

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS**  
**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL**  
**TUESDAY, APRIL 28<sup>TH</sup>, 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, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026, 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, Robert Arcuri, Councilman District V, Vernon Bailey, Sr., Councilman District VI, Dixie Ramirez, Councilwoman District VII

**ABSENT:** Tyra Duhe-Griffin

Virgie Johnson led the Prayer and Lennix Madere led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

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

Kimberly Taylor commented on Ordinance 26-17.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Approval of Minutes - April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026, Council Meeting; Resolutions - Annual Sewer Audits (R26-51 through R26-57); Permit Approval - St. John the Baptist Parish 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Independence Day Celebration - Thursday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2026; Permit Approval - East St. John High School Senior Class Parade - Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026, beginning at 6:00 PM. Students will depart from 1 Wildcat Drive, take a left on W. Airline Hwy., take a right on Belle Pointe Blvd, a left on Ory Drive to East St. John Prep and a right ending at Joe Keller Stadium

**MOTION:** Councilman Bailey moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to approve consent agenda consisting of Approval of Minutes - April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026, Council Meeting; Resolutions - Annual Sewer Audits (R26-51 through R26-57); Permit Approval - St. John the Baptist Parish 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Independence Day Celebration - Thursday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2026; Permit Approval - East St. John High School Senior Class Parade - Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026, beginning at 6:00 PM. Students will depart from 1 Wildcat Drive, take a left on W. Airline Hwy., take a right on Belle Pointe Blvd, a left on Ory Drive to East St. John Prep and a right ending at Joe Keller Stadium. The motion passed with Councilwoman Duhe-Griffin and Councilman Madere absent.

**REPORTS:**

**President's Report**

**Jaclyn Hotard - Monthly Financial Report (March 2026)**

**PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE(S)**

**26-17** (Public Hearing Held) 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 the Commercial District One [C-1] located at Alexis Court, Wallace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZR-1763) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)

Kimberly Taylor commented on Ordinance 26-17.

Tyra Duhe-Griffin arrived at 6:14 PM.

The meeting recessed at 6:16 PM for five minutes and reconvened at 6:21 PM.

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Ramirez moved and Councilman Houston seconded the motion to DENY Ordinance 26-17. The motion to DENY passed with 7 yeas (Madere, Johnson, Arcuri, Houston, Bailey, Ramirez, Wright), 1 against (Duhe-Griffin) and 1 abstaining (Torres).

**26-19** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance to repeal Ordinance No. 20-54 (Sec. 36-9), as authorized by Article IV, Section A5 - Ordinances and Resolutions - of the St. John the Baptist Parish Home Rule Charter (T. Houston/V. Johnson)

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 26-19. The motion passed with 7 yeas (Madere, Johnson, Arcuri, Houston, Bailey, Ramirez, Wright) and 2 against (Duhe-Griffin, Torres).

**26-20** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance to establish the process of naming public property, pursuant to authority granted in Article III, Section A7(a)(b) and (xi) - Powers and duties of the Parish Council - of the St. John the Baptist Parish Home Rule Charter (T. Houston/V. Johnson)

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilwoman Johnson seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 26-20. The motion passed with 7 yeas (Madere, Johnson, Arcuri, Houston, Bailey, Ramirez, Wright) and 2 against (Duhe-Griffin, Torres).

**26-21** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance to establish the process of honorary naming a public street to honor a person or group for the significant contributions made to the nation, state, and/or parish, pursuant to authority granted in Article III, Section A7(a)(b) and (xi)-Powers and Duties of the Parish Council - of the St. John the Baptist Parish Home Rule Charter (T. Houston/V. Johnson)

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 26-21. The motion passed with 7 yeas (Madere, Johnson, Arcuri, Houston, Bailey, Ramirez, Wright) and 2 against (Duhe-Griffin, Torres).

**26-22** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 10-37 (Sec. 6-153.1) by increasing the fine for any person found guilty of violating any of the provisions of this chapter (T. Houston/V. Johnson)

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Johnson seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 26-22. The motion passed unanimously.

**26-23** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance to provide meanings of phrases, terms, and/words used in Ordinance No. 26-24, Abandoned and Blighted Property Administrative Adjudication Hearing Process (V. Bailey)

**MOTION:** Councilman Bailey moved and Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to REMOVE Ordinance 26-23 from the agenda. The motion passed with 8 yeas and 1 against (Torres).

**26-24** (Public Hearing Held) An ordinance to provide the administrative hearing process of determining whether immovable property is abandoned or blighted, pursuant to the requirements of LSA-R.S.13:2575 and the authorities granted under Article III, Section A(7) (b) and(c) (xi) - Power and Duties of the of the Parish Council - of the St. John the Baptist Parish Home Rule Charter (V. Bailey)

**MOTION:** Councilman Bailey moved and Councilman Houston seconded the motion to REMOVE Ordinance 26-24 from the agenda. The motion to remove passed with 8 yeas and 1 against (Torres).

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Virgie Johnson - Resolution - R26-50 - A Resolution of the St. John the Baptist Parish Council authorizing the St. John the Baptist Parish Library to utilize collected millage for construction of the St. John the Baptist Parish Library, Edgard Branch Library, located on 2979 Highway 18 (River Road) on the corner of Castle Drive in Edgard, Louisiana**

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Johnson moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Resolution R26-50. A Resolution of the St. John the Baptist Parish Council authorizing the St. John the Baptist Parish Library to utilize collected millage for construction of the St. John the Baptist Parish Library, Edgard Branch Library, located on 2979 Highway 18 (River Road) on the corner of Castle Drive in Edgard, Louisiana. WHEREAS, the St. John the Baptist Library, through the authority of the St. John the Baptist Parish Council operates the Edgard Library located at 2979 Hwy 18 (River Road) in Edgard, Louisiana; and WHEREAS, the St. John the Baptist Parish Library, received damage from Hurricane Ida on August 29, 2021; and WHEREAS, the St. John the Baptist Parish Library has not completed the repairs of Hurricane Ida and have had additional damage from oak tree roots to sewer lines; and WHEREAS, the St. John the Baptist Parish Library Edgard Branch has had continuous mold presence following repeated attempts to abate such mold; and NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, that: SECTION 1: All of the aforementioned "Whereas" clauses are hereby formally adopted, and incorporated, as Section 1 of this Resolution. SECTION 2: St. John the Baptist Parish Council, in accordance with LSA-R.S.25:213 authorizes the St. John the Baptist Parish Library Board of Control to utilize and expend up to the \$8,000,000 collected library millage for the Construction of the St. John the Baptist Parish Library, Edgard Branch Library, to be located 2979 Highway 18 (River Road) on the corner of Castle Drive in Edgard, as Budgeted in the 2026 Library Budget. The motion passed unanimously.

**Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R26-58 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to advertise and Requests for Proposals (RFP) for Solid Waste Collection and Removal Services**

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Ramirez moved and Councilman Madere seconded the motion to approve Resolution R26-58. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish

to advertise and Requests for Proposals (RFP) for Solid Waste Collection and Removal Services. 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 requesting proposals for collection and removal services of residential solid waste throughout the Parish; and, WHEREAS, the costs of these services will be funded through the Solid Waste 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 Requests for Proposals for Solid Waste Collection and Removal Services. The motion passed unanimously.

**Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R26-59 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to award the bid for the St. John Parish Water Distribution and Treatment Maintenance/Emergency Repairs Project to Bip & Sons Services, LLC**

**MOTION:** Councilman Wright moved and Councilman Bailey seconded the motion to approve Resolution R26-59. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish to award the bid for the St. John the Baptist Parish Water Distribution and Treatment Maintenance/Emergency Repairs Project to Bip & Sons Services, 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, Bip & Sons Services, LLC of LaPlace, LA submitted the lowest responsive and responsible bid in the amount of \$615,853; and, WHEREAS, services will include Maintenance and Emergency Repairs on the Water Distribution and Treatment System on an as-needed basis as directed by the Utilities Department; and, WHEREAS, costs will be funded through the Utilities Department Fund. 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 St. John Parish Water Distribution and Treatment Maintenance/Emergency Repairs Project to Bip & Sons Services, LLC. The motion passed unanimously.

**Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R26-60 A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 5 with Pintail Contracting Service, 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 Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion to approve Resolution R26-60. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute Change Order No. 5 with Pintail Contracting Service, 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. 5 is a close-out change order that decreases the original Agreement in the amount of \$5000.00; and, WHEREAS, the decrease is due to the elimination of sod installation; and, WHEREAS, the project was 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. 5 between St. John the Baptist Parish and Pintail Contracting Services, LLC. The motion passed unanimously.

**Jaclyn Hotard/Peter Montz - Resolution - R26-61 - A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute the Certificate of Substantial Completion with Pintail Contracting Service, LLC for the Lions Water Treatment Plant One Million Gallon Per Day (MGD) Filter, Sludge Return and Existing Media Filter Replacement Project**

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Houston moved and Councilman Wright seconded the motion to approve Resolution R26-61. A Resolution authorizing St. John the Baptist Parish President to execute the Certificate of Substantial Completion with Pintail Contracting Service, LLA 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, this project has been deemed substantially complete by the Project Engineer; and, WHEREAS, all punch list items were identified and near completion. 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 Certificate of Substantial Completion between St. John the Baptist Parish and Pintail Contracting Service, LLC. The motion passed unanimously.

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:**

**26-25** An ordinance approving excavation within Parish Rights-of-way for the installation of fiber optics along Lafreniere Drive by municipal address 1525 Lafreniere Drive, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 19479) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)

And approving the excavation within Parish Rights-of-way for the installation of fiber optics along Moss Drive by municipal address 44 Moss Drive, LaPlace, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Permit No. 19480) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)

**26-26** An ordinance approving the resubdivision of the remainder of Parcel B-2 of the Bienvenu Estates Subdivision, located at 3299 West Airline Highway, Reserve, St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (PZS-1467) (J. Hotard/C. Powell)

**ADJOURNMENT:**

At 6:51 PM, Councilman Bailey moved and Councilwoman Johnson seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed with Councilman Madere absent.

/s/Robert Arcuri  
COUNCIL CHAIR

/s/Ranshawa Sylvain  
COUNCIL CLERK