



St. James Parish Council

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Vondra Etienne-Steib
Vice-Chairwoman

Linda Hubbell
Secretary

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following entitled ordinance was introduced at a regular meeting of the Parish Council of the Parish of St. James, State of Louisiana, on July 16, 2025, and laid over for publication of notice:

PROPOSED ORDINANCE 25-19 ST. JAMES PARISH COUNCIL

AN ORDINANCE DIRECTING THE RENEWAL OF THE LEVY AND COLLECTION OF AN AD VALOREM TAX OF THREE AND NINETY-ONE HUNDREDTHS (3.91) MILLS ON THE ASSESSED VALUATION OF ALL PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE PARISH OF ST. JAMES, STATE OF LOUISIANA, FOR A PERIOD OF TEN (10) YEARS, BEGINNING WITH THE YEAR 2027 AND ENDING WITH THE YEAR 2036, TO BE DEDICATED AS FOLLOWS: 60% FOR PAYMENT OF EXPENSES AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURES FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT(S) ACCREDITED BY THE ST. JAMES PARISH COUNCIL; 25% FOR PROVIDING EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES; 12% INTO A TRUST ACCOUNT TO PROVIDE FOR PARISHWIDE HEAVY FIRE EQUIPMENT, FOR ADDITIONAL WATER LINES AND FIRE HYDRANTS TO ACCOMMODATE FIRE PROTECTION, TO IMPROVE COMMUNICATIONS AND PROVIDE OTHER RELATED FIREFIGHTING EQUIPMENT; AND 3% FOR PROVIDING FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.

WHEREAS, under the provisions of Article VI, Section 26(B) of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974, as amended, and other constitutional and statutory authority, including an election held in the Parish of St. James, State of Louisiana (the “**Parish**”) on Saturday, May 3, 2025, the St. James Parish Council (the “**Governing Authority**”), as governing authority for the Parish, desires to renew the levy and collection of the ad valorem tax as authorized at the election by virtue of the favorable passage of the proposition attached hereto as Schedule A setting forth the rate and duration of the tax; and

WHEREAS, in compliance with the provisions of said authority and other applicable constitutional and statutory authority, an election was held in the Parish on Saturday, May 3, 2025, to authorize the renewal of the levy and collection of the ad valorem tax, it is now the desire of the Parish to renew the levy of the ad valorem tax and to provide for the collection thereof and other matters in connection therewith as hereinafter provided in this Ordinance

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Authority, that:

SECTION 1. Pursuant to the authority of an election held in the Parish on Saturday, May 3, 2025, there be and there is hereby levied within the geographic boundaries of the Parish for the purposes stated in the proposition attached hereto as Schedule A, an ad valorem tax of three and ninety-one hundredths (3.91) mills on the dollar of assessed valuation of all property subject to taxation in the Parish, beginning with the year 2027 and ending with the year 2036, to be dedicated as follows: 60% for payment of expenses and capital expenditures for the fire department(s) accredited by the St. James Parish Council (previously operating as six volunteer fire departments); 25% for providing emergency medical services; 12% into a trust account to provide for Parishwide heavy fire equipment, for additional water lines and fire hydrants to accommodate fire protection, to improve communications and provide other related firefighting equipment; and 3% for providing for administrative costs, all in the manner and subject to the provisions and terms of those portions of Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, applicable to property taxes levied by the Parish.

SECTION 2. That the ad valorem tax described in Section 1 above shall be levied, assessed, imposed, collected, paid and enforced according to law.

SECTION 3. The obligations and rights of taxpayers in connection with the ad valorem tax levied hereby shall be as provided by the provisions of law applicable to ad valorem taxes levied by the Parish.

SECTION 4. If any one or more of the provisions of this Ordinance shall for any reason be held to be illegal or invalid, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect any other provision of this Ordinance, but this Ordinance shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provisions had not been contained herein. Any constitutional or statutory provision enacted after the date of this Ordinance which validates or makes legal any provision of this Ordinance which would not otherwise be valid or legal, shall be deemed to apply to this Ordinance.

SECTION 5. Upon adoption, this Ordinance shall be published in full in one (1) issue of the *News Examiner-Enterprise* and shall be recorded in the mortgage records of the St. James Parish Clerk of Court.

SECTION 6. The Chairman of the Governing Authority be and he is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to take any and all such action as may be necessary to carry into effect the provisions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 7. This Ordinance shall immediately take effect upon adoption.

Todd Poche	Courtney Long	Ryan Louque	Neal Poche	Anthony Jasmin	Vondra Steib	Donald Nash
District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5	District 6	District 7

SCHEDULE A

PROPOSITION

Shall the Parish of St. James, State of Louisiana (the “Parish”), be authorized to renew the levy of a special tax of three and ninety-one hundredths (3.91) mills on all property subject to taxation in the Parish (an estimated \$2,686,058 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year), for a period of ten (10) years, beginning with the year 2027 and ending with the year 2036, to be dedicated as follows: 60% for payment of expenses and capital expenditures for the fire department(s) accredited by the St. James Parish Council (previously operating as six volunteer fire departments); 25% for providing emergency medical services; 12% into a trust account to provide for Parishwide heavy fire equipment, for additional water lines and fire hydrants to accommodate fire protection, to improve communications and provide other related firefighting equipment; and 3% for providing for administrative costs?

NOTICE IS HEREBY, FURTHER, GIVEN that the Parish Council of said Parish will meet at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 6, 2025, in the Council Chambers of the Parish Courthouse, 5800 Hwy 44, Convent, LA at which time there will be a public hearing on the adoption of the aforesaid ordinance.

s/ Ryan Louque
Chairman

s/Linda Hubbell
Secretary

Note: St. James Parish will provide, upon request, reasonable accommodation to any disabled individual wishing to attend the meeting. Anyone requiring reasonable accommodation is requested to contact 1-800-846-5277 (TDD), 1-800-947-5277 (Voice) or 562-2400 (Handicapped) to discuss the particular accommodation needed.

Todd Poche	Courtney Long	Ryan Louque	Neal Poche	Anthony Jasmin	Vondra Steib	Donald Nash
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