

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF A PUBLIC HEARING HELD BY  
THE ST. JAMES PARISH COUNCIL ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2022**

The Council of the Parish of St. James, State of Louisiana, met for a public hearing in the Council Chambers of the Parish Courthouse in Convent, Louisiana at 6:00p.m. on Wednesday, December 7, 2022.

Those present were Council Members Alvin St. Pierre, Jr., Jason Amato, Donald Nash, and Chairwoman Vondra Etienne-Steib. Councilmen Ryan Louque, Mason Bland, and Clyde Cooper were absent.

Chairwoman Etienne-Steib called the Public Hearing on the following items to order:

**ORDINANCE 22-17, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 94, SPECIAL DISTRICTS, ARTICLE III, SECTION 94 OF THE ST. JAMES PARISH CODE OF ORDINANCES, TO DISSOLVE SECTION 94-48-FIRE SERVICE DISTRICT FOR SOUTH VACHERIE FIRE DEPARTMENT, TO DISSOLVE SECTION 94-49-FIRE SERVICE DISTRICT FOR PAULINA-GRAND POINT-BELMONT FIRE DEPARTMENT, TO DISSOLVE SECTION 94-50-FIRE SERVICE DISTRICT FOR UNION-CONVENT FIRE DEPARTMENT, TO DISSOLVE SECTION 94-51-FIRE SERVICE DISTRICT FOR NORTH VACHERIE FIRE DEPARTMENT, DISSOLVE SECTION 94-52-FIRE SERVICE DISTRICT FOR GRAMERCY FIRE DEPARTMENT, DISSOLVE SECTION 94-53-FIRE SERVICE DISTRICT FOR UNION-CONVENT FIRE DEPARTMENT, DISSOLVE SECTION 94-54-FIRE SERVICE DISTRICT FOR NORTH VACHERIE FIRE DEPARTMENT, DISSOLVE SECTION 94-55-FIRE SERVICE DISTRICT FOR SOUTH VACHERIE FIRE DEPARTMENT, AND TO AMEND SECTION 94-47-FIRE SERVICE DISTRICT FOR THE ST. JAMES FIRE DEPARTMENT**

After the Council Secretary read aloud the proposed ordinance, Mr. Eric Deroche explained that this is the final step to merge all 4 departments into one department, which is scheduled to be effective January 1<sup>st</sup> of next year.

Councilman Amato indicated that years ago they did a fire service survey. One of the things was the consolidation of all of the departments into one, under one fire chief. He said the end result is proper fire protection for our residents and businesses and this will help our PIA rating. President Dufresne said it will result in cost saving to our tax payers, due to lessen the amount of Class A pumpers that will be required. Councilman Nash inquired about the increase of manpower in the department. Mr. Deroche said they will try to recruit volunteers, but it is difficult due to the training requirements.

No comments were received from the Public.

**ORDINANCE 22-18, AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND ACCEPTING IMPROVEMENTS IN THE PARKVIEW ESTATES SUBDIVISION, IN PAULINA, LOUISIANA**

After the Council Secretary read aloud the proposed ordinance, President Dufresne explained that the subdivision is substantially complete and ready for Council approval. Councilman Nash inquired if an inspection has been done. Mr. Webre indicated testing was done and they have a discharge permit.

No comments were received from the Public.

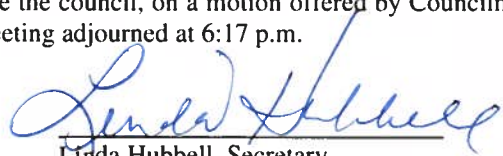
**PROPOSED ORDINANCE 22-19, AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND ACCEPTING IMPROVEMENTS IN THE ROSE MCGOWAN SIMON ET AL SUBDIVISION, IN SOUTH VACHERIE, LOUISIANA**

After the Council Secretary read aloud the proposed ordinance, President Dufresne explained this subdivision is substantially complete and recommended by the Planning Commission to be presented to the Council for approval. Councilman Amato said that this is the third subdivision for approval, so it is a good sign that residents are building in St. James Parish.

No comments were received from the Public.

**ADJOURNMENT**

After determining there was no additional business to come before the council, on a motion offered by Councilman St. Pierre and seconded by Councilman Amato and carried, the meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

  
Linda Hubbell, Secretary