OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST. JAMES, STATE OF LOUISIANA
TAKEN AT A REGULAR MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2014

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, December 3, 2014, at 6:30 p.m.

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

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

Councilman Brazan 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 19, 2014 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 November 2014 were approved on a motion offered by Councilman Brazan and seconded by Councilman Brass.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Roussel began his report by extending his deepest condolences to Councilman Amato on the passing of his sister-in-law and Secretary Rodrigue on the passing of her brother. President Roussel then provided the Council with information and/or updates on the following: parish United Way drive; photos of the fusing of the pipe going under the Mississippi River; uncollected debt for the Youth Center; time clock update; timeframe for cameras in the Convent and Vacherie Council Chambers; River Parish Day at Tulane on December 6; election day on December 6; DHH random audit of West Bank water plant for brain eating ameba and none found; thanked all who participated in any way in preparing the 2015 budget; East Bank Senior Christmas Dinner on December 9 at Boat Club; West Bank Senior Christmas Dinner on December 17 at St. James Reception Hall; on-line auction process; congratulated St. James and Lutcher High School football teams on successful seasons. President Roussel informed the Council that the Parish would be sending Petroplex a notice of violation and a cease and desist letter tomorrow and a meeting is scheduled with Petroplex representatives for tomorrow afternoon.

PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

Gramercy Mayor Terry Borne addressed the Council, in his last official capacity as Mayor, thanking, appreciating and commending St. James Parish for the help given to Gramercy over the four years of his administration. On behalf of St. James Parish, a proclamation of thanks and appreciation was then presented to Mayor Borne by President Roussel, Chairman Ketchens, Councilman St. Pierre and Councilman Brass.

Lutcher Mayor Rowdy Scott, in his last official capacity as Mayor, extended his appreciation to St. James Parish for the assistance provided to Lutcher over the past eight years of his administration. On behalf of St. James Parish, President Roussel and Chairman Ketchens presented a proclamation of appreciation and thanks to Mayor Scott.

At this time, Councilman Patin recognized newly appointed Housing Authority Board Member Yolanda J. Williams, who was in attendance.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED - None

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS - None

OLD BUSINESS

After having been tabled at the November 19, 2014 council meeting and questions from councilmen were answered by President Roussel and Mr. Chenier, Councilman St. Pierre offered and moved for adoption **ORDINANCE 14-11, AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM FOR ALL ST. JAMES PARISH UTILITY CUSTOMERS AS MANDATED BY THE LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HOSPITALS AND THE U. S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY RULES AND REGULATIONS**. Councilman Brazan offered a second. After a roll call vote with St. Pierre, McCreary, Patin, Brass, Brazan, and Ketchens voting in favor and Amato absent, the ordinance was adopted.

Councilman McCreary offered a motion to revise Fund 050 Consolidated Road Lighting District 3A by removing the $80,000 in 072 Mississippi River Trail Enhancement for relocating street lights along Highway 44 in order to

accommodate the construction of the Mississippi River Trail, which Councilman McCreary feels should have been in the construction cost of the trail and not paid from this fund, since the millage collected for this Consolidated Road Lighting District 3A was approved by parish voters for streetlights in the unincorporated areas of the parish. After discussion among Councilman McCreary, President Roussel and Mr. Chenier on this issue, Councilman McCreary once again offered a motion to remove these funds from the budget and no second was received on his motion, therefore the motion failed for lack of a second. Councilman McCreary then offered a motion for Mr. Mohon to obtain an Attorney General's opinion on using the funds in Consolidated Road Lighting District 3A for construction with Councilman Brazan offering a second and all were in favor. Chairman Ketchens informed the Council that a pay increase for Justices of the Peace and Constables would be considered in January and the budget would be revised in 2015 to reflect any pay increase. **ORDINANCE 14-14, AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JANUARY 1, 2015 TO DECEMBER 31, 2015, PARISH OF ST. JAMES, STATE OF LOUISIANA,** having undergone the hearing process, was then offered and moved for adoption by Councilman St. Pierre and seconded by Councilman Brazan. After a roll call vote with St. Pierre, Patin, Brass, Brazan, and Ketchens voting in favor, McCreary voting against, and Amato absent, the ordinance was adopted.

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, having undergone the hearing process, was then offered and moved for adoption by Councilman St. Pierre and seconded by Councilman Brazan. After a roll call vote with St. Pierre, McCreary, Patin, Brass, Brazan, and Ketchens voting in favor and Amato absent, the ordinance was adopted.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilman McCreary led a discussion on the installation of street lights on state highways. Councilman McCreary researched and downloaded forms for the DOTD permit for installation of street lights on state highways and said this will be costly. He spoke with Beyong Lim, PE, DOTD ROW Permits Engineer, and an Entergy representative regarding streetlights and shared this information with his fellow councilman and he said DOTD does not require a permit for the installation of a flood light. Councilman McCreary will continue his conservation with Mr. Lim and provide the Council with updates.

Councilman Brazan offered and moved for adoption **RESOLUTION 14-162, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARISH PRESIDENT TIMOTHY ROUSSEL TO SIGN A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH ST. JAMES PARISH HOSPITAL FOR MEDICAL SERVICE,** with Councilman Brass offering a second. The resolution was then unanimously adopted.

Councilman Brass offered and moved for adoption **RESOLUTION 14-163, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARISH PRESIDENT TIMOTHY ROUSSEL TO SIGN A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWN OF LUTCHER FOR THE USE OF LUTCHER PARK,** with Councilman Patin offering a second. The resolution was then unanimously adopted.

RESOLUTION 14-164, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARISH PRESIDENT TIMOTHY ROUSSEL TO SIGN A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH SOUTH CENTRAL LOUISIANA HUMAN SERVICE AUTHORITY, was offered and moved for adoption by Councilman St. Pierre and seconded by Councilman McCreary. The resolution was then adopted unanimously.

COUNCILMEN'S REPORT

COUNCILMAN ST. PIERRE – Councilman St. Pierre thanked Mayor Borne for serving the town of Gramercy the last four years and he enjoyed working with Mayor Borne. He expressed his deepest sympathies to Secretary Rodrigue and Councilman Amato. Councilman St. Pierre invited everyone to Creole House on Friday from 5 am to 7 am for the Channel 2 live broadcast highlighting the Festival of the Bonfires and he invited everyone to attend the Festival on December 12, 13 and 14.

COUNCILMAN AMATO – Councilman Amato was absent.

COUNCILMAN MCCREARY – Councilman McCreary offered his condolences to Secretary Rodrigue and Councilman Amato. Councilman McCreary extended his thanks and appreciation to President Roussel and Mr. Deroche on the future installation of cameras in both Council Chambers to provide security for those attending the meetings.

COUNCILMAN PATIN – Councilman Patin thanked Mr. Donadieu, with the assistance of local industry, for the demolition of the blighted building at 3104 Washington Street in Paulina.

COUNCILMAN BRASS – Councilman Brass extended his condolences and sympathy to Secretary Rodrigue and Councilman Amato. He thanked President Roussel, Mr. Donadieu, and Mrs. Octave for their continuing support of the beautification project on LA 18 and LA 20. Councilman Brass commended Mr. Chenier and crew for an excellent job with the waterline project on Magnolia Heights. Councilman Brass asked Mr. Chenier to contact Dennis Hymel with T Baker Smith to provide an update on the Vacherie drainage study at the next meeting and he asked Secretary Rodrigue to place this update on the December 17 agenda.

COUNCILMAN BRAZAN –Councilman Brazan asked Mr. Chenier to have Dennis Hymel meet prior to the December 17 council meeting to discuss certain drainage issues. He offered his condolences to Secretary Rodrigue, Councilman Amato and Blaise Gravois, Assistant Director of Operations, on the passing of his brother-in-law. Councilman Brazan thanked all involved in preparing the budget.

PRESIDENT ROUSSEL – President Roussel recognized Lutcher Mayor Elect Patrick St. Pierre. Mayor Elect St. Pierre told the Council he hopes to continue the great working relationship the town has had with the Council and he wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

CHAIRMAN KETCHENS – Chairman Ketchens extended an opportunity for CAO/Directors comment and received none. Chairman Ketchens extended his sympathies to Secretary Rodrigue, Councilman Amato and Mr. Gravois. He thanked President Roussel, the Directors, the Council and everyone who assisted in preparing the 2015 budget. In closing, Chairman Ketchens recognized Rev. Joseph, the new president of District 5 HELP, and the members of District 5 HELP who were in attendance.

ADJOURNMENT

After determining there was no additional business to come before the council, on a motion offered by Councilman St. Pierre seconded by Councilman McCreary and carried, the meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Angele R. Rodrigue, Secretary