

# ST. JAMES PARISH COUNCIL & ADMINISTRATION

## ADMINISTRATION



**PETER A. DUFRESNE**  
Parish President



**RICK WEBRE**  
Director of Operations



**FELIX BOUGHTON**  
Director of Finance



**INGRID LEBLANC**  
Director of Human Resources



**ERIC DEROCHE**  
Director of Emergency Preparedness



**JAJUAN HICKERSON**  
Personnel Manager



**MEREDITH CONGER**  
Public Information Officer



**AMBER SHEPARD**  
Grants & Communications Coordinator

## CONTACT US

Assessor's Office .....	225-562-2250
Clerk of Court's Office .....	225-562-2270
Emergency Preparedness .....	225-562-2364
Finance .....	225-562-2293
Human Resources (Social Services) .....	225-562-2287
Parish President's Office .....	225-562-2260

<b>Libraries</b>	
Lutcher .....	225-869-3618
Vacherie .....	225-265-9066

Operations .....	225-562-2444
Call Center .....	225-562-2500
Parish Council .....	225-562-2400
Planning & Permitting .....	225-562-2264
Recreation .....	225-562-2337
Registrar of Voters .....	225-562-2445
Tourist Information & Welcome Center .....	225-562-2525
St. James Parish Hospital .....	225-869-5512
St. James Parish Health Unit .....	225-265-2181
School Board .....	225-258-4500

<b>Senior Centers</b>	
Welcome .....	225-562-2463
Lutcher .....	225-562-2872
Convent .....	225-562-2465
Vacherie .....	225-562-2566

Sheriff's Office .....	225-562-2200
Transit Services .....	225-562-2352
Utilities .....	225-562-2500

Park Rental Information .....	225-562-2337
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## PARISH COUNCIL

- ALVIN ST. PIERRE** District 1
- JASON AMATO** District 2
- RYAN LOUQUE** District 3
- MASON BLAND** District 4
- CLYDE COOPER** District 5
- VONDRA ETIENNE-STEIB** District 6
- DONALD NASH** District 7



# BUDGET EXPENSES



PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
NEW ORLEANS, LA  
PERMIT NO. 2250

ST. JAMES PARISH  
5800 CANATELLA STREET  
CONVENT, LOUISIANA 70723



# 2020

## STATE OF THE PARISH

### MISSION

St. James Parish Government works together with community, business, industry and agriculture to provide resources and services to improve our quality of life.

### VISION

We envision a thriving St. James Parish community in which economic and social gains prevail and all people grow, prosper, and live productive, healthy lives while preserving our culture and heritage.

Photos courtesy of River Parish Tourist Commission



**WWW.STJAMESLA.COM**  
PETER A. DUFRESNE, PARISH PRESIDENT

# PERCENTAGES OF BUDGET DATA

2020 EXPENDITURES	\$46.9 MILLION*
2020 REVENUES	\$514 MILLION*
2020 REVENUE FROM TAXES	62%

\* Preliminary Actual Figures - Unaudited  
\* The financial position increased in spite of lower revenues and increased drainage expenses due to savings from inefficiencies in other areas.



# LETTER FROM THE PARISH PRESIDENT



PETER A. DUFRESNE

## RESIDENTS OF OUR GREAT PARISH,

It is my honor to present to you the first State of the Parish report of my administration. When I entered the race to be your next Parish President, I promised to bring a business mentality to government and take the politics out. I vowed to streamline government operations and to create a long-range infrastructure plan for the future of our Parish and to focus efforts on securing Federal and State grant funding for mitigation efforts and projects. The State of the Parish report detailed herein provides a comprehensive look at my first year in office and the success my administration and staff have had in accomplishing those goals while saving millions of dollars to taxpayers.

I look forward to continuing to serve this great Parish and pushing forward for more progress to build a better future for each of us and our future generations to come.

WWW.STJAMESLA.COM

## TAXPAYER SAVINGS HIGHLIGHTS

Secured CARES Act Funding

**\$930,816**

Awarded Discharge Permit for Molaison

**\$800,000**

Insurance - Property/Liability

**\$700,000**

Did Not Roll Millages Forward

**\$331,500**

Workers' Compensation Renewal

**\$56,660**

Canceled Consulting Contracts

**\$121,000**

TOTAL SAVINGS/REVENUE GENERATED

**\$2,573,976**

## ST. JAMES BY THE NUMBERS



**1,469**  
TOURISM VISITORS



**42**  
RESIDENTIAL PERMITS



**55**  
NEW GAS SERVICES



**194.7**  
GAS SOLD  
(MILLION CUBIC FEET)



**12**  
COMMERCIAL PERMITS



**31**  
MOBILE HOME PERMITS



**60**  
NEW WATER SERVICES



**726.4**  
WATER SOLD  
(MILLION GALLONS)

## RECREATION IMPROVEMENTS

### IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

District 5 **Splash Park** and concession  
District 4 **Splash Park**  
Lutcher **Baseball Fields**  
Lutcher Covered **Basketball Courts**  
Magnolia Covered **Basketball Courts**

### 2020 RECREATION PARTICIPANTS

West Bank Biddy Basketball - **99**  
East Bank Biddy Basketball - **86**  
Youth Soccer - **304**  
Adult Cornhole - **20 teams**  
Adult Cabbage Ball - **14 teams**

## TOP 10 INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY TAXPAYERS

INDUSTRY	TAXABLE VALUE	TAXES DUE
Shell Convent Refinery	\$181,530,523	\$19,394,955
Americas Styrenics	\$39,250,644	\$4,277,928
Zen-Noh Grain	\$35,008,920	\$3,740,641
Mosaic Fertilizer (Uncle Sam)	\$33,681,800	\$3,598,564
Mosaic Fertilizer (Faustina)	\$30,200,741	\$3,291,579
LOCAP	\$18,977,990	\$2,076,002
Louisiana Sugar Refining	\$14,699,233	\$1,612,800
Oxy Chem	\$14,467,993	\$1,546,172
Plains Marketing	\$12,754,723	\$1,390,138
Noranda Alumina	\$11,629,519	\$1,275,991
TOTAL	\$392,202,086	\$42,204,769

## OPERATIONS

- Over **250 linear miles** of drainage channels cleared parish-wide.
- Implemented a new online work order management system, launching in mid-2020.
- Closed over **2,000 work orders** in 2020.



### CITIZEN SERVICE CENTER

A **Citizen Service Center** was established to manage the work order management system. By implementing a work order system and citizen service center, residents can input a work order online or by calling the CSC and track the work order through its life cycle. The combination of Citizen service center and work order system allow for a streamlined process for placing requests and ensuring no requests are lost as was prevalent with the previous, manual system.



### DRAINAGE DIVISION

A Drainage Division was established in 2020 to address years of neglect in Parish-wide drainage. With the purchase of new equipment and establishment of this division, over **250 linear miles** of drainage channels were cleared by year's end. In addition, a herbicide application team was formed to reduce the workload of mechanically removing vegetation of major drainage channels by providing routine spraying of major drainage channels to control vegetation growth. These divisions include **8 pieces of specialized equipment** and **10 dedicated employees**.



### FLEET MANAGEMENT DIVISION

The fleet management division was established to routinely provide preventative maintenance on the millions of dollars of parish-owned equipment including cars, trucks and heavy operating equipment.

The software system, **Fleet Management Pro**, was implemented to track all services and keep detailed records of maintenance on each piece of equipment.

## MAJOR PROJECTS COMPLETED

The Operations Division developed a three-year Capital Improvement Plan to plan and program over 36 months all major Capital projects for St. James Parish Government. Notable projects contained within this plan include the **Road Rehabilitation Program**, **Molaison Sewer System**, **Humble Street Drainage Mitigation**, and **Bourbon Country Subdivision Gas Lines Replacement**.

**Roadway Improvements** - In 2020, a contractor was hired to conduct a full assessment of all parish-owned roadways to determine and priority rank those roads in need of preservation or complete repair. This data will be used in 2021 as part of the Road Rehabilitation Program.

## DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES & SOCIAL SERVICES

### ELDERLY SERVICES

- Implemented additional activities to assist with "feelings of isolation" among seniors during the pandemic.
- 70,118** meals served to elderly.

### SPECIAL PROGRAMS & EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

- 160 households** and **304 individuals** assisted with LIHEAP.
- 113 households** and **299 individuals** assisted with utilities, rent, mortgage, and tuition assistance.
- Implemented a new **Client Tracking System** (CTS) to monitor and track client services.
- Assisted **65 households** with commodity distribution throughout 2020.
- Became a certified housing counseling agency and created the agency's first ever podcast during Covid-19.



**292 CHILDREN AND 119 FAMILIES SERVED THROUGH THE ANNUAL TOY & COAT DRIVE.**

### YOUTH & CAREER SERVICES

- The youth services division launched its first **apprenticeship program** enabling participants stackable credentials during their 6-8 week training.
- Launched its first pilot program for transitioning citizens back into their respective communities after incarceration.

## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

- Activated the Emergency Operations Center for **7 hurricanes** and **Covid-19**.
- Set up Covid-19 testing sites which tested **1745 people**.
- The 4 Parish fire departments were dispatched to **286 calls** for service.
- Following Hurricane Laura, St. James EOC Staff traveled to Beauregard Parish to assist with recovery and provide necessary personnel and equipment.
- St. James Parish EOC staff partnered with the St. James Hospital to bring Covid-19 vaccinations to first responders and those in phase 1 of vaccinations.



ST. JAMES PARISH CITIZEN SERVICE CENTER | 225-562-2500