

**AGENDA**  
**ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**DECEMBER 16, 2015 @ 6:00 P.M.**  
**OLD CITY MARKET, 131 W. BELLEVUE ST.**  
**OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & INVOCATION**

By Councilman Wayne Ardoin

**III. ROLL CALL**

**IV. CONDOLENCES**

**V. PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL**

- Katry Martin; St. Landry Parish Solid Waste Deposal District

**VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Regular Meeting:**

November 18, 2015

**VII. PARISH PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

- Smooth Ride Home Status Update
- St. Landry Parish Economic Development
- Acadiana Planning Commission
- Adopt Ordinance NO. 011 OF 2015

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE ST. LANDRY PARISH GOVERNMENT, that:**

**AN ORDINANCE INCREASING THE PARISH PRESIDENT'S SALARY TO \$105,000.00 PER YEAR PURUANT TO SECTION 3-04 OF THE ST. LANDRY PARISH HOME RULE CHARTER, EFFECTIVE WITH THE NEXT TERM OF OFFICE, YEAR 2016.**

WHEREAS, The Parish President's salary was last established in 2003 by Adoption of the St. Landry Parish Home Rule Charter which initially set salary at \$65,000.00; and

WHEREAS, Section 3-04 (Parish President's Salary) of the St. Landry Parish Home Rule Charter allows the Parish Council to change the annual salary of the Parish President by Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the compensation rates for the Parish-wide positions of Sheriff, Clerk of Court and Assessor are established on an annual basis in accordance with predetermined formula approved by the State Legislature and the those rates are approximately \$136,616.43; therefore

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Council of the Parish of St. Landry, that:

SECTION 1. This Ordinance does hereby establish the Parish President's salary effective with the next term of office, Year 2016.

SECTION 2. The compensation of the Parish President be established at the rate of \$105,000.00 per year.

SECTION 3. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances by the St. Landry Parish Council conflicting with or inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 4. This Ordinance shall be published in the official journal of the St. Landry Parish Council in the manner provided by law.

SECTION 5. This Ordinance, having been submitted in writing, having been read and adopted at a public meeting of said Council, was then submitted to an official vote as a whole, the vote thereon being as follows:

This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS:**

\*Items passed through committee.

- Request Legal Advisor Chad Pitre review information provided by Julie David in order to add additional information to the letter sent to the Attorney General for an opinion regarding Bear Road.
- Request clarification from Attorney Chad Pitre as to the proper procedures for introduction of ordinances.
- Request Parish engineers attend an upcoming meeting to present an update on the status of parish road work.
- Approve the reimbursement of attorney fees to Councilman Wayne Ardoin in the amount of \$4,987.80 regarding the lawsuit filed against him by Parish President Bill Fontenot.
- Authorize Clerks to advertise for three appointments to St. Landry Parish Economic Development District (SLED).
- Authorize Clerks to advertise for two appointments to Fire District No. 1.

**IX. SPECIAL BUSINESS:**

- Request public works overlay six hundred yards of Borel Road. (Councilman Wayne Ardoin)

**X. ORDINANCES TO BE INTRODUCED:**

- **ORDINANCE NO. 012 OF 2015**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE ST. LANDRY PARISH GOVERNMENT, that:**

**WHEREAS, Any Councilmember seeking reimbursement for documented and reasonable expenses shall submit documentation of said expenses to the Parish President.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Council of the Parish of St. Landry, that:**

**1) Members seeking reimbursement for expenses related to their performance of their official duties as Council Members shall first be submitted and approved by the Parish President**

**This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from after its passage and approval.**

**XI. ORDINANCES TO BE ADOPTED:**

- **ORDINANCE NO. 010 OF 2015**

AN ORDINANCE TO SET REGULAR MEETING DATES FOR THE ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS FOR THE YEAR 2016 ON THE THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT SIX O'CLOCK PM AND FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS AND ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCE COMMITTEES TO MEET ON THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT SIX O'CLOCK PM

Dates for upcoming Council Meetings in 2016 are listed below:

**Regular Meeting:**

January 20, 2016  
February 17, 2016  
March 16, 2016  
April 20, 2016  
May 18, 2016  
June 15, 2016  
July 20, 2016  
August 17, 2016  
September 21, 2016  
October 19, 2016  
November 16, 2016  
December 21, 2016

**Committee Meetings:**

January 6, 2016  
February 3, 2016  
March 2, 2016  
April 6, 2016  
May 4, 2016  
June 1, 2016  
July 6, 2016  
August 3, 2016  
September 7, 2016  
October 5, 2016  
November 2, 2016  
December 7, 2016

**XII. RESOLUTIONS TO BE ADOPTED:**

• **RESOLUTION nO. 2015-018**

A resolution authorizing the President to execute an Agreement with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LA DOTD) for improvements at the

WHEREAS, Act 451 of the 1989 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature authorized the financing of certain airport improvements from funds appropriated from the Transportation Trust Fund; and

WHEREAS, the St. Landry Parish Government has requested funding assistance from the LA DOTD to/for Runway Rehabilitation - Phase I; and

WHEREAS, the stated project has been approved by the Louisiana Legislature and the LA DOTD is agreeable to the implementation of this project and desires to cooperate with the St. Landry Parish Government according to the terms and conditions identified in the attached Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the LA DOTD will provide the necessary funding for the Runway Rehabilitation - Phase I and reimburse the sponsor up to \$9,253.00 of project cost.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the St. Landry Parish Government that it does hereby authorize the President to execute an Agreement for the project identified as A.I.P. No. 3-22-0043-012-2015 and SPN H.011907, more fully identified in the Agreement attached hereto; and to execute any subsequent related documents, including, but not limited to, amendments to said agreement..

This resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its adoption.

• **RESOLUTION nO. 2015-019**

**A resolution approving the holding of an election in Ward 1 South Gravity Drainage District No. 1 of the Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana, on Saturday, April 9, 2016, to authorize the continuation of a special tax therein.**

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Ward 1 South Gravity Drainage District No. 1 of the Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of Ward 1 South Gravity Drainage District No. 1 of the Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana (the "District"), adopted a resolution on December 14, 2015, calling a special election in the District on Saturday, April 9, 2016, to authorize the continuation of a special tax therein; and

WHEREAS, the governing authority of the District has requested that this Parish Council, acting as the governing authority of the Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana, give its consent and authority for the District to hold the aforesaid election, and in the event that the election carries to continue to levy and collect the special tax provided for therein; and

WHEREAS, as required by Article VI, Section 15 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974, it is now the desire of this Parish Council to approve the holding of said election and in the event that the election carries, to continue to levy and collect the special tax provided for therein;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Parish Council of the Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana, acting as the governing authority of said Parish, that:

SECTION 1. In compliance with the provisions of Article VI, Section 15 of the constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974, and in accordance with the request of the Board of Commissioners of Ward 1 South Gravity Drainage District No. 1 of the Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana, this Parish Council hereby approves the holding of an election in the District, on Saturday, April 9, 2016, at which election there will be submitted the following proposition, to-wit:

PROPOSITION  
(MILLAGE CONTINUATION)

Shall Ward 1 South Gravity Drainage District No. 1 of the Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana (the "District"), continue to levy a special tax of three and forty-nine hundredths (3.49) mills on all property subject to taxation in the District (an estimated \$213,500 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 2016 and ending with the year 2025, for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, improving, maintaining and/or operating the District's drainage works?

SECTION 2. In the event the election carries, this Parish Council does hereby further consent to and authorize the District to continue to levy and collect the special tax provided for therein.

**XIII. COMMITTEE MINUTES**

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

1. Chairman Dexter Brown called this meeting of the Public Works Committee of the St. Landry Parish Council to order.

Council Clerk Mona Courville called roll:

PRESENT: Jerry Red, Fekisha Miller Matthews, Ronald Buschel, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune. ABSENT: Gary Courville, Leon Robinson, Ex-Officio.

2. Chairman Dexter Brown led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance and the Invocation.

3. Persons to address the Committee:

Councilman Hurlin Dupre, "On Two O'clock Bayou off Old [Hwy] 190, they shut the thing off and they said they were going to leave part of it open so that the four-wheelers could go hunting; people that live on the other side of the woods. They went out there and took part of the decking off of the bridge and they can't get through there."

Chairman Dexter Brown, "Who took what off?"

Councilman Hurlin Dupre, "The parish took part of the decking off the bridge and nobody can go through it."

Chairman Dexter Brown, "Were you aware of this Mr. Fontenot?"

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "No, I'm not aware Mr. Hurlin. How long that's been that way?"

Councilman Hurlin Dupre, "I got there yesterday and they're mad back there because they can't go through to hunt. Remember, I had asked you to leave a little opening?"

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "And we had, right?"

Councilman Hurlin Dupre, "They went out there and did that, then they came back and filled the dirt all the way and took the decking off."

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "Okay, I'll check on that. It sounds like maybe the decking was not taken off by us, but somebody else. So, we don't want anybody to run in there. I'll check on it."

Councilman Hurlin Dupre, "Thank you."

4. Public Works report:

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "I don't have anything to add Sir to any of the reports that I've given you."

5. Discuss the matter regarding the Attorney's General opinion concerning Bear Road. (Councilman Timmy Lejeune)

Councilman Timmy Lejeune, "The reason I stuck this back on the agenda is because, my understanding, it needed to go through the Public Works to get all the details sent over to the Attorney General's office. We had discussed it in the last meeting, I think there was a discrepancy that they didn't get all the details in the letter. I put it back on here, so I'm going to forward the Attorney General's opinion, the letter to be re-written in a way that the people that live Bear Road want it done. Do you know if the letter was sent?"

Julie David, "No Sir, it hasn't been sent. It was my understanding that, at this Committee meeting, I was to present to the Committee what I would like added to the letter, the Committee would vote on whether or not this information was acceptable, and then pass it to Mr. Pitre to add to it."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune, "At this time I would like to make a motion that we forward this letter to the full Council and a copy over to our attorney."

A motion was offered by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Ronald Buschel, to forward to the full Council and to Legal Advisor Chad Pitre, a review of the information provided by Julie David to be added to the request for an Attorney's General opinion regarding Bear Road.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Fekisha Miller Matthews, Ronald Buschel, Timmy Lejeune. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Gary Courville. ABSTAIN: Jerry Red.

WHEREUPON, this motion was forwarded on this, the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December, 2015.

Councilman Ronald Buschel, "Mr. Chairman, the letter we received from Mr. Pitre, that was forwarded from the Attorney General's office, was the letter written by the parish to take in the road into the parish system. That wasn't exactly what they wanted. What they wanted was, they wanted this to be taken by District 6 which had enough money to fix the road and blacktop it. Now, apparently, I'm not sure whether District 6 wrote a letter to the Attorney General or not. I had told them, a long time ago, to write a letter to the Attorney General because it is not under the auspices of the parish taking in the road, technically, according to our rules and regulations. We can't take the road in under certain circumstances. But, there's nothing that says District 6 cannot blacktop the road."

Julie David, "Right and the letter, I have a copy of it right here. The question is 'Can District 6 Road Commission adopt a private, non-hard surfaced roadway into its district road system, when the private roadway in question violates minimum required standards?' But, like has been argued forever, there's a lot of exceptions, exceptions which are included in this letter. District 6 is more than willing and has the funding to take the road in, bring it up to standards, and maintain it until the point that the parish can take it in."

Councilman Ronald Buschel, "It can be then transferred over to the parish when it meets the standards."

Julie David, "When it meets the standard of non-paved roads, yes."

Councilman Ronald Buschel, "Well, either paved or non-paved, it doesn't really matter. District 6 can do both of them. That was the purpose of a road district in St. Landry Parish, was to do these roads that was not under parish jurisdiction or the parish didn't have the money to do it. So, the citizen says 'I'm going to do it myself.' That's not what the letter that went to the Attorney General asked. The letter that went to the Attorney General asked 'Can the parish take the road?' No, the parish cannot take the road, unless we make an exception, which has not been made."

Julie David, "Well, the question I see right here is whether District 6 can take the road in and bring it up to standard. Then, at a later date, the parish take it in. But, in the letter, there were certain facts that were omitted concerning the history suggesting that it could possibly be grandfathered in; the laws; the ordinances that stated that District 6 did not need the permission of the parish to take the road in. Yet, no motion or decision has been made. Instead of making the decision they turned it over to the Attorney General. The addition I have sets forth facts concerning the establishment of the subdivision. The reason it wasn't taken in, at the time that the parish began taking in non-surfaced roads, and the laws that substantiate the claim allowing it to be taken in by either the parish or by District 6. That's what I'd like to have added should the parish or District 6 not make the decision."

Councilman Ronald Buschel, "I have no problem adding that in because the sole purpose of the grounds for the creation of the law to create Public Works Commissions was that the parish does not have the ability to take in and build a road. Private concerns, which a commission is, they collect taxes from the local people, they can repair the roads, and, like you say, bring them up to standards and then, after a period of time, they can turn them over to the parish and the parish take them over."

Julie David, "Right. And, according to the ordinance, it's three years."

Councilman Ronald Buschel, "Yes."

Julie David, "Thank you. One more thing, if you don't mind, once you review the letter itself, that was initially sent to the Attorney General's office and my additions, I'd like, perhaps, the Committee to consider making a decision without the Attorney General's opinion because all of the laws and ordinances are set forth in my addition."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune, "I think that was voted on already."

Julie David, "Making a decision without the Attorney General?"

Chairman Dexter Brown, "We'll hand this to our Legal Counsel as well, Mr. Pitre, and we'll go from there."

Julie David, "Thank you."

6. Adopt a resolution for the State of Louisiana Department of Transportation regarding State Project No. H. 011907, A.I.P. No. 3-22-0043-012-2015, Runway Rehabilitation - Phase I, St. Landry Parish - Ahart Field. (Administration)

A motion was offered by Councilman Ronald Buschel, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, to forward to the full Council, the adoption of a Resolution for the State of Louisiana Department of Transportation regarding State Project No. H. 011907, A.I.P. No. 3-22-0043-012-2015, Runway Rehabilitation - Phase I, St. Landry Parish - Ahart Field.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Fekisha Miller Matthews, Ronald Buschel, Timmy Lejeune, Jerry Red. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Gary Courville. ABSTAIN: None.

WHEREUPON, this motion was forwarded on this, the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December, 2015.

7. Discuss procedures for introducing ordinances. (Councilman Jerry Red)

Councilman Jerry Red, "Mr. Chairman, I put this on here. Basically, at our last full Council meeting we had an issue that was introduced by one person and, normally, when we introduce an ordinance, it's normally done by vote. In fact, right before we got to that one, we introduced another ordinance and it was done by vote. Our Legal Counsel said that, for any reason, any one could introduce an ordinance, but in this case it didn't require a vote or anything. So, this one person introduced the ordinance, there wasn't a vote if we wanted to introduce the ordinance, and in our Charter it states, that's in Ordinances in General, Section 2-11, on page 6, under A, it says, 'All proposed ordinances shall be introduced in writing at a meeting of the council in the form required for adoption and, except for codification, the operating and capital improvement budgets shall each be confined to one subject expressed clearly in their titles.' My only question on this is, this was done verbally, it wasn't in writing and, also, whenever we introduced an ordinance it was done by voting. So, in my term over here, we've had three different Legal Counsels and I believe each Legal Counsel had their way of interpreting things. I just didn't agree with it so that's why I put it back on the agenda. I didn't think it was right, for myself, or any other Councilmember, to just introduce it if the other twelve Councilmembers didn't want to introduce it at the time. I think it should have been done by a vote. I think that introduction should be null and void. I called for Mr. Pitre, before Thanksgiving, I didn't hear anything about it, and he's not here tonight to explain to us. So, if our Council Clerk has any clarification, have y'all heard anything?"

Council Clerk Mona Courville, "As far as I know, Ms. Laycie spoke with him and the information in that's in the packet was all that we have. As far as I know we didn't get any more clarification than that."

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "Mr. Chairman, if I might ask? Mr. Red, which ordinance are you referring to Sir?"

Councilman Jerry Red, "It was the one about the dates of the meetings. The reason why I said that, Ms. Gautreau, normally at the beginning of a term, we normally give the new Council an opportunity to change and set the dates. And after we're already in the office we do it in November, just go through the motion of introduction and approving an ordinance. But, in this case, some new Councilmembers may not want to have the meetings on a Wednesday. Last time I sacrificed and had it on Wednesday when I have church nights on Wednesdays. I think we need to hear from all our Councilmembers rather than just one person introducing it. That was my reason for bringing it back up."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune, "Mr. Red, are you going to send that to the full Council?"

Councilman Jerry Red, "No, I don't believe there's nothing we really could forward to the full Council because it was already introduced."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune, "You wanted to be able to speak to Mr. Pitre concerning this matter if you brought it to the full then you could."

Councilman Jerry Red, "I believe, at the last full Council meeting, Mr. Pitre said it was already introduced when a Councilmember introduces it. So, it's going to be on the full Council meeting because it was introduced with his interpretation that it didn't require the vote. Yet the other one required a vote. So, I just want us to be on the right page if we have to vote to introduce it or anybody can just introduce anything they want and just put it on there. It's already going to be on the agenda for the full Council."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune, "I would make a motion that we request clarity, on item Number 7, on the proper procedures in introducing an ordinance."

A motion was offered by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Ronald Buschel, to forward to the full Council, a request for further clarity by Legal Advisor Chad Pitre as to the proper procedures for introduction of ordinances.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Ronald Buschel, Timmy Lejeune, Jerry Red, Fekisha Miller Matthews. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Gary Courville. ABSTAIN: None.

WHEREUPON, this motion was forwarded on this, the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December, 2015.

8. Discuss any other business properly brought before this Committee.

A) Councilman Ronald Buschel, "Mr. Chairman, I have a couple of questions for Mr. Fontenot. Mr. Fontenot, at the present time do we have any of our Road Home contracts in operation or are we finished with the previous contracts?"

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "We still have two under contract right now. The two last ones that we bid. Yes Sir."

Councilman Ronald Buschel, "Now, on the cracking, was that on the regular contract or was that a different contract?"

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "No, it's on the same one. Yes Sir."

Councilman Ronald Buschel, "Now, the last thing is, what is the status of all the cracks we have?"

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "Well, we're certainly going to address those that are severe enough. We're having an evaluation of that. Our engineers are evaluating that. Where we feel they are severe enough, we're going to have them sealed. There are some that are just hairline cracks that we will just do nothing with as long as there's no faulting. It's not a failure, it's just simply a crack."

Councilman Ronald Buschel, "I've got some, especially on WPA Road, that's actually moving."

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "We're addressing, yes Sir. We have a little special work for that one."

Councilman Jerry Red, "Mr. Buschel, with that would you like to make a motion for the engineers to come and give us an update being that we never received an update on Phase I. They can give us an update as far as the Smooth Ride Home."

Councilman Ronald Buschel, "I have no problem with that Mr. Red, you're going to add that on to what I had?"

Councilman Jerry Red, "Yes, I'll make that motion."

Councilman Ronald Buschel, "Good, I'll second it then."

A motion was offered by Councilman Jerry Red, seconded Councilman Ronald Buschel, to request that parish engineers attend an upcoming meeting to present an update on the status of parish road work.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Timmy Lejeune, Jerry Red, Fekisha Miller Matthews, Ronald Buschel. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Gary Courville. ABSTAIN: None.

WHEREUPON, this motion was forwarded on this, the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December, 2015.

B) Councilman Wayne Ardoin, "For all the Committee members, I have a question in reference to Country Ridge Road. This will be addressed to you Mr. Fontenot. Mr. and Mrs. Wally Sylvester are here tonight. You told us the last meeting we had, slippery-when-wet signs were going to be erected. They're still not up?"

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "Right. They are ordered. I did check today. Hopefully, any day now we're going to get them and we're going to put those up and also the ones on Chretien Point Road. We're looking to do that within the next three days."

Councilman Wayne Ardoin, "And the guardrail, we discuss that also. What is the word on the guardrail? These people are very concerned. There was a high rate of traffic with the holidays and they're concerned. That's why they're here tonight, he said he wished not to speak so I'm going to speak for them. We brought this up last year when we had an incident over there. We just need to do something over there before somebody gets hurt Mr. Fontenot."

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "The crash rail was not last year?"

Councilman Wayne Ardoin, "No, we've had three incidents since I've been in office here this last four years."

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "We do repair it when it's crashed."

Councilman Wayne Ardoin, "I realize that, but what I'm saying is the engineer had stated that maybe up the dimples on it."

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "Okay, we're considering doing that too. Yes Sir. We're going to do the slippery-when-wet; we're going to get the rail, we're just waiting on the contractor to move in to get it fixed. It's all on order to get done. It should be done, hopefully, within the next week or two, but I would think the signs are going to be done within the next three of four days."

C) Parish President Bill Fontenot, "Mr. Chairman, I just wanted to let you know, also, the Bayou Jack bridge, we're in the process of issuing a work order Mr. Buschel."

Councilman Ronald Buschel, "Who's got the contract?"

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "It's Trek, I believe. I would have to get you the name. They've changed names now, companies bought out companies, and all that. I'll get you a name."

Chairman Dexter Brown, "That might be the company out of Bunkie. Trek."

D) Councilman Wayne Ardoin, "Mr. Brown, I have one more. Mr. Fontenot, Coach Couvillion Road, where the little water district is at, when you go down, you turn on Coach Couvillion Road. On the east side of Coach Couvillion Road, they bomaxed the cane down there, a lot of people bomax the cane, and they left everything in the ditch. The ditch is, now it's stopped up and people are complaining at the water district that the water is rising. I called it in two weeks ago. Please try to take care of it."

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "I'll do that."

9. Adjourn.

A motion was offered by Councilman Ronald Buschel, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, to adjourn this meeting of the St. Landry Parish Public Works Committee.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jerry Red, Fekisha Miller Matthews, Ronald Buschel, Timmy Lejeune. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Gary Courville. ABSTAIN: None.

WHEREUPON, this motion was passed on this, the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December, 2015.

This meeting was adjourned.

**I HEREBY CERTIFY THE FOREGOING TO BE EXACT AND TRUE.  
MONA COURVILLE, CLERK FOR THE ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL.**

**ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL  
ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
DECEMBER 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015  
OLD CITY MARKET, 131 W. BELLEVUE ST.  
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA**

**ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

1. Chairman Wayne Ardoin called this meeting of the Administrative/Finance Committee of the St. Landry Parish Council to order.

Council Clerk Mona Courville called roll:

PRESENT: Huet Dupre, Hurlin Dupre, Alvin Stelly, Pam Gautreau, Wayne Ardoin, Jimmie Edwards.

ABSENT: Leon Robinson, Ex-Officio.

2. Persons to address the Committee:

Linda Senegal, "Good evening. My name is Linda Senegal and I reside on Quinault Lane, Opelousas, Louisiana. I'm here because I missed the last meeting when there was some concerns about Mr. Bill Fontenot, a pay raise of forty thousand (\$40,000.<sup>00</sup>) dollars. I'm here tonight to address that. My concerns about that is, Mr. Fontenot, I went to his office several times. I've left messages with Ms. Higgins, Ms. Rebecca Higgins for him to contact me. He never contacted me. I feel that, if you're a Parish President, you should at least return phone calls. The next thing is, since the last administration under I think it was his administrator, Mr. Jessie Bellard. The staff has not been evaluated or updated because some of the staff members that's there is getting paid an excessive amount of salaries and they don't have the credentials. Meaning, some of them don't even have a high school diploma, no less a college degree for what the title they are doing. I understand that the Home Roads program is implemented, but that was at the expense of everybody, all the taxpayers who pays anything with two (2%) percent. He implemented it, but it was at the taxpayers' expense. I've attended several Council meetings and every time there's an issue that's been brought up, or any kind of matter, Mr. Fontenot, you don't have the answer. You have to look into it. Then when the next meeting come you still don't have the answer. I have here a salary of all the employees and that was on the agenda since February and I think we ain't got that until April. Also, I have a list, if I can give y'all, of everybody that has a public library system. St.

Landry is the only parish that do not. If you look on the list that I provided, every parish from Allen all the way until Vermillion has a library system except St. Landry Parish. I think this needs to be corrected also. There's also a pay scale according to your degrees you have or according to your credentials to having these job titles; that you get paid on a pay scale. St. Landry Parish School Board has one. There's some oversight that has been into the accountability as far as how the rent is being picked up from the Delta Grand and the Yambilee building. I think it should be one payment for everybody. Not special privileges for some and not for the others. I think that's why the lawsuit with Mr. Pitre Frank got filed against St. Landry Parish is because of the discrepancy. Also, Mr. Fontenot, I think your staff need to be more, you have to have them more accountable to you, because, right now, I think like supervisors and others are doing what they want to do. They are not being accountable or held accountable to you. In light of all this I cannot see to where a forty thousand (\$40,000.<sup>00</sup>) dollar raise should or would be given. It's just not my sole opinion. I live in Shawnee's Farm and I collected signatures for more than half of the neighbors there, that's in oppose of a forty thousand (\$40,000.<sup>00</sup>) dollar raise. So, I thank you and please consider what I've said. Thank you."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune, "Ms. Senegal, first of all I want to tell you thank you for coming here tonight. You are probably one of the only ones that came up and voiced their opinion about this raise. I would just like to know where did you get all this information from."

Linda Senegal, "I researched it."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune, "From where?"

Linda Senegal, "Off the internet."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune, "Off the internet. And that's information that you, the statements you made tonight concerning the employees that work for Parish Government, you got that information off the internet as well?"

Linda Senegal, "No, when I obtained the salaries of all the employees, I know the people that do not have a high school diploma. I work in the education system and that is a wrong message to send to the people because we are trying to keep our kids in school. And, if you can get a job, say like with uncle or aunt so-and-so, and hey 'I don't need to stay in school. I can get out of school and I can make above minimum wage.' That is the wrong message to be sending."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune, "Do you think that that's the only place this would be happening is in St. Landry Parish at Parish Government? That you have people that haven't graduated from college or some that have just gone to the eleventh grade and they should be making eighteen thousand (\$18,000.<sup>00</sup>) dollars a year?"

Linda Senegal, "Yes, without a high school diploma."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune, "I think that's the wrong message sent because then they qualify for all kind of other programs. We should ask them to excel rather than stop at eighteen thousand (\$18,000.<sup>00</sup>)."

Linda Senegal, "Well if, that's the promotion. If you finish your high school you go on to something else and then with more experience and more credentials you can get paid more. That's an incentive."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune, "Thank you, have a nice evening."

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "I don't have any questions. I don't want to talk to her, but I want to make a statement when she's done. First of all, Ms. Senegal has a, I don't want to exchange words with you. Ms. Senegal, I don't know what her vindictive statements are intended for here tonight other than; I might have an idea that some have worked with her. Of course, this is about a structural change to a pay scale to the Parish President's salary. It's not about a pay raise for the current Parish President. This was talked about before, and all of you know that, and it was printed in the press. It was all done before qualifying time so that any persons knowing that they were going to possibly consider running for Parish President that they couldn't run at that pay scale. So I wanted all citizens to know that I was going to work on the structure of the pay scale being uplifted at least to within eighty (80%) percent of what the pay rate is around the state for Parish Presidents. So, we're about at that rate now if it passes. That's for future presidents. Of course, yes, the current president has been re-elected without opposition so I must not be doing too bad of a job that Ms. Senegal is criticizing me for. In fact, just as she made up statements about the trail rides where there were two trail ride folks that were here; good, reputable people that actually showed that she had made up some information that was untrue. You can take that into consideration about her statements. As far as her calling my office and not getting a response, I know I sat with Ms. Senegal at least twice, maybe three times, in my office. I gave her all the time she needed to express any concerns she had. I believe when she left she was, for the most part, accepted what the issues were, because my response is to work with the complainant, or the person that has the concern. I believe she was, pretty much, every time, fairly comfortable with the answer. But then she went on to talk to other people and spread some information that she said I had authorized her to do as far as controlling trail rides, which was all made up. So, I don't know what your job is, or what her job is at the School Board office, but hopefully they don't put her in charge of keeping track of what is said at meetings and what was agreed on. Every time I met with her it was in cooperative spirit, but every time it was put on the street, what we met about, it certainly came out with a lot of distortion. I would say that, basically, the only thing that she of credibility tonight is that we need a parish wide library system. Just for the citizens to know, if this goes into the press, Ms. Senegal is speaking from a very warped point of view and a very uninformed point of view, because much of what she said tonight is not substantiated with any type of validity or information that is accurate. Since I've gone in unopposed I would think that I have answered the people pretty responsibly in general about things concerning Parish Government. That's just my response to this ridiculous presentation. Very non-professional and, probably, political in some way. Thank you very much."

3. Parish President's report:

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "I don't have anything to add to any of the reports that I've provided to you."

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "Mr. Chairman, if I may. Mr. Fontenot, I don't understand how we can have no Public Works Reports and no finance report in either committee."

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "Because you do get reports, in writing to you, that cover the bulk of the work and there's no extra details or additions or addendums that I have to those. So, you can just ask me questions if you have any on any particular incident. I'll be glad to advise you."

4. Discuss pay raises for road graders, tractor drivers, dump truck drivers, and regular laborers. (Councilman Huet Dupre)

Councilman Huet Dupre, "Mr. Fontenot, I've been here four years and I don't think you've ever mentioned giving any of those boys a pay raise."

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "I don't mention pay raises because I give them as part of the daily operations of the government and I'm not required to report them. I think most of those who get pay raises, that I talk to about pay raises, and I think they like it to be as much confidential as possible. I know it's in the public view, if you want to know. I have no requirement to come and say I've given this person a raise or that person a raise at any time. I would say that, since I probably have three applications for every person that I have on board, I would think the pay rates are pretty decent. I have kept them, certainly, within the competitive pay rates of each position that is in place. So, I do consider pay raises and, on occasion, there are pay raises as I see applicable. During my time I've had no really serious complaints about it. When it was brought to my attention I evaluated and made decisions on pay raises and since, again, I have at least three or four applications for every job, I believe they are pretty competitive."

Councilman Huet Dupre, "I'd like to say, I know quite a few of those boys that work for the parish and there must be at least eight years they haven't had a pay raise. I think it's time somebody consider helping those boys out."

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "Again, I continue to do that and if any of them have any issues with their pay, I welcome them to come and talk to me about it, or bring it to their supervisor and I definitely do consider it."

Councilman Huet Dupre, "I sure hope, next year, somebody considers talking about it."

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "Well, I would think that they would know that I'm the person that they need to talk to, or their supervisor. So, I'm a bit surprised that they've complained to any of you about it. They seem to be pretty happy in the jobs they're doing and the jobs that they have."

Councilman Huet Dupre, "Well, Mr. Hurlin says if they're not satisfied they can find another job, but it's not that easy to find another job in St. Landry Parish. Especially if you're qualified like some of those boys, grader operator, and backhoe, and everything else. I think they should be considering getting a raise."

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "They are. I've done that continuously. I've done that for forty years."

5. Introduce an ordinance regarding reimbursement of Councilmember's expenses. (Councilwoman Pam Gautreau)

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "Mr. Chairman, this should, actually because the ordinance was already introduced we've never held a public hearing. Thus, it's not even been voted on to vote for the ordinance. I think we need to have a public hearing scheduled to get this ordinance voted on, one way or the other. The public hearing should have been called when it was initially voted on, I think was it June [2015]?"

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "We have a copy of it here. It was in the packet."

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "What I'm saying is, I think the Council voted, in June [2015], to go ahead and introduce the ordinance, but no public hearing was ever called. I'll make the motion that the Council call for a public hearing and vote on the ordinance, adopt the ordinance."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "The ordinance reads, 'Any member seeking reimbursement for expenses related to their performance of their official duties as Council Members shall first be submitted and approved by the Parish President.'"

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "Yeah, I don't agree with how the Council voted on it, but that's how the Council voted so."

A motion was offered by Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, seconded by Councilman Alvin Stelly, to forward to the full Council, the call for a public hearing and a vote on the ordinance regarding the reimbursement of Councilmember expenses.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Huet Dupre, Hurlin Dupre, Alvin Stelly, Pam Gautreau. NAYS: Jimmie Edwards. ABSENT: None. ABSTAIN: None.

WHEREUPON, this motion was forwarded on this, the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December, 2015.

6. Discuss the Louisiana Revised Statute 33:4574.1 taxes; occupancy; sales and use. (Councilman Wayne Ardoin)

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "Mr. Fontenot, the question was brought to me in reference to campgrounds. They can collect, you can collect taxes on that, like the motel tax?"

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "Yes Sir."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "Do we have to, as a Council, introduce it as an ordinance to put it as law?"

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "No Sir. That's a state law."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "Who collects it? You collect it or the Sheriff collects it?"

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "Well, they get a packet and their packet says, currently, that they gotta come to the parish office and pay it and then we, certainly, transfer it into the fund that goes to hotels and motels which is tourism. Lately, we've been trying to get with our tax commission to have our tax collector at the School Board office do that themselves? They have the force to actually pursue those who are non-compliant. We're making progress with that."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "That's what the question is, some people with some campgrounds have gone to a CPA firm. The CPA firm called and that's why I put it on the agenda. We don't have to do anything as a Council?"

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "No, by law, they know when they get their license to go into business, that they gotta pay that tax. We have pursued those that haven't. But, we find that it would be less cumbersome for the tax office at the School Board to pursue those who don't want to pay than it would be for us to pursue them since they have already an enforcement process in place."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "The School Board does?"

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "Yes they do."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "Now, in other parishes, the School Board does the same thing?"

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "Well, we think they do, we just haven't made much headway, but now that we have some new, I think we have one or two board members, maybe, on the tax commission that see the light. I think we're working our way to finalizing that."

7. Discuss the collection of attorney's fees for Councilman Wayne Ardoin from the lawsuit filed by Parish President Bill Fontenot. (Councilman Wayne Ardoin)  
Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "Every one of you has the paperwork in your packet and it is assigned with a dismissal of a lawsuit that was filed by Mr. Fontenot against me, as a Councilmember if y'all remember, about a couple of years ago, eighteen months ago. I have a copy here, every one of you have a copy. It was dismissed by Mr. Fontenot. Mr. Schiff has provided all of us with a copy of the letters and the statute stating that, as an elected official, I am entitled to be paid back for my attorney fees. I'm asking this committee to bring it before the full Council. I have attorney fees in the amount of four thousand nine hundred eighty seven dollars and eighty cents \$(4,987.<sup>80</sup>). I have paid Mr. Schiff everything but seven hundred and sixty six dollars and thirty cents (\$766.<sup>30</sup>). The total is four thousand nine hundred eighty seven dollars and eighty cents (\$4,987.<sup>80</sup>), with a balance of seven sixty six thirty (\$766.<sup>30</sup>) to be paid. I'm asking that to be brought before the full Council and that I be paid back the monies that I paid on this lawsuit that was dismissed. Mr. Fontenot, am I correct by saying that you dismissed this lawsuit without prejudice? I have a copy here."

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "Yes. It is what you and I discussed."

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "Mr. Chairman. Mr. Fontenot if the taxpayers are going to pick up the tab for four thousand nine hundred eighty seven (\$4,987) dollars on a lawsuit that you brought against a Councilman that you later dropped the charges on, how much is your share of the attorney?"

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "That's not for you or me to decide. I'll tell you, me and Mr. Ardoin have settled a case that I felt needed to be brought and then the response to it was satisfactory to me so we settled."

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "I'm asking how much more...?"

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "That's not for you to decide or me to decide."

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "Mr. Fontenot, the question is simple, how much is your attorney? How much did your portion of the attorney cost the taxpayers?"

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "I'm not answering. I don't have that right in front of me and I have not gotten a bill."

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "You have not gotten a bill, is your attorney working for free?"

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "I have not gotten a bill, Ms. Gautreau. That ought to be pretty simple for you to process. I haven't gotten a bill."

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "In eighteen months Mr. Caviness has not expected payment on the work he has done on your behalf to sue a Councilman? You have not gotten a bill from Mr. Caviness in all that time."

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "I believe I've answered your question."

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "No Sir, you have not. The taxpayers deserve an answer."

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "It's going to be in any reports that come out in the future."

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "When?"

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "It's going to be in the financial reports. Every bill we pay is in there."

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "Tonight there was no finance report."

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "Well, when you get a finance report. Right, you get them at the full Council meetings?"

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "When we get one. I'm going to make a motion that we forward this to the full Council so that Mr. Ardoin is not out four thousand nine hundred eighty seven dollars and eighty cents (\$4,987.<sup>80</sup>) that the taxpayers are going to pick up the tab for on behalf of Mr. Bill Fontenot for a case that had no merit whatsoever other than to be vindictive. So, Mr. Fontenot, when you're going to present your bill to the Council you personally should be picking up the tab for the entire thing, because this Council never agreed to the lawsuit. We have an Attorney General's opinion, very clearly, that states you, as the Parish President, do not have the authority to hire an outside attorney. Had you asked for an attorney the Council probably would have voted to allow you to have one since you had such a beef with a Councilmember. But, this has been an ongoing situation for four years that you've been paying a private attorney, without the Council's approval, and the taxpayers have footed the bill all these years, even though the District Attorney's office is supposed to be representing Parish Government."

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "I can say that you're leaving government as, I've heard you work through government from the beginning, with a filibuster and propaganda, much of which is not true."

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "It's not propaganda. We've got two bills coming."

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "It's not true. Most of what you're saying is not true. It's a bunch of propaganda. It's just not so. You're just making up things."

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "Mr. Fontenot, its black and white."

Councilmember Jerry Red, "Point of order."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "Point of order. Let's move go ahead and move on."

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "There's a motion to pay Mr. Ardoin attorney's fees and to forward to the full Council."

Councilman Jerry Red, "I just have a question for both of you. Number one, I didn't know what the lawsuit was about; and, number two, the reason for dismissing the lawsuit?"

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "Mr. Red, I'm going to tell you what the lawsuit was about and the project is still not been done by Parish Government, nor by the drainage district. It really is, and we have the paperwork to back it up where it was asked that Public Works pick up half of the tab, with the drainage district, to straighten out that lateral on Country Ridge Road. If you're aware where it's at, when you leave, behind here, we're the little lateral on the right hand side. The man's driveway is caving in. Mr. Campbell came here, two times, asking for some help. I met two of our employees over there, Ken Richard and Joe Leger, and I got accused of going over there and trying to obstruct their work. They were not doing any work, they were looking at the project. In my business, I see things go on every day. I stopped there and that's when I had the lawsuit filed against me. So, I had to get an attorney to represent me. That's what happened. Then Mr. Fontenot chose to dismiss the lawsuit. I didn't ask any questions. I was glad because it's time to get that over with. Let me tell you something Mr. Red, as long as I'm a Councilmember here I will try to help people. Just like those two people that were here tonight. Sometimes things get pushed back and it gets pushed back too long and things just get worse. I'm glad he chose to dismiss the lawsuit. I'm asking, now, that my attorney fees be paid."

Councilman Jimmie Edwards, "My question is pretty much answered now."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune, "I have a question. Is it truly legal for us to pay this? Our attorney's not here tonight. I would like to ask him that question."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "Mr. Lejeune I have some paperwork here if you choose to read it. It states in there that, yes, I am entitled to it. I have all the paperwork. Laycie went through the trouble to make the copies, it's in your basket. That's all I'm asking."

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "Mr. Chairman, I might remind everyone that we've got Councilmembers that have been reimbursed extensively without those numbers even coming to the Council. At least Mr. Ardoin brought it out in the open to be paid."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "And I have the itemized bill from Mr. Schiff."

A motion was offered by Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, seconded by Councilman Alvin Stelly, to forward to the full Council, a vote on the reimbursement of attorney's fees, in the amount of four thousand nine hundred eighty seven dollars and eighty cents (\$4,987.<sup>80</sup>), incurred by Councilman Wayne Ardoin in defense of a lawsuit brought against him.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Hurlin Dupre, Alvin Stelly, Pam Gautreau, Huet Dupre. NAYS: Jimmie Edwards. ABSENT: None. ABSTAIN: None.

WHEREUPON, this motion was forwarded on this, the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December, 2015.

8. Discuss a workshop for newly elected and re-elected Councilmembers regarding the Home Rule Charter. (Councilman Wayne Ardoin)

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "I have not gotten word from Mr. Guy Cormier. He was asked and invited to come and try to explain this Home Rule Charter to the new members and any of the old members that would, maybe, want to attend. As soon as he gives me a call back, I called for him right before the holidays and I figured maybe he was out on a trip or something. So, I'm going to just skip over Number 8."

9. Authorize Council Clerks to advertise for three appointments to St. Landry Parish Economic Development District (SLED).

A motion was offered by Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, seconded by Councilman Alvin Stelly, to forward to the full Council, to authorize the Council Clerks to advertise for three appointments to the St. Landry Parish Economic Development District (SLED) board.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Alvin Stelly, Pam Gautreau, Jimmie Edwards, Huet Dupre, Hurlin Dupre. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAIN: None.

WHEREUPON, this motion was forwarded on this, the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December, 2015.

10. Discuss any other business properly brought before this Committee.

A) Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "I have a note from Ms. Laycie, she needs these items brought up in Committee under any other business. I'm going to ask discuss and other business. Any Councilmembers on the Committee have anything to be brought up in any other business? Any one on Public Works have anything to be brought up?"

Councilman Timmy Lejeune, "Mr. Wayne, I do want to make a statement here though. Whenever Ms. Pam made that motion of forty nine eighty seven (\$4,987), don't you have an outstanding balance of seven sixty six (\$766)?"

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "Yes Sir."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune, "That would need to be included."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "No Sir, that's all in it, that's included. Once I get paid, I'll pay the man his seven sixty six (\$766). I'll pay him anyway."

1) Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "In form the members Mr. Steve Moosa will be available to hold a workshop regarding the budget next Wednesday, December 9<sup>th</sup> [2015]. I just got this from Laycie. If any one of y'all want to attend on December 9<sup>th</sup> [2015] please let me know. I think we have a new member that's sitting in the audience here tonight. Ms. Carriere would you be available?"

Nancy Carriere, "December?"

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "December 9<sup>th</sup> [2015], which would be next Wednesday."

Nancy Carriere, "I have something."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "Mr. Clavier? He only had the 9<sup>th</sup> open. We could have another one at another time."

Coby Clavier, "I'll be tied up."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "So we can postpone it then. I'll just tell her to email him back, we're not available at that time."

2. Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "Request to place, on full Council agenda, advertisement for two appointments to Fire District No. 1. That's in your district Mr. Hurlin?"

Councilman Hurlin Dupre, "Yes Sir."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "Are you offering that as a motion Mr. Hurlin? I think that's in Krotz Springs, right?"

Councilman Hurlin Dupre, "Right. Yes Sir. To reappoint the two that's on there."  
Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "We have to advertise, I think. Request to place on full agenda to advertise Mr. Hurlin. You're offering as an advertise for?"  
Councilman Hurlin Dupre, "Yes."

A motion was offered by Councilman Hurlin Dupre, seconded by Councilman Huet Dupre, to authorize the Council Clerks to advertise for two appointments to Fire District No. 1.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Pam Gautreau, Jimmie Edwards, Huet Dupre, Hurlin Dupre, Alvin Stelly. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAIN: None.

WHEREUPON, this motion was forwarded on this, the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December, 2015.

3. Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "Her other item, Number 3, the Council's office has never received the postage machine that Administration assured they would buy for the Council Clerk's office." Mr. Fontenot, can you answer that question?"

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "Must be a reason why. I'll find out why."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "I think we had passed it in the Council to go ahead and do it and you had agreed. So, you will check into it and give us report back?"

Parish President Bill Fontenot, "Absolutely."

B) Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "I think that's all I have. We have an outstanding bill as a Council. I don't want to name the business place. It's a floral place. I think that we need to look at this situation. I'm going to ask Laycie to contact Mr. Pitre and see how we can handle this situation. We have an outstanding bill there. Mr. Hurlin, out of all due respect, I think it was something we had collected for your wife; and, I think it was something for one of the Clerks at the time. We don't need to have a bad reputation that we don't pay our bills as a Council. It's not the right thing. I'm going to ask for a motion that Mr. Pitre be given the paperwork and how are we going to go into this matter."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune, "I have a question concerning that Mr. Ardoin. Does any Councilmember actually remember paying for it?"

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "I remember Mr. Timmy. I think you remember very well also that, whenever something like that occurs, we always put the money up. Maybe we need to look at how it was handled and where it happened and the dates."

A motion was offered by Councilman Jimmie Edwards, seconded by Councilman Alvin Stelly, to forward to Legal Advisor, Chad Pitre, any and all documentation regarding the outstanding florist's bill and a request for his opinion as to how to handle this matter.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Pam Gautreau, Jimmie Edwards, Huet Dupre, Hurlin Dupre, Alvin Stelly. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAIN: None.

WHEREUPON, this motion was forwarded on this, the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December, 2015.

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "Mr. Chairman, I would just like to add to that, just so that the taxpayers understand that when the Councilmembers put up their own money when we send flowers for condolences or things like that. When the Council takes that on that is our personal money. We're not asking the taxpayers to reimburse or to find lost money. That's our personal money that we put up."

11. Adjourn.

A motion was offered by Councilman Jimmie Edwards, seconded by Councilman Huet Dupre, to adjourn this meeting of the St. Landry Parish Administrative Finance Committee.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jimmie Edwards, Huet Dupre, Hurlin Dupre, Alvin Stelly, Pam Gautreau. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAIN: None.

WHEREUPON, this motion was adopted on this, the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December, 2015.

This meeting was adjourned.

**I HEREBY CERTIFY THE FOREGOING TO BE EXACT AND TRUE.  
MONA COURVILLE, CLERK FOR THE ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL.**

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**