OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST. JAMES, STATE OF LOUISIANA
TAKEN AT A REGULAR MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2014

The Council of the Parish of St. James, State of Louisiana, met in regular session in the Council Chambers of the Parish Courthouse Annex in Vacherie, Louisiana, on Wednesday, November 19, 2014, at 6:30 p.m.

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

Those also in attendance were: Angele Rodrigue, Council Secretary; Timothy Roussel, Parish President; Michelle Octave, Chief Administrative Officer; Eric Deroche, Director of Emergency Preparedness; Bedar W. Warren, Director of Human Resources; Chantal T. Waguespack, Director of Finance; Jody Chenier, Director of Operations; and Bruce Mohon, Legal Advisor.

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

The Honorable Charles Ketchens, 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 St. Pierre and seconded by Councilman Patin, the minutes of the November 5, 2014 meeting were approved as distributed, and the reading of these minutes dispensed with.

DISBURSEMENT REPORT

The Disbursement Report for October 2014, totaling $1,399,390.31, was approved on a motion offered by Councilman Amato and seconded by Councilman Patin.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Roussel began his report by informing the Council that LIHEAP funds have been exhausted and no help can be provided until additional funding is received. President Roussel then provided the Council with information and/or updates on the following: Lutcher Park lease; 2014 River Road Ramble on December 13; time clocks; River Parish Day with Tulane Football on December 6; early voting for December 6 election; thanked Council, Directors, Assistant Directors for involvement with the budget process and special budget meeting; West Bank Elderly Thanksgiving Dinner; Planning Commission meeting on November 24; November Economic Development Board meeting is cancelled; official parish comment and resolution regarding the Waters of the U. S. has been submitted to the EPA. President Roussel informed the Council he that will be on a family vacation next week and will have cell phone and email access and Mr. Chenier will be in command during his absence from the Parish.

Councilman St. Pierre offered a motion to deviate from the agenda to swear in members of the Youth Commission. Councilman McCreary offered a second and there was no public comment. A unanimous roll call vote showed all in favor of the deviation. Legal Advisor Mohon then administered the Oath of Office to those members of the Youth Commission who were in attendance: Victoria Rocquin District 1, Amira Baloney District 2, Colin Berthelot District 3, and Maya Tureaud District 4.

PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

St. James Parish West Bank residents who are 100 years old and older were honored. Raymond Paul, 101, and Alma Dennis, 100, represented by her son Austin, were recognized and presented birthday wishes from President and Mrs. Obama, Governor Jindal, as well as gift baskets from the Parish.

Ken Guidry, Parish Chair of the St. James Parish Extension Office, presented the Extension's Annual Report. Mr. Guidry introduced his staff who were in attendance; Mariah Bock Simoneaux County Agent, Craig Roussel Horticulture Agent, Lisa Webre Nutrition Educator, Tara Roussel 4-H Agent, Dr. Al Orgeron Regional IPM Specialist, as well as Mollie Arceneaux Administrative Coordinator, who was not in attendance. He highlighted programs provided by the Extension Service such as family, nutrition, health, 4-H, youth and family development, agriculture and natural resources.

Plaquemines Parish President Billy Nungesser and PJ Hahn, Director of Coastal Zone Management, presented the comprehensive coastal plan. President Nungesser explained in great depth and much detail, with the aid of a power point presentation, the Plaquemines Parish coastal initiatives, coastal restoration projects, reducing wave heights, construction of forested ridges, ridge restoration program, LAMP program (levee analysis and mapping procedure), building the berms, the sand berm plan, media attention on these initiatives and an update on the BUDMAT program.

Jonathan Perret and Taylor Gravois with CSRS provided the Council with information on the cross-connection control program. Mr. Gravois provided the Council with background on the cross-connection control program. Mr. Gravois with the aid of a power point presentation explained to the Council in great depth and much detail backflow prevention, causes of backflow, existing system upgrades, comprehensive system upgrade estimated costs, annual testing and inspection costs, cost of compliance, project delivery options, service provider project delivery, system-wide improvement approach, service provider system approach, service provider project summary and the path

forward. Mr. Gravois and Mr. Perret, as well as Mr. Chenier and Mr. Donadieu, then answered questions from councilmen.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED – None.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Councilman Patin offered and moved for adoption **RESOLUTION 14-153, A RESOLUTION APPOINTING CARLTON JONES TO THE ST. JAMES PARISH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD.** The resolution was seconded by Councilman McCreary and unanimously adopted.

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE 14-13, AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE REVISION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2014 BUDGET OF THE PARISH OF ST. JAMES, STATE OF LOUISIANA, having undergone the hearing process, was then offered and moved for adoption by Councilman Brazan and seconded by Councilman Brass. After a roll call vote showing all voting in favor, the ordinance was adopted.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION 14-154, A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING NOVEMBER 28, 2014 AS CYPRESS GROVE HIGH SCHOOL DAY IN ST. JAMES PARISH, was offered and moved for adoption by Councilman Brass and seconded by Councilman Brazan. The resolution was then unanimously adopted.

Councilman St. Pierre offered and moved for adoption **RESOLUTION 14-155, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION WITH THE LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND DEVELOPMENT FOR A GRANT UNDER 49 CFR 5311 NON-URBANIZED AREA FORMULA PROGRAM AND/OR 49 CFR 5309, DISCRETIONARY PROGRAM.** The resolution was seconded by Councilman McCreary and unanimously adopted.

RESOLUTION 14-156, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION WITH THE LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND DEVELOPMENT FOR A GRANT UNDER 3037 OF TEA-21 AND/OR SECTION 5316 OF SAFETEA-LU, JOB ACCESS AND REVERSE COMMUTE COMPETITIVE (FORMULA) GRANTS, was offered and moved for adoption by Councilman Amato. Councilman Brazan offered a second, and the resolution was unanimously adopted.

RESOLUTION 14-157, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF A PROJECT APPLICATION WITH THE LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND DEVELOPMENT FOR GRANTS THROUGH THE US DOT FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION (FTA), AS AUTHORIZED UNDER FEDERAL TRANSIT LAWS, AS CODIFIED 49 USC SECTION 5317, NEW FREEDOM PROGRAM, AND EXECUTING A CONTRACT WITH LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND DEVELOPMENT UPON PROJECT APPROVAL, was offered and moved for adoption by Councilman St. Pierre. Councilman Patin offered a second, and the resolution was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Amato offered and moved for adoption **RESOLUTION 14-158, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PARISH PRESIDENT TO APPLY FOR FUNDING FROM THE LOUISIANA OFFICE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE PARKING LOT AREA AT THE PARISH COURTHOUSE IN CONVENT, LOUISIANA.** The resolution was seconded by Councilman Patin and unanimously adopted.

Councilman Amato offered and moved for adoption **RESOLUTION 14-159, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND EMPOWERING PARISH PRESIDENT TIMOTHY ROUSSEL TO SIGN A CHRISTMAS BONFIRE PROGRAM AGREEMENT AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT WITH THE PONTCHARTRAIN LEVEE DISTRICT AND THE LAFOURCHE BASIN LEVEE DISTRICT RELATING TO CHRISTMAS BONFIRES.** The resolution was seconded by Councilman St. Pierre and unanimously adopted.

RESOLUTION 14-160, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PARISH PRESIDENT'S OFFICE TO SELL PROPERTY AT A PUBLIC AUCTION, was offered and moved for adoption by Councilman Brazan and seconded by Councilman McCreary. The resolution was then unanimously adopted.

Councilman Brass offered and moved for adoption **RESOLUTION 14-161, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOARD TO ACCEPT HEAD START DESIGNATION RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR CONTINUED OPERATION OF THE HEAD START PROGRAM.** The resolution was seconded by Councilman St. Pierre and unanimously adopted.

After an explanation from President Roussel and questions posed by council members were answered by Mr. Chenier, **PROPOSED ORDINANCE 14-15, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 18 OF THE ST. JAMES PARISH CODE OF ORDINANCES, SETTING NEW PERMIT FEES FOR NEW COMMERCIAL, NEW RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION, RESIDENTIAL ACCESSORY STRUCTURES, AND COMMERCIAL AND INSTITUTIONAL RENOVATIONS,** was introduced on a motion offered by Councilman St. Pierre and seconded by Councilman Amato. After a roll call vote showing all voting in favor, the introduction of the ordinance was accepted and ordered filed with the Secretary for public inspection and publication of Notice of Public Hearing, which was scheduled for 6:15 p.m., Wednesday, December 3, 2014, in the Council Chambers of the Parish Courthouse in Convent.

COUNCILMEN'S REPORT

COUNCILMAN BRAZAN – Councilman Brazan wished everyone a happy and safe Thanksgiving.

COUNCILMAN BRASS – Councilman Brass extended his condolences to the family of Nikki Bailey, a former Head Start employee. He commended Mrs. Temple and staff and the Economic Development Board for a great Veterans Day program. Upon questioning, Mr. Chenier will contact T Baker Smith for an update on the Vacherie drainage study and provide Councilman Brass with the update. Councilman Brass asked Mr. Chenier to address the work orders regarding lighting at the District 6 Park. In closing, Councilman Brass wished both St. James High and Lutcher High football teams good luck in the playoffs.

COUNCILMAN PATIN – Councilman Patin thanked DHR Director Warren and staff for assisting with the annual Thanksgiving basket distribution in District 4.

COUNCILMAN MCCREARY – Upon questioning, Councilman McCreary received an update from Mr. Deroche on the status of the work order system and the preventative maintenance program. Councilman McCreary requested President Roussel install cameras in both the Convent Council Chamber and the Annex Council Chamber. Councilman McCreary received an update from Mr. Chenier on a streetlight on LA 3125. He asked Secretary Rodrigue to place a discussion of the installation of street lights on state highways on the December 3 agenda. Councilman McCreary closed by wishing St. James High and Lutcher High football teams and swim teams good luck in the state finals of the respective sport.

COUNCILMAN AMATO – Councilman Amato extended his thanks to the Parish for assistance with the bonfire permitting process and provided an update on the current number of permits issued to date. He congratulated Legal Advisor Mohon on being named the St. Peter Chanel Distinguished Alumni of the Year. In closing Councilman Amato wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

COUNCILMAN ST. PIERRE – Councilman St. Pierre thanked Mrs. Waguespack, Mrs. Poche, and Mr. Chenier for assistance with the budget process. He attended the East Bank Senior Thanksgiving Dinner at the Boat Club and commended everyone on a great event. Upon questioning, President Roussel provided Councilman St. Pierre with information on the letter received from Nucor regarding the status of the facility. Councilman St. Pierre closed by wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

PRESIDENT ROUSSEL – President Roussel wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving

LEGAL ADVISOR – Legal Advisor Mohon provided information on the extension of the Lutcher Park lease agreement.

CHAIRMAN KETCHENS – Chairman Ketchens extended an opportunity for CAO/Directors comment. Mrs. Octave wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Mr. Chenier informed the Council of a THM violation and letters will be mailed to all West Bank water customers. Chairman Ketchens commended Mrs. Temple and the Economic Development Board for an excellent Veterans Day program. He congratulated the Youth Commissioners and Coordinator Washington. Chairman Ketchens closed by extending his wishes for a happy and safe Thanksgiving to everyone.

ADJOURNMENT

After determining there was no additional business to come before the council, on a motion offered by Councilman Brazan, seconded by Councilman Brass and carried, the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Angele R. Rodrigue, Secretary