OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST. JAMES, STATE OF LOUISIANA
TAKEN AT A REGULAR MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 3, 2013

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, July 3, 2013, at 6:30 p.m.

On roll call, the following were recorded present: Councilmen Jason Amato, Terry McCreary, Ralph Patin, Charles Ketchens, Kendricks Brass and Chairman James Brazan. Councilman Alvin St. Pierre, Jr. was absent.

Those also in attendance were: Angele Rodrigue, Council Secretary; Timothy P. Roussel, Parish President; Francis Hymel, Assistant Director of Emergency Preparedness; Michelle Octave, Director of Human Resources; Chantal T. Waguespack, Director of Finance; and Jody Chenier, Director of Operations.

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

The Honorable James Brazan, 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 Patin and seconded by Councilman Ketchens, the minutes of the June 19, 2013 council meeting were approved as distributed, and the reading of these minutes dispensed with.

HEAD START FINANCIAL & ATTENDANCE REPORTS

The Head Start Financial and Attendance Reports for May 2013 were then approved on a motion offered by Councilman Ketchens and seconded by Councilman McCreary.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Roussel began his report by presenting the Council with an update on the Nation Flood Insurance Program and the Biggert-Waters Act and he informed the Council that there are 74 homes located in flood zone A and 592 homes located in flood zone AE in St. James Parish that are affected by this act. Regarding mosquito control, President Roussel informed the Council that a contract has been signed with Mosquito Control Services with operations beginning on July 8. President Roussel told the Council and the public that the Youth Center closed on June 28 with all remaining youth being transferred to the Assumption Parish juvenile facility. He went on to explain to the Council the status of Youth Center employees and the Youth Center millage will be used to cover the cost of incarcerating St. James Parish youth. President Roussel provided the Council with information and/or updates on the following: a scam regarding Entergy bills; backup generator for Convent Courthouse; fire extinguisher inspections at parish buildings; developing procedures for fire drills at all parish buildings; NuStar will assist in moving the cypress log and locomotive from Historical Society to Welcome Center; Dr. Jerry Poche will come to adult detention center once a week to evaluate the needs of inmates beginning on July 8 for a three month trial basis; the West Shore Lake Pontchartrain Hurricane Protection project; and July 4 holiday for parish employees. In closing, President Roussel shared his comments on freedom in our country and wished everyone a Happy Fourth of July.

Chairman Brazan asked President Roussel to provide a five year cost analysis of housing St. James parish youth in the Youth Center.

PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

Ridgely Mitchell presented the Council with the final update on the Youth Center. Mr. Mitchell told the Council that the remaining juveniles were transferred to the Assumption Parish juvenile facility on June 28 at noon, and the Youth Center closed at 2 pm that afternoon. Assumption Parish license is effective July 1, 2013 and Mr. Mitchell provided the Council with a copy of this license prior to the meeting, as well as a listing of the status of Youth Center employees as of its closing. Upon questioning, Councilman McCreary received an update from President Roussel on the profile and appraisal of the Youth Center facility and property.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED - None

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Councilman Ketchens offered and moved for adoption **RESOLUTION 13-109, A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING ZEB MAYHEW TO THE ST. JAMES PARISH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD.** The resolution was seconded by Councilman Brass and unanimously adopted.

After an explanation by President Roussel, **RESOLUTION 13-110, A RESOLUTION APPOINTING ASPEN STEIB AND STEVE NOSACKA TO THE SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA TASK FORCE FOR GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY,** was offered and moved for adoption by Councilman Amato. Councilman McCreary offered a second, and the resolution was unanimously adopted.

OLD BUSINESS

Councilman Ketchens offered and moved for adoption **RESOLUTION 13-111, A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE BID OF LAMAR CONTRACTORS, INC., FOR THE CONSTRACTION OF THE DISTRICT 5**

MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDING IN ST. JAMES, LA. The resolution was seconded by Councilman Brass and unanimously adopted.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilman Patin offered and moved for adoption **RESOLUTION 13-112, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE OFFICE OF THE PARISH PRESIDENT TO ADVERTISE AND ACCEPT BIDS FOR AN ALUMINUM BOX CULVERT.** Councilman McCreary offered a second, and the resolution was unanimously adopted.

RESOLUTION 13-113, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARISH PRESIDENT TIMOTHY ROUSSEL TO SIGN A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH ST. JAMES PARISH HOSPITAL FOR MEDICAL SERVICE, was offered and moved for adoption by Councilman Ketchens and seconded by Councilman Patin. The resolution was then unanimously adopted.

Councilman Amato offered and moved for adoption **RESOLUTION 13-114, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE OFFICE OF THE PARISH PRESIDENT TO ADVERTISE AND TAKE BIDS FOR ONE (1) FORD EXPEDITION FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS.** The resolution was seconded by Councilman Patin and unanimously adopted.

After President Roussel explained this resolution, **RESOLUTION 13-115, A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE LOUISIANA UNITED STATES CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION AND THE UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS TO EXPEDITE FUNDING AND CONSTRUCTION OF A HURRICANE PROTECTION LEVEE FOR ST. JAMES PARISH,** was offered and moved for adoption by Councilman McCreary. Councilman Amato offered a second, and the resolution was unanimously adopted.

COUNCILMEN'S REPORT

COUNCILMAN ST. PIERRE – Councilman St. Pierre was absent.

COUNCILMAN AMATO – Councilman Amato reminded his fellow councilmen of the Small Business Banquet on July 9 at the Boat Club. He congratulated Councilman Ketchens on the construction of the District 5 building. Councilman Amato asked Mr. Chenier to have the basketball court at Lutcher Park resurfaced. In closing, Councilman Amato wished everyone a happy Fourth of July.

COUNCILMAN MCCREARY – Councilman McCreary asked Secretary Rodrigue to invite Sheriff Martin to the next council meeting to discuss the possible usage of the Youth Center. Councilman McCreary wished everyone a safe and happy Fourth of July.

COUNCILMAN PATIN – Councilman Patin extended his congratulations to Councilman Ketchens on the construction of the building. Councilman Patin wished everyone a good, safe Fourth of July.

COUNCILMAN KETCHENS – Councilman Ketchens shared his comments on the construction of the District 5 building that has taken almost seven years to accomplish. He thanked Mr. Chenier for his many years and hours on this project, President Roussel and this Council for their support, Secretary Rodrigue for all the letters written and sent, the constituents of District 5 for their patience and anyone who helped bring this project to fruition. Councilman Ketchens told his fellow councilmen that he sent letters and contacted our senators and representatives regarding this building and he told Councilman Amato that Sen. David Vitter stood behind this project, assisted in obtaining FEMA funding for the District 5 building and provided updates every three months on FEMA status.

COUNCILMAN BRASS – Councilman Brass received updates from Mr. Chenier on the waterline project, the Magnolia Heights Old Vacherie Road drainage project and the hazard mitigation project. Councilman Brass commented on the RFP notification in the newspaper for the LCDBG sewerage grant and he would like to begin discussion on other possible sources of funding to bring sewerage to the unincorporated areas of St. James Parish.

PRESIDENT ROUSSEL – President Roussel thanked Councilman Amato for reminding everyone of the Small Business Banquet and he told the Council that the RV park ordinance will be on the next agenda.

CHAIRMAN BRAZAN –Chairman Brazan echoed a reminder of the Small Business Banquet to the Council. He asked Secretary Rodrigue to place Mr. Deroche on the first meeting agenda of every month to provide an update on the time clock. Chairman Brazan questioned Mr. Chenier about a no wake zone and Mr. Chenier told him this is done by ordinance. Upon questioning, Chairman Brazan received an update from Mr. Chenier on clearing the canals in the Molasion area.

ADJOURNMENT

After determining there was no additional business to come before the council, on a motion offered by Councilman Brass seconded by Councilman Ketchens and carried, the meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Angele R. Rodrigue, Secretary