres arrived in the meeting at 6:24 PM.

MOTION: Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin moved and Councilwoman Ramirez seconded the motion to go back into Regular Session. The motion passed unanimously.

There was no action taken as a result of the Executive Session.

REPORTS:

President's Report

Jaclyn Hotard - Monthly Financial Report (February 2026)

PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE(S)

26-13 (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance approving excavation within Parish Rights-of-way for the installation of fiber optics along Derek Lane by municipal address 47 Derek Lane, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 19444) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)

And approving excavation within Parish Rights-of-way for the installation of fiber optics along North Canterbury Drive by municipal address 303 North Canterbury Drive, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 19449) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)

MOTION: Councilman Bailey moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 26-13. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R26-36 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to advertise and solicit bids for Membrane Filters for the Reverse Osmosis Unit

MOTION: Councilman Bailey moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to approve Resolution R25-36. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to advertise and solicit bids for Membrane Filters for the Reserve Osmosis Unit. 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 bid for replacement membranes for the LaPlace Water System; and, WHEREAS, orders will be placed on an as-needed basis; and, WHEREAS, orders will be funded through the Utilities 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 Membrane Filters for the Reverse Osmosis Unit. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R26-37 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to award the Parish's Property and Casualty Insurance to Riverlands Insurance Services, Inc.

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Resolution R26-37. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to award the Parish's Property and Casualty Insurance to Riverlands Insurance

Services, 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, Riverlands Insurance Services, Inc. of LaPlace, LA submitted the only proposal received and reviewed by the Source Selection Committee; and, WHEREAS, the lines of coverage included in the package policy are commercial general liability, commercial automobiles, public officials' liability, and excess liability; and, WHEREAS, the new premium of \$2,619,748.84 reflects a 9% decrease over the expiring premium; and, WHEREAS, premium will be funded through the General fund and other 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 award the Parish's Property and Casualty Insurance to Riverlands Insurance Services, Inc. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R26-38 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to extend the Professional Services Agreement with Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLC. for Fiscal Auditing Services

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilwoman Johnson seconded the motion to approve Resolution R26-38. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to extend the Professional Services Agreement with Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLC. 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, Extension No. 1 will add two (2) audit years to the original Agreement dated January 23, 2024; and, WHEREAS, the Extension maintains the same pricing and is funded through various Department Budgets. 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 Extension No. 1 of the Professional Services Agreement between St. John the Baptist Parish and Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLC. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R26-39 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to extend the Professional Services Agreement with Xavier University of Louisiana to serve as the Fiscal Agent for the Louisiana Small Business Development Center (LSBDC)

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilwoman Duhé-Griffin seconded the motion to approve Resolution R26-39. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to extend the Professional Services Agreement with Xavier University of Louisiana to serve as the Fiscal Agent for the Louisiana Small Business Development Center (LSBDC). 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, Xavier University of Louisiana provides technical assistance through the Business Training Center; and, WHEREAS, assistance includes workshops/seminars, Kauffman FastTrac 10-week sessions and other entrepreneurial training courses in connection with the Small Business Development Center; and, WHEREAS, Extension No. 2 will exercise the second option to extend the original Agreement for an addition one (1) year term; and, WHEREAS, Extension No. 2 maintains the same pricing and is funded through the Economic Development Department 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 Extension No. 2 of the Professional Services Agreement between St. John the Baptist Parish and Xavier University of Louisiana. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R26-40 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to extend the Professional Services Agreement with Barowka and Bonura Engineers and Consultants, LLC for Grants Administration

MOTION: Councilwoman Ramirez moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to approve Resolution R26-40. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to extend the Professional Services Agreement with Barowka and Bonura Engineers and Consultants, LLC for Grants Administration. 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, Extension No. 2 will add two (2) additional years to the original Agreement dated May 24, 2022; and, WHEREAS, Barowka and Bonura Engineers and Consultants, LLC implement, monitor, prepare and respond to Requests for Information from FEMA/GOHSEP Office for the Hazard Mitigation Projects which include assistance with H&H Studies, Budget Amendments, Extension Requests and Closeout Reports for HMGP Drainage Improvement Projects and the Acquisition Program; and, WHEREAS, Extension No. 2 will be funded through 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 Parish Council to execute Extension No. 1 of the Professional Services Agreement between St. John the Baptist Parish and Barowka and Bonura Engineers and Consultants, LLC. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R26-41 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to extend the Professional Services Agreement with Castay, Inc. for Emergency Standby Generators

MOTION: Councilman Madere moved and Councilwoman Johnson seconded the motion to approve Resolution R26-41. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to extend the Professional Services Agreement with Castay, Inc. for Emergency Standby Generators. 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, Extension No. 2 exercises the second option to extend the original Agreement dated May 24, 2022 for an additional one (1) year term; and, WHEREAS, Castay, Inc. provides services and equipment to be utilized on an as-needed basis during emergencies; and WHEREAS, Extension No. 2 will be funded through the Utilities and Public Works Departments. 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 Extension No. 2 of the Professional Services Agreement between St. John the Baptist Parish and Castay, Inc. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R26-42 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to renew the Professional Services Agreement with All Time Janitorial, LLC for Janitorial Services for Parish Facilities

MOTION: Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to approve Resolution R26-42. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to renew the Professional Services Agreement with All Time Janitorial, LLC for Janitorial Services for Parish Facilities. 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 Time Janitorial, LLC provides janitorial services for all Parish Facilities on the East Bank and West Bank; and, WHEREAS, Renewal No. 1 adds one (1) year to the original Agreement dated April 25, 2023; and, WHEREAS, the Renewal maintains the same pricing and is funded through various Department Budgets. 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 Renewal No. 1 of the Professional Services Agreement between St. John the Baptist Parish and All Time Janitorial, LLC. The motion passed unanimously.

Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R26-43 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to enter into an Indemnity and Hold Harmless Agreement with the Pontchartrain Levee District for the Annual Independence Day Celebration

MOTION: Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilwoman Johnson seconded the motion to approve Resolution R26-43. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to enter into an Indemnity and Hold Harmless Agreement with the Pontchartrain Levee District for the Annual Independence Day Celebration. 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 Annual Independence Day Celebration Fireworks Show takes place from a barge on the Mississippi River, Thursday, July 2, 2026 on the east and west banks of the river; and, WHEREAS, the Pontchartrain Levee District is the public body with authority to regulate activities on the levee system related to maintenance and integrity of the levee structure; and, WHEREAS, this Agreement is required by the Pontchartrain Levee District to host the Annual Independence Day Celebration Fireworks show; and, WHEREAS, St. John the Baptist Parish will agree to maintain an insurance policy for public liability and property damage, with the Pontchartrain Levee District as the named additional insured, in the amount of \$1,000,000. 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 Indemnity and Hold Harmless Agreement between St. John the Baptist Parish and the Pontchartrain Levee District. The motion passed unanimously.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

26-14 An ordinance approving excavation within Parish Rights-of-way for the installation of fiber optics along Portrush Drive by municipal address 154 Portrush Drive, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 19452) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)

And approving excavation with Parish Rights-of-way for the installation of fiber optics along Virginian Colony Avenue by municipal address 1820 Virginian Colony Avenue, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit

No. 19481) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)

26-15 An ordinance approving the resubdivision of Lot X-1-A, of the Belle Pointe Plantation Subdivision No. 2, located at 2700 West Airline Highway, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZS-1465) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)

26-16 An ordinance approving the resubdivision of the remainder of the J. Oswald Lot and the remainder of Aline Plantation, located in the rear 1052 Highway 628, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZS-1466) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)

26-17 An ordinance approving the request to rezone Lot 2, of the Lester Hymel Subdivision from the residential District One [R-1] and the Commercial District One [C-1] to Commercial District One [C-1] located at 117 Alexis Court, Lucy, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZR-1763) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)

26-18 An ordinance approving the request to rezone Lot X-1-A, of the Belle Pointe Plantation Subdivision No. 2 from the Commercial District Three [C-3] to the Residential District Three [R-3] located at 2700 West Airline Highway, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZR-1764) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:33 PM, Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

/s/Robert Arcuri
COUNCIL CHAIR

/s/Donna Barber
LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANT