

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST. JAMES, STATE OF LOUISIANA
TAKEN AT A REGULAR MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 08, 2020**

The Council of the Parish of St. James, State of Louisiana, met in regular session in the Council Chambers of the Parish Courthouse in Convent, Louisiana, on Wednesday, January 8, 2020, at 6:30 p.m.

On roll call, the following were recorded present: Council Members Alvin St. Pierre, Jason Amato, Clyde Cooper, Vondra Etienne-Steib, and Chairman Ryan Louque. Councilman Ralph Patin and Eddie Kraemer were absent.

Those also in attendance were: Linda Hubbell, Secretary; Timothy Roussel, Parish President; Michelle Octave, Chief Administrative Officer; Chantal Waguespack, Director of Finance; Mickey Roussel, Assistant Director of Operations; Ryan Donadieu, Interim Director of Emergency Preparedness; Ingrid Leblanc, Director of Human Resources, and Cody Martin, Legal Advisor.

Councilman Amato offered the invocation and Councilman Cooper led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Honorable Ryan Louque, Chairman, duly convened the Council of the Parish of St. James, State of Louisiana, and stated that the Council was ready for the transaction of business.

MINUTES

On a motion offered by Councilman Amato and seconded by Councilman Cooper, the minutes of the December 23, 2019 regular meeting were approved as distributed and the reading of these minutes dispensed with.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT'S MONTHLY REPORT

The Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for November 2019 was approved on a motion offered by Councilman St. Pierre and seconded by Councilwoman Etienne-Steib.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Roussel provided this report:

1. We received word from FG LA(Formosa) that they received their approval for the air permits Monday evening after hours. It's being estimated that ground and dirt work will start soon, and it will be an enormous task, of course. It will be approximately one year before structural steel construction will commence.
2. I'd like to wish the new incoming councilmen the very best in their experience as legislators. My best advice is to legislate cautiously and consider what is best, not only for your District but the Parish as a whole. When having to make the toughest decisions, do a heart check, and maybe even a prayer, asking Him to guide you and provide you with the best answer possible. And to all the other elected officials and employees of St. James Parish thank you for your service to our residents. A lot of work, many of improvements were accomplished during our tenure. Let's be proud of that. I wish everyone success in the years to come.

Thank You... May God Bless you; may God bless all of St. James Parish abundantly! Semper Fi !!!

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

PRESENTATION

A plaque was presented to Parish President Roussel for his 29 years of service. He said 29 years have passed fast and it was fun doing it all. He said he had good support and did some really good things. He said the solid waste contract saved \$1.125 million in the first 5 years. Council Members Amato and Louque reminisced about stories with President Roussel, they, and others thanked him for his service.

Councilmen Patin and Kraemer were absent

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Secretary Hubbell read aloud the following correspondence:

- Letter received from Yvonne Baker, Water Quality Director, Providence Engineering, Public Review Document LPDES Permit Modification Application, Mosaic Fertilizer LLC Uncle Same Plant
- A Summary of the letter from Pam Spees, Senior Staff Attorney, Center for Constitutional Rights, burial grounds of enslaved people on the proposed site for Formosa
- A Summary of the letter from Corinne Van Dalen, Staff Attorney, Earth Justice, Formosa Site Plan and Toxic Exposure

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS - None

OLD BUSINESS

The following updates were provided:

- District 5 Alternate Access Route – no discussion on this item.

ORDINANCE 19-14, AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AN AMENDMENT TO THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JANUARY 1, 2020 TO DECEMBER 31, 2020, PARISH OF ST. JAMES, STATE OF LOUISIANA, having undergone the hearing process, was offered and moved for adoption by Councilman Amato and was seconded by Councilman Cooper. After a unanimous roll call vote, with Patin and Kraemer absent, the ordinance was adopted.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION 20-01, A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE DISBURSEMENT OF PAYROLL FOR THE JANUARY 10, 2019 PAYROLL, was offered and moved for adoption by Councilman Cooper and seconded by Councilman St. Pierre. After a unanimous roll call vote, with Patin and Kraemer absent, the resolution was adopted.

RESOLUTION 20-02, A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS TO PAY PENDING CURRENT INVOICES AND PAYABLES, was offered and moved for adoption by Councilman Cooper and seconded by Councilman Amato. After a unanimous roll call vote, with Patin and Kraemer absent, the resolution was adopted.

RESOLUTION 20-03, ST. JAMES PARISH COUNCIL PROCLAIMS APPRECIATION TO PARISH PRESIDENT TIMOTHY P. ROUSSEL FOR OVER TWENTY-NINE YEARS OF SERVICE, was offered and moved for adoption by Councilman Amato. Councilman Cooper offered a second, and the resolution was unanimously adopted.

After Chairman Louque read aloud **RESOLUTION 20-04, A RESOLUTION COMMENDING RALPH A. PATIN, JR. FOR HIS 28 YEARS OF SERVICE TO ST. JAMES PARISH AS THE DISTRICT 4 COUNCILMAN**, Councilman St. Pierre offered and moved for adoption. Councilwoman Etienne-Steib offered a second, and the resolution was unanimously adopted.

After Chairman Louque read aloud **RESOLUTION 20-05, A RESOLUTION COMMENDING EDDIE KRAEMER FOR HIS 4 YEARS OF SERVICE TO ST. JAMES PARISH AS THE DISTRICT 7 COUNCILMAN**, Councilwoman Etienne-Steib offered and moved for adoption. Councilman Amato offered a second, and the resolution was unanimously adopted.

RESOLUTION 20-06, RESOLUTION APPROVING THE APPLICATION OF AMSPEC LLC UNDER THE ST. JAMES PARISH LAND USE ORDINANCE WITH CONDITIONS, was offered and moved for adoption by Councilman Amato and was seconded by Councilman St. Pierre. After a unanimous roll call vote, with Patin and Kraemer absent, the resolution was adopted.

COUNCIL MEMBER'S REPORT

COUNCILMAN ST. PIERRE – Councilman St. Pierre asked if Lafourche Parish sent money for the Hwy 20 widening project. President Roussel said that they did inquire and was asked to send an invoice. Mrs. Waguespack said look into it tomorrow.

COUNCILMAN AMATO – Councilman Amato said the mural at the Lucher Library is beautiful. He said they received feedback from the school board, that they will contribute to the culvert project on the school side street, but probably not until the 2nd quarter of next year. He recognized Councilman Kraemer, saying that the Hwy 20 project will definitely be one of his legacies to our parish for years to come; Coach Patin--7 terms as councilman, and said it was a great honor to sit next to him; he thanked President Roussel for his many years of service and everything he did to make St. James Parish a better place to live.

COUNCILMAN PATIN – Councilman Patin was absent.

COUNCILMAN COOPER – Councilman Cooper said he received a call from a resident on Domino Street, that since the asphalt was done, there is an area in front of her house that his holding water. Mr. Mickey said he and Mr. Gravois went down all the roads today and is putting together a punch list, that will be distributed. Mr. Mickey asked Councilman Cooper to send the address for water issue.

COUNCILWOMAN ETIENNE-STEIB – Councilwoman Etienne-Steib congratulated Councilman Patin, Councilman Kraemer, and President Roussel and thanked them for their service. She gave kudos to Mrs. Michelle Octave and her team, she said you really need to go to the library to see the beauty and talent that is there. She added that Ms. Lisa Samuels did an excellent job with the mural.

COUNCILMAN KRAEMER – Councilman Kraemer was absent.

CHAIRMAN LOUQUE – Chairman Louque commended President Roussel, and Councilmen Patin and Kraemer, saying it has been a pleasure serving with them. Chairman Louque then reminisced with a story regarding Councilman Patin.

DIRECTOR REPORT

MICHELLE OCTAVE – She thanked everyone who attended the unveiling of the mural. She thanked President Roussel for bringing her back to St. James Parish Government as Director of DHR in 2012, and then in 2014 as Chief Administrative Officer for St. James Parish. She said this was her last meeting serving, as well. She said there is more work that still needs to be done, as it related to community engagement/community development, and would like to see it still enhanced. She thanked her counterparts, directors, and council members, and said she appreciated them.

MICKEY ROUSSEL- Wished the best to President Roussel, Michelle, Councilmen Patin and Kraemer.

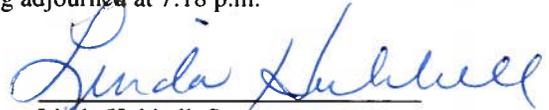
CHANTAL WAGUESPACK – Said she enjoyed working with Councilmen Patin and Kraemer. She said it was a pleasure to work with Michelle, they became friends. She said it was a pleasure and honor to work with President Roussel as his Director of Finance and wished him the best.

INGRID LEBLANC- She said it was a pleasure to work with Councilman Patin and Kraemer. She thanked Michelle for everything that she has done, and everything she brought into the Parish, and said it was a pleasure to work with her as well. She expressed thanks to President Roussel for allowing her to head the Department of Human Resources and said she is forever grateful.

RYAN DONADIEU – Offered best wishes and sincere thanks to Councilmen Kraemer and Patin, and to President Roussel.

ADJOURNMENT

After determining there was no additional business to come before the council, on a motion offered by Councilman Amato and seconded by Councilman Cooper and carried, the meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.


Linda Hubbell, Secretary