

AGENDA

**ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2016 @ 6:00 P.M.
OLD CITY MARKET, 131 W. BELLEVUE ST.
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA**

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & INVOCATION by Councilman Jimmie Edwards

III. ROLL CALL

IV. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

V. CONDOLENCES

VI. PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

- Civil Solutions Consulting Group Inc.

VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting: **Special Meeting:**
December 16, 2015 January 6, 2016

VIII. PARISH PRESIDENT'S REPORT

IX. NEW BUSINESS:

*Items passed through committee.

- Authorize Council's Clerks to advertise for one appointment to the Lawtell Water District No. 1 to replace Ms. Linda Castille Babineaux who has resigned.
- Authorize Council's Clerks to advertise for two appointments to the St. Landry Parish Waterworks District No. 2 (Rural)
- Authorize Council's Clerks to advertise for five appointments to Prairie Basse Gravity Drainage District No. 15.
- Authorize Council's Clerks to advertise for four appointments to Fire District No. 3.
- Authorize Council's Clerks to advertise for two appointments to Fire District No. 6.
- Authorize Council's Clerks to advertise for seven appointments to the St. Landry Parish Tourist Commission.
- Vote for three appointments to the St. Landry Parish Economic Development District (SLED). Applicants seeking reappointments are: Roma Stewart, Gary Soileau, and Tony Baltakis. New applicants are: Kenneth Cochran, Lena Charles, and Jack Tolson Sr.
- Vote for two appointments to Fire District No. 1. Applicants seeking reappointments are: Donald Pitre and Shaun Dupre.
- Ratify two appointments to the St. Landry Parish Communications District E-911. Mr. Richard Daigle; Eunice Police Department Representative and Cindy Stelly; Municipal Association.
- Discuss speed bump matters.
- Discuss the installation of video cameras in the Old City Market Building.
- Request Public Works overlay Borel Road, School Road, Dresser Drive and St. Mary Road.
- Request Legal Advisor Chad Pitre research the legality of members having a special taxing district in their area and to look into hiring part time workers for day to day operations for road maintenance.
- Request Parish engineers attend the next Regular Meeting February 17, 2016 to give an update on Phase I and II of the Smooth Ride Home Program.
- Request a demand letter be sent to Fire District No. 3 for their presence at the next Committee meeting scheduled for February 3, 2016. This letter should include the following language: "should commissioners not be in attendance at said meeting they will not be reappointed to Fire District No. 3".
- Request Legal Advisor Chad Pitre research the installation of private fencing around apartment buildings and the possibility of passing an ordinance regarding fencing.
- Request Parish Government install a warning sign in the curve located at 453 Chretien Point Road.
- Notify Parish President Bill Fontenot and Public Works Director Tim Marks of the exposed high pressure gas line located at 585 Wisdom Road and request Parish Government contact the gas department notifying them of this problem for assistance.
- Request an extensive review of Ward Two Gravity Drainage District No. 1 financial statements and all work that has been performed in that district.
- Request Legal Advisor Chad Pitre advise the Council of the State Statute regarding the setting fourth of per diem for board members.
- Appoint a member of the Parish Council to represent the Council at St. Landry Parish School Board sales and tax department meetings.
- Request a vehicle for Parish President Bill Fontenot which will run on the fuel converted by C&G.
- Request the change of Fire District No. 1 boundaries to incorporate additional properties.
- Request Parish President Bill Fontenot provide a full report of fees paid to any and all attorneys he has employed during the past four years.
- Authorize Legal Advisor Chad Pitre to request a Ruling regarding the Parish President's authority to hire a private attorney without the approval of the Parish Council.
- Request Legal Advisor Chad Pitre research the legality of the sale of the Pernie Bailey building.
- Request Parish Government provide a report of the following: a list of all adjudicated properties, what company hold the contracts for the adjudicated properties, financial statements regarding the funds acquired from sale of those properties, and where the funds from the sale of adjudicated properties have been allocated.

X. SPECIAL BUSINESS:

*Items not passed through committee.

None

XI. ORDINANCES TO BE INTRODUCED:

None.

XII. ORDINANCES TO BE ADOPTED:

• **ORDINANCE NO. 012 OF 2015**

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

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

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

- **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**

XIII. RESOLUTIONS TO BE ADOPTED:

None.

XIV. COMMITTEE MINUTES

**ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING**

**JANUARY 6th, 2016
OLD CITY MARKET, 131 W. BELLEVUE ST.
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA**

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

1. Chairman Ronald Buschel called this meeting of the Public Works Committee of the St. Landry Parish Council to order.
PRESENT: Jerry Red, Fekisha Miller Matthews, Ronald Buschel, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Gary Courville. ABSENT: Leon Robinson, Ex-Officio.
2. Chairman Jerry Red led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance and the Invocation.
3. Persons to address the Committee:
 - A) John Trahan, "Good evening. I have a problem. We had the Smooth Road Home. I got the muddy road home. I live in a taxing district. Smooth Road collecting money. Can't get nothing on the road. Mr. Fontenot evidently stepped out. He'd be the one that would probably be able to answer any of these questions."
Councilman Wayne Ardoin, "Yes Sir Mr. Chairman. I'm not on the Committee, but I have a letter here requesting Mr. Tim Marks to look at this situation, a second request for him to look at the situation on Muscadine Road for these people. I know we had the holiday going on, we had a lot of wet weather, but he did tell me that they're going to get to it, but it's on the list. So, I can't answer any more questions about that. That's up to our Public Works Director. I have a Ms. Barbara Mabry, who lives on the other end of Muscadine Road, who was complaining during the holidays also. I don't know how to address the situation, unless our Parish President can maybe talk to Mr. Marks to try to help these people out."
Chairman Ronald Buschel, "I'm not sure, do we have a Parish President here?"
Councilman Alvin Stelly, "I think he left."
Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "Mr. Chairman. Mr. Trahan lives within the taxing district, Road Taxing District No. 8, as well as that Smooth Ride Home that he was referring to earlier. The people in a lot of these districts are being taxed twice."
John Trahan, "I am."
Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "And I'm one of them. I would hope that the future Council will see fit to start eliminating all of these little special road taxing districts since we're now, apparently, in the money with the Smooth Ride Home. We've got gravel roads, it is not the rain. It has not been the weather. Because, even when it's three hundred and sixty five days of sunshine we can't get any gravel, limestone, or anything. You come ride down District 8 and take a look at the sub-standard road conditions and the people that have been waiting just on material. It's not just Muscadine Road. I don't know what it's like in the rest of your districts, but I don't appreciate paying the tax twice and not getting a damn thing for the money."
John Trahan, "I've called Public Works twice. I've talked to Tim Marks once. I've talked to Mr. Fontenot once. All I get is 'We'll see what we can do.'"
Councilwoman Fekisha Miller Matthews, "Mr. Chairman. We had something under special business that we were talking about earlier that kind of ties into this. The districts that have a tax, we wanted to look into, possibly, hiring our own worker. That way, when we call we won't get put on a priority list because we've been running into the same issues in our district. We'll call for materials, or we'll call for things that we think are very simple, and it's all backed up. Jerry and I were discussing that earlier too, trying to place it on the agenda under special business to get our lawyer to research the possibility of the Councilmembers with their own taxing district, hiring their own workers so, at least, we can get the maintenance done in a timely fashion, because we run into the same issue with calling Public Works and not getting things done."
John Trahan, "Why we pay taxes?"
Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "Exactly."
John Trahan, "They charge us four (4%) percent to be able to see about getting some gravel? That doesn't make sense. This is not a government here. I can tell y'all that. Y'all might think y'all administrative, but y'all can't do nothing."
Councilwoman Fekisha Miller Matthews, "A few years back, when we tried to go back to the system where we could have control, we didn't have the votes to put it on the ballot. I brought that up years ago to go back to jury system. People don't want that."
John Trahan, "This is a plantation. That's all it is. One man calls all the shots. Y'all can grin and make faces, but that's the dog gone truth."
Councilwoman Fekisha Miller Matthews, "It is and we're not pleased with it."
John Trahan, "And if you don't kiss up you don't get crap."
Chairman Ronald Buschel, "Mr. Trahan, we'll try to get some answers to you of some kind."
John Trahan, "Thank you Sir."
 - B) Agnes Courville, "Good evening. My name is Agnes Courville. I live on West Tennis Street in Opelousas. Tonight I would like to talk about animal shelter; animal cruelty; animal abuse. The FBI has animal cruelty as crime against society. So, I'm going to give you information on it. I will give a paper to the President, who is absent, but I guess, be sure that he get a copy. So the FBI now is in charge of animal abuse and cruelty. So, my question is, who is charge, under the Home Rule Charter, for the shelter and for the citizens?"
Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "Ms. Agnes, would you repeat that?"
Agnes Courville, "Under, now, animal cruelty and abuse is under the wing of the FBI, but when abuse and cruelty occurs in our parish and at the shelter, who is in charge?"
Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "Parish Government."
Agnes Courville, "Parish Government? And does the Home Rule Charter, what the ordinance say regarding shelter, regarding abuse, neglect? I didn't find any information on the Home Rule Charter."
Chairman Ronald Buschel, "Okay, we'll see if we can come up with some answers for you. I don't know what we can do."
Councilman Dexter Brown, "Mr. Chairman. Along with Parish Government, I know like with the animals, we also have the Sheriff, Mr. Bobby Guidroz. He

would be involved in that process as well.”

Agnes Courville, “So, does that mean that Bobby Guidroz is gonna work in hand with Stacey with Animal Control Director?”

Councilman Dexter Brown, “I know he, basically, helps out with all of our situations that we have. With the animals, when we have loose animals or whatever, we’re in charge of going pick them up and housing them until the owners claim them. Or, if they don’t claim them, that’s when we put them up for adoption after so many days. I don’t know all the stipulations right in hand, but I know the Sheriff will be willing to help us in any type of dealings, or litigation, when it comes to animal cruelty.”

Agnes Courville, “Okay. We do need a definition regarding the shelter. What is the definition of shelter? What is the definition of abuse? What is the definition of neglect? What is the definition of cruelty?”

Councilman Dexter Brown, “I don’t have my iPad or laptop on my right at hand. What we’re going to is we’re going to look into it and we’ll get back with you.”

Councilman Jerry Red, “Mr. Chairman. Can we have Ms. Courville give her number to Parish Government and she could talk over any concerns she has. I believe that’s their department to answer those questions. Like I said before, we’re the legislative and they’re the executory.”

Agnes Courville, “The government is aware. We had a criminal case. I was part of it and it was last Monday where the former director, Animal Control Director, just a got a slap on the hand for cruelty. So, the government is aware. There is no need that I call.”

Chairman Ronald Buschel, “I don’t think we have a positive answer for you here tonight. All I can say is when I was here through the years we all worked toward trying to better the shelter. We’re a lot better than when we started out. I don’t know if we’re a whole lot better, but we are a little bit better.”

Agnes Courville, “It’s been eleven months that Stacey Alleman is the Director of the Animal Shelter. In eleven months there is only one adoption day that occurred, one dog adopted.”

Chairman Ronald Buschel, “We don’t hire the gentleman or lady whoever’s running the shelter. That’s not in our category, it’s under the President’s category. He hires who he pleases and where he pleases from. We have no input what-so-ever.”

Agnes Courville, “There is state law and I brought the law with me. ‘Adoption day shall occur at least twice a month.’ It’s a regulation and the Parish Government shelter own.”

Chairman Ronald Buschel, “Well, I’ll make a suggestion to you. Your group get together and file a suit against them and let it go to the judge. That’s what we pay him the big bucks for.”

Agnes Courville, “Judge Harris needs a definition of shelter. There is no where we can find the definition of shelter right now.”

Chairman Ronald Buschel, “I’m not sure that there’s any definition good, because some parishes don’t even have a shelter and some parishes have them out in wide open spaces in little small dog houses. That’s not good. Animals, throw away animals, has been a major problem to most of the parishes. I’ve heard this over and over in meetings all over this state. They call them waste animals, nobody wants them. Nobody wants to take them. I think, I’m not positive, but I think there’s two parishes in the state that has a tax passed to deal with animals. We don’t have it in this parish. We have whatever money comes into the health unit a portion of it is used and that’s where it stops.”

Agnes Courville, “With all due respect, volunteers have been working and you know that we have been working a lot. Volunteers are not back to the shelter. It’s only with the community that we can change and educate people. But, the volunteers are not back to the shelter which comes to my last question. When the volunteers will be back at the shelter?”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune, “I’m sorry I can’t answer all your questions. But I do have a question. To my understanding, aren’t they shipping these animals out of here to other parts of the country? Is there someone coming in from California, or what-have-you. Is there other facilities?”

Agnes Courville, “I’m not aware of it, but Stacey Alleman should be aware of it.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune, “I’m asking you because you’re concerned about the adoption. So, my concerns are, are you aware do you know that every single animal they moved to that facility is still there?”

Agnes Courville, “I cannot tell you because a volunteer doesn’t go there.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune, “Okay, I thought maybe you had an idea. Thank you.”

Councilman Gary Courville, “Mr. Chairman. Ms. Courville, I read the whole thing and I want to say if St. Landry Parish is doing such a bad job why is it in charge instead of the Sheriff’s office or the FBI?”

Agnes Courville, “This is an article from today and the FBI now decided that it’s a crime against humanity.”

Councilman Gary Courville, “I understand that Ma’am. You’re not telling me what I asked you. St. Landry Parish is not named on the sheet.”

Agnes Courville, “It shows the copy of what the FBI decided to do.”

Chairman Ronald Buschel, “We appreciate you Ms. Courville. We’ll do the best we can. I’m not going to be here after tonight, thank goodness. But, we’ll this to the next group in here. I hope they can do better.”

Agnes Courville, “Thank you.”

4. Public Works report:

Chairman Ronald Buschel, “We don’t have a President so let’s skip number four.”

5. Discuss speed bumps. (Councilman Timmy Lejeune)

Councilman Timmy Lejeune, “I had put speed bumps on here because the public is having a lot of trouble with speeders and I know that the Sheriff’s department is doing all they can. I had spoken to Mr. Fontenot concerning speed bumps, trying not to put a hole in the road to put these pegs that hold these speed bumps in place. To seek out glue or something so people that really want speed bumps can have them. Mr. Fontenot undoubtedly had to leave or step out and he can’t answer the question. So, I’m going to make a motion to forward this to the full Council.”

A motion was offered by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Jerry Red, to forward to the full Council, the discussion regarding speed bumps.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Gary Courville, Jerry Red, Fekisha Miller Matthews. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Leon Robinson, Ex officio. ABSTAIN: None.

WHEREUPON, this motion was forwarded on this, the 6th day of January, 2016.

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

Councilman Wayne Ardoin, “Mr. Chairman. I think that it’s worded so wrong, I’m asking that the administration look into the possibility, because they overlaid part of Borel Road. It dead-ends at another about six hundred yards past where they just overlaid in the Smooth Ride Home situation. I’m asking that they look at it again. I did speak to Mr. Jarrell about it and he said he was going to get back with administration. But, I’m asking that they look at the possibility while they’re still in the area. They are still in the area which is the Thelma Drive, the Boxie Road area, they’re still in there overlaying right now. I’m asking that it be forwarded to the full Council and asking that administration look at the possibility.”

Councilman Jerry Red, “I want to add the continuation of School Road also in that motion.”

Councilman Gary Courville, “Also Dresser Drive and St. Mary.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune, “I’ll make a motion to forward Mr. Wayne, but is it okay if we add others?”

Councilman Wayne Ardoin, “It’s fine. Add them all, because we need all, really, to be looked at. I don’t understand how they can do part of a road.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune, “Okay, that would be?”

Councilman Gary Courville, “Dresser Drive and St. Mary.”

Councilman Jerry Red, “As well as School Road.”

Councilman Timmy Lejeune, “Okay. As well as the south side of School Road?”

Councilman Jerry Red, “That’s correct, from [Hwy] 752.”

Councilman Wayne Ardoin, “I have question before we vote on it. Mr. Red, that’s past the Lawtell School?”

Councilman Jerry Red, “Yes. Where the school is at up to [Hwy] 752.”

Councilman Wayne Ardoin, “Some of the road, and they did in front of Mr. Gerard Boudreaux’s, wasn’t it gravel where they overlaid?”

Councilman Jerry Red, “Yes it was.”

Councilman Wayne Ardoin, “It was gravel where Mr. Gerard lives. Because Borel Road is a limestone road also. The other part of the road was nothing but pot holes, but they overlaid that part and left Borel behind. I just wanted to know if that’s where it was at. Thank you Sir.”

A motion was offered by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Jerry Red, to forward to the full Council, the discussion of Parish Administration considering the possibility of overlaying six hundred yards of Borel Road; School Road from the school to Hwy. 752; Dresser Drive; and, St. Mary Road.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Timmy Lejeune, Gary Courville, Jerry Red, Fekisha Miller Matthews, Dexter Brown. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Leon Robinson, Ex officio. ABSTAIN: None.

WHEREUPON, this motion was forwarded on this, the 6th day of January, 2016.

7. Authorize Council Clerks to advertise for one appointment to the Lawtell Water District No. 1 to replace Ms. Linda Castille Babineaux who has resigned.

A motion was offered by Councilman Jerry Red, seconded by Councilman Fekisha Miller Matthews, to forward to the full Council, a vote to authorize Council Clerks to advertise for one appointment to the Lawtell Water District No. 1 board.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Gary Courville, Jerry Red, Fekisha Miller Matthews, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Leon Robinson, Ex officio. ABSTAIN: None.

WHEREUPON, this motion was forwarded on this, the 6th day of January, 2016.

8. Authorize Council Clerks to advertise for five appointments to Prairie Basse Gravity Drainage District No. 15.

A motion was offered by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Gary Courville, to forward to the full Council, a vote to authorize Council Clerks to advertise for five appointments to the Prairie Basse Gravity Drainage District.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jerry Red, Fekisha Miller Matthews, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Gary Courville. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Leon Robinson, Ex officio. ABSTAIN: None.

WHEREUPON, this motion was forwarded on this, the 6th day of January, 2016.

9. Authorize Council Clerks to advertise for two appointments to the St. Landry Parish Waterworks District No. 2 (Rural).

A motion was offered by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Gary Courville, to forward to the full Council, a vote to authorize Council Clerks to advertise for two appointments to the St. Landry Parish Waterworks District No. 2 (Rural).

On roll call vote: YEAS: Fekisha Miller Matthews, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Gary Courville, Jerry Red. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Leon Robinson, Ex officio. ABSTAIN: None.

WHEREUPON, this motion was forwarded on this, the 6th day of January, 2016.

10. Discuss the installation of video cameras in the Old City Market building. (Councilman Jerry Red)

Councilman Jerry Red, "Mr. Chairman, I'm going to table this until next month. I had a paper, but I don't see it in front of me. I'm going to just table this until next month."

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

A) Councilwoman Fekisha Miller Matthews, "I have something Mr. Chairman. I wanted to get our Legal Advisor to look into the possibility of the Councilmembers with taxing districts hiring their own worker for Public Works for day-to-day activities. We've been having issues with getting regular maintenance done and I wanted to look into possibly hiring a part-time worker, things of that sort, to kind of get to situations that we feel are emergencies but maybe Public Works can't get to it at the time. So, I wanted them to research that. I know that I don't have a special taxing district, but we do have a tax in our area. So, I wanted to look into that for me, and any other Councilmembers with a taxing district."

A motion was offered by Councilwoman Fekisha Miller Matthews, seconded by Councilman Jerry Red, to forward to the full Council, a request for Legal Advisor Chad Pitre to research the legality of Councilmember's, having special taxing districts in their areas, hiring their own part-time workers for Public Works day-to-day operations.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Gary Courville, Jerry Red, Fekisha Miller Matthews. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Leon Robinson, Ex officio. ABSTAIN: None.

WHEREUPON, this motion was forwarded on this, the 6th day of January, 2016.

B) Councilwoman Fekisha Miller Matthews, "Mr. Chairman. I also wanted to look into the Council hiring an independent contractor to oversee the Smooth Road Home project. We've been having issues as far as the quality of the work. I wanted us, as a Council, to look into having someone oversee those projects and report directly to us to make sure that we're getting the best quality of work for our money with our engineers. So, we need to look into hiring someone independent of what's going on with the Smooth Ride Home. I wanted to look into that also."

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "Mr. Chairman. May I address that issue? Ms. Miller Matthews, I so appreciate you wanting to try to hire people that will operate within our taxing districts and, also, to get a better accounting as to how this Smooth Ride Home process is working out. However, here's where the glitch comes, because some of these districts do not have a tax, they don't pay into the system. Unlike some of us that do. We already can't get a full accounting as to where the individual taxing dollars are going within our districts. I can assure you, there's work being done, probably in Mr. Red's district, just for instance, that they are filling up these trucks, fueling them up. They're coming to districts that have a tax in it. I'm getting charged for it. I'm not getting any work done, but that money is going into central services. That tax either needs to be stopped because the Charter's not going to allow you, as a Council, to hire your own, independent road crew, or road supervisor, in your district. The Charter just doesn't let you do that. For the independent engineering to come in and take a look at that multi-million dollar Smooth Ride Home that we were all promised. If your Parish President did his job and gave you a full accounting as to where every dollar was going. Who got the contract? Those bids should be opened up in a public meeting in this Council chamber because this Council is the taxing authority. We are the people that get the questions. And I like what you have to say, but that man is going to fight it, because that man is going to tell you he's the forty (40) year DOTD engineer. He's not going to answer as to why we have substandard, crappy roads that were just paved a month ago. I do want you, I hope it passes before the full Council, because this parish and the taxpayers are owed a huge explanation. For the last four years there's been no accountability within that budget. Mr. Buschel speaks about a fund that he says the health unit, there's no animal shelter tax. Yeah, it's coming out of that health unit. There's a lot of money in that fund. There's a lot of money in some of these road taxing districts. We're getting nothing for it. So, I just wanted to put my two cents in that Mr. Fontenot owes an accountability. Who are the contractors? Why are they being contracted? Who's checking up on the work? Because, that thirty dollar an hour road crew supervisor that's coming down in my district driving that big pickup truck he's got. You know what, he's just driving, that's all he's doing. So, until a Council takes its seat and starts to do its job and hold the executive branch accountable you got nothing. Thank you Mr. Chairman."

Chairman Ronald Buschel, "Ms. Gautreau, if you have any questions about why we have a commission formed in our area you just answered it."

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "I don't have that question Mr. Buschel. I think at some point somebody's going to want to know why they're being taxed twice in your district too. They're paying a sales tax for the roads and they're paying a fifteen mil tax in your district, I do believe."

Chairman Ronald Buschel, "Yes, but we don't get any money from the parish. Parish don't send us any money."

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "Mr. Buschel there's been some contracts done."

Councilwoman Fekisha Miller Matthews, "We don't need to vote on that for him to research that. As far as us getting an independent contractor, for the Council, to look into it. Do we need to forward that to the full Council?"

Chairman Ronald Buschel, "Yes."

Councilman Jerry Red, "What's your motion?"

Councilwoman Fekisha Miller Matthews, "That the Council look into hiring an independent contractor to oversee the Smooth Ride Home project."

Councilman Jerry Red, "So, they'll be looking over the engineers that's doing the project."

Councilwoman Fekisha Miller Matthews, "And they'll report to us."

Councilman Jerry Red, "What would be the cost of these independent..."

Councilwoman Fekisha Miller Matthews, "We don't know yet. We'll probably have to advertise. The Council will probably have to pay for it and they'll have to see who has the better price. We'll have to start. We have to start to look for someone that the Council agrees upon."

Councilman Jerry Red, "My own take on that is that's the job that the engineers are supposed to be doing making sure that the job, that the contractors that were awarded the bids, that they're doing the jobs right. At the last meeting I'd asked for the engineers over both contractors to come and give us an update because we've never received an update for Phase I. Before we even do this I think we need to hear from the engineers that handled Phase I and Phase II before we even look at hiring someone to oversee something else. We may just need a different engineer that's going to make sure that the work is being done right. So, to that effect, I can't second that."

Chairman Ronald Buschel, "Does she have any second on her motion? We called for a second three times and have received none."

Councilman Wayne Ardoin, "Mr. Chairman, I'd like to make a comment what Mr. Red stated, as far as for we don't have a report on Phase I. We don't have a complete report on Phase I, I think that's what was his words. We have nothing on Phase II."

Councilman Jerry Red, "That's not what I said."

Councilman Wayne Ardoin, "Okay, would you repeat what you said?"

Councilman Jerry Red, "What I said was, the engineers never gave us a report on Phase I or Phase II."

Councilman Wayne Ardoin, "My question, and Mr. Red that's why I'm glad you brought this up. If y'all all remember right we all went to the Delta Grand in a couple of little groups and we were explained what districts they were going to do and how they were going to be done. We met with the engineers. Am I correct? Then on Phase II, no meeting, no nothing. So, in other words, we're just going to do what we want to do. Y'all are going to offer a motion in Public Works to get the engineers? I saw something in the minutes that we're going to get the engineers to come here and explain what was being done. Is that still going to come up in this Committee?"

Councilman Jerry Red, "That was forwarded to the full Council and this full Council voted to have the engineers come and report."

Councilman Wayne Ardoin, "When are they coming?"

Council Clerk Laycie Alfred, "Have no idea."

Chairman Ronald Buschel, "That's their privilege."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune, "I have a question. Ms. Laycie, have we sent a letter to the engineers and request that they come?"

Council Clerk Laycie Alfred, "Y'all didn't specify a date for them to come."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune, "Nothing says for them to come?"

Council Clerk Laycie Alfred, "A certain date. Y'all usually set forward this meeting I want this specific person to come. Y'all didn't set a date for them to come."

Chairman Ronald Buschel, "I'll take a motion at this time to set the date for the next Committee meeting in February [2016] and that be taken to the full Council to put that in the request. Not a request, a demand to come and answer here."

Councilman Jerry Red, "I make a motion, to forward to the full Council, that we set a date for the engineers to come to the Council."

A motion was offered by Councilman Jerry Red, seconded by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, to forward to the full Council the setting of a date for the engineers to come before the full Council to give a status report on Phases I and II of the Smooth Ride Home program.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Gary Courville, Jerry Red, Fekisha Miller Matthews, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Leon Robinson, Ex officio. ABSTAIN: None.

WHEREUPON, this motion was forwarded on this, the 6th day of January, 2016.

C) Councilman Jerry Red, "Mr. Chairman. While we're at it, I believe two months ago Mr. Lejeune made a motion for the Fire District 3 to come before this Council also. That was voted and I guess a date wasn't set for that either."

Council Clerk Laycie Alfred, "No, I contacted them four times, they have not sent the information, they have not come. I don't know what else to do."

Councilman Jerry Red, "One more time Council, we have four people up for re-appointments on Fire District 3 and it's up to our discretion if we should keep them or change them."

Chairman Ronald Buschel, "Mr. Red, I appreciate a motion of you to take to the full Council a demand for Fire District 3 to send a delegation of Commissioners here."

Councilman Jerry Red, "It was listed in Mr. Lejeune's motion. I would give him the liberty to make that motion."

Chairman Ronald Buschel, "You want to Mr. Lejeune?"

Councilman Timmy Lejeune, "I do understand that the Chief actually works for the Fire District that we, as a Council have selected to represent that district and he was selected for them. They work and represent us. Therefore, I would like to make a motion that we request, if we have any questions, any of the Council, to request that the board of the Fire District come."

Chairman Ronald Buschel, "That's what I'm saying, Fire District 3 board; and, failure to come to the meeting will mean that they will not be re-appointed in the next appointment term."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune, "I have no problem with that. I'll take that motion if you want to."

Chairman Ronald Buschel, "I'd like to see that in there. It's time to make these Commissioners do something besides draw their salary."

Councilman Jerry Red, "That's your motion Mr. Lejeune?"

Councilman Timmy Lejeune, "Yes Sir."

Councilman Jerry Red, "I second."

Council Clerk Laycie Alfred, "When do you want them to come? At the Committee or at full Council?"

Chairman Ronald Buschel, "After the full Council meeting, because this needs to go to full Council and then the demand will be sent to the board."

A motion was offered by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Councilman Jerry Red, to forward to the full Council, that a letter of demand for attendance at the next Committee meeting set for February 3, 2016, to be sent to the Fire District 3 board. The demand shall include the notice that should the Commissioners not be in attendance at said meeting they will not be re-appointed to the Fire District 3 board.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jerry Red, Fekisha Miller Matthews, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Gary Courville. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Leon Robinson, Ex officio. ABSTAIN: None.

WHEREUPON, this motion was forwarded on this, the 6th day of January, 2016.

D) Councilwoman Fekisha Miller Matthews, "Mr. Chairman. I have one more thing. I wanted our Legal Advisor to research. I have a situation in my district where there's some apartments that have been put up near some houses off of the Washington Road. The residents would like for a fence to be put all the way around, a privacy fence. According to the owner, he said he's not in violation of anything. I wanted us to look into if we can't do anything about this situation now, look into the future when people put up types of apartments near residential areas that they'll have a privacy fence. Basically, they have a home and then he has some apartments in the back. From the apartments you can see directly into the person's back yard and there's no privacy. There can be people in and out of the apartment and residents have concerns about it. He said that he's fully legal. I wanted to get our Legal Advisor to research that and maybe we could pass an ordinance, in the future, to where this won't happen again. I wanted to see if he research that and give us some advice on how to handle that situation."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune, "I have a question. Ms. Miller how tall are these apartments? Like two or three stories?"

Councilwoman Fekisha Miller Matthews, "No, one."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune, "Just one story? That's a single level apartment?"

Councilwoman Fekisha Miller Matthews, "It's behind a store."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune, "How tall a fence you think they need?"

Councilwoman Fekisha Miller Matthews, "They just want a privacy fence that's all the way down. They have privacy fences up and he said he's not going to extend it. He said he may possibly take down the fence that's up because people are calling him and harassing him and he said it's his right and he didn't have to put up a fence at all."

A motion was offered by Councilwoman Fekisha Miller Matthews, seconded by Councilman Jerry Red, to forward to the full Council, that Legal Advisor Chad Pitre research the erecting of privacy fences around apartment buildings and the possibility of enacting future ordinances regarding fencing around apartment buildings.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Gary Courville, Jerry Red, Fekisha Miller Matthews. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Leon Robinson, Ex officio. ABSTAIN: None.

WHEREUPON, this motion was forwarded on this, the 6th day of January, 2016.

E) Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "Mr. Chairman, may I ask something of your Committee please? Chretien Point Road, several months ago the request was made for the curve signs on two of the sharpest curves in that district. Mr. Fontenot said that, since no one had died in accidents, and there was no money for the road signs. However, they did put one in one curve, but the other curve there was an accident this past week, an ambulance, two tow trucks. Missed the road. So, I'm going to ask the Committee to please forward to the full Council that a sign be put on the other curve, between the plantations. If Mr. Fontenot says that there's no money, then somebody really needs to take a good look at the finances of the parish if we can't get another road sign."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune, "I'll make that motion, but I want to ask Ms. Pam one question. Ms. Pam, there's only two curves on that road?"

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "There are two very sharp curves on that road. And then there's just little meandering, it's a meandering road. But, there are two extremely sharp curves."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune, "But, it's very easy to distinguish the curves you're specifically talking about, is that correct?"

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "Right between 453 Chretien Point Road."

Councilman Timmy Lejeune, "Please state that information, because we're going to ask Mr. Fontenot about that."

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "453 Chretien Point is where the road sign is missing from. They put a slippery when wet sign past the plantation."

A motion was offered by Councilman Timmy Lejeune, seconded by Dexter Brown, to forward to the full Council, a request that Parish Government erect a warning sign for the curve located at 453 Chretien Point Road.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Gary Courville, Jerry Red, Fekisha Miller Matthews, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Leon Robinson, Ex officio. ABSTAIN: None.

WHEREUPON, this motion was forwarded on this, the 6th day of January, 2016.

F) Councilman Dexter Brown, "Thank you Sir. I have a two inch galvanized, exposed gas line in front of Mr. Daniel Anderson's home at 585 Wisdom Road. A couple of months ago we had a contractor that came and they dug out the ditches. Kind of deep to go to a gully to alleviate flooding in, I believe its Meadow Ridge subdivision. In the process of digging it they dug deeper than the two inch galvanized line. I have a work order in for it, but I just want to pay special attention to it and forward it to Mr. Bill and Mr. Tim Marks. Because if someone would hit it, it's a high pressure gas line. If car ran off the road and went into the ditch, the ditches are four or five feet deep and if a car or truck runs off the road and a spark may occur we may have a disaster on hand. I would make that motion."

Chairman Ronald Buschel, "Wait on your second a minute. I'm going to ask you to make a motion to this effect, to contact the gas company. Do you know who the gas company is?"

Councilman Dexter Brown, "CenterPoint."

Chairman Ronald Buschel, "That the parish contact the gas company. You can ask any of the customers out there and they'll know. Ask them to contact the gas company, the parish to contact the gas company. Failure for any action that we will then pass a resolution to notify DEQ. They will definitely come and check that. That is strictly against the law."

Councilman Dexter Brown, "You want to state that in the motion."

Chairman Ronald Buschel, "Yes, because if they don't do something about it, it could create a major problem and then everybody'll say 'Oh I didn't know nothing about it.' Well, it can because, first of all, that lines been in there a long time, it probably rusted."

Councilman Dexter Brown, "Yes Sir."

A motion was offered by Councilman Dexter Brown, seconded by Timmy Lejeune, to forward to the full Council, that Parish President Bill Fontenot and Public Works Director Tim Marks be notified about the exposed high pressure gas line located at 585 Wisdom Road; further, a request that Parish Government contact the gas department for that area notifying them of the problem and requesting assistance in correcting the situation. In the event that Parish Government fails to act, the Council will pass a resolution requesting that DEQ be contacted requesting assistance in rectifying this issue.

On roll call vote: YEAS: Jerry Red, Fekisha Miller Matthews, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Gary Courville. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Leon Robinson, Ex officio. ABSTAIN: None.

WHEREUPON, this motion was forwarded on this, the 6th day of January, 2016.

G) Councilman Dexter Brown, "Before we adjourn, before the roll call, I would like to say thank you to all of the outgoing Councilmembers. It's been a pleasure working with all of you. In the future, if I can do anything to help you, please feel free to contact me. Mr. Buschel, how many years have you been on?"

Chairman Ronald Buschel, "Twenty four."

Councilman Dexter Brown, "Twenty four years."

Chairman Ronald Buschel, "Me and Gary both been on twenty four years."

Councilman Dexter Brown, "I just want to thank all of you, but especially you two serving the Parish of St. Landry all these years. Thank you."

12. Adjourn.

A motion was offered by Councilman Dexter Brown, 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, Dexter Brown, Timmy Lejeune, Gary Courville. NAYS: None. ABSENT: ABSTAIN: None.

WHEREUPON, this motion was passed on this, the 6th day of January, 2016.

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
JANUARY 6th, 2016
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 Laycie Alfred called roll:

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

ABSENT: Leon Robinson, Ex-Officio.

2. Persons to address the Committee:

There were none.

3. Parish President's report:

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "Mr. Fontenot is not here so we're going to skip over Number 3."

4. Forward to Regular Meeting all applications received for three appointments to St. Landry Parish Economic Development District (SLED).

A motion was offered by Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, seconded by Councilman Jimmie Edwards, to forward to the full Council, three appointments to St. Landry Parish Economic Development District (SLED)

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

WHEREUPON, this motion was forwarded on this, the 6th day of January, 2016.

5. Forward to Regular Meeting all applications received for two appointments to Fire District No. 1.

A motion was offered by Councilman Hurlin Dupre, seconded by Councilman Huet Dupre, to forward to the full Council, two appointments to Fire District No.

1.

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

WHEREUPON, this motion was forwarded on this, the 6th day of January, 2016.

6. Discuss the tax collected in Ward Two Gravity Drainage District No. 1. (Councilwoman Pam Gautreau)

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "Mr. Chairman, if I may? Like a lot of the districts, these little drainage districts, some of these road taxing districts. In this particular district there has been, in my estimation, an over collection of taxes. They have continued to keep in the bank over five hundred thousand (\$500,000.⁰⁰) dollars. Taxes are set up not to be used for CDs and investments. Those taxes are collected on the backs of the taxpayers to take care of the dedicated work that that tax is for. In this particular instance, and I think at some point, the full Council over the next couple of years, hopefully, will take a good long look at a lot of these independent districts. This board has been meeting twice a month. Their meetings last about five minutes. They discuss a couple of things. They adjourn their meeting and they call a special meeting two weeks later. They've been making a hundred (\$100.⁰⁰) dollars a meeting to do this. At over five hundred thousand (\$500,000.⁰⁰) dollars, I think it's time for the taxpayers in that area to take a good long look as to why they are continuing to pay taxes when there is, clearly, an excess of funds there. And that, eventually, that tax will have to be recalled or reduced. There is work that is not being done. I see in their last minutes to their meeting that now, after all these years, they want to reduce their meetings to only one a month, but they're going to increase their pay to a hundred and fifty (\$150.⁰⁰) dollars a meeting. I'm going to make a motion to forward to the full Council that this particular gravity drainage district be given a serious look-over. Y'all look at their financial statements. Look at the work that has been done, and not been done over the last few years. I think the people of that taxing district need to be given an option as to whether or not they want to continue to pay a tax that they're not receiving the service for."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "I have a couple of comments Ms. Gautreau, before we vote. Doesn't state statute state how much money they can collect per meeting?"

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "They do. There is a state statute, but the fact that, I guess now they're going to reduce the amount of meetings they have every month, they'll be within their legal standings to collect a hundred and fifty (\$150.⁰⁰) dollars."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "I thought that the statute stated it was a hundred (\$100.⁰⁰) dollars per meeting? The Ward One South collects only one hundred (\$100.⁰⁰) dollars per meeting. Would you want to put that in your, to see what is the statute?"

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "Certainly. I'll add that to the motion."

A motion was offered by Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, seconded by Councilman Huet Dupre, to forward to the full Council, a full review of Ward Two Gravity Drainage District No. 1, to include financial statements and work history. Further, that Legal Advisor Chad Pitre advise the Council regarding the state statute setting forth the per diem for board members per meeting.

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

WHEREUPON, this motion was forwarded on this, the 6th day of January, 2016.

7. Discuss the lack of representation from the Parish taxing authority regarding the Smooth Ride Home Sales Tax. (Councilwoman Pam Gautreau)

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "Mr. Chairman, I don't know if the Committee or the full Council realizes that when the Smooth Ride Home sales tax is processed through the St. Landry Parish School Board sales and use tax department, every entity that is a beneficiary of a sales tax has representation on that board. We are the only entity, and we have the most to lose, this taxing authority does not have representation on that board. I'm going to offer up a motion at this time, to the full Council, that this Council select a Councilman, or whoever's going to be your next Chairman, so that way the taxpayers and this Council has full representation so you know how much money is coming every month and how much is being collected and what's coming to Parish Government."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "Ms. Gautreau, I have a question on that matter. Do you know if they meet every month or what is their meeting deal, or if they meet at the School Board office? How is that done?"

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "I think they're meeting at the School Board office. I'm not a hundred percent. I think we need to take a look at it. I think the fact that we've been collecting that tax for what, two years now?"

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "Approximately eighteen months to two years."

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "And the Council did not realize that it should have representation."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "I do know that the Sheriff's sales tax. He personally, I understand, goes to the meeting and is aware of how much money is collected. I was not aware that we needed someone there."

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "Well, if we're supposedly collecting upwards of seven million (\$7,000,000.⁰⁰) dollars a year and we're the taxing authority, we're the ones that called for that tax, and we should have representation on that collecting agency."

A motion was offered by Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, seconded by Councilman Alvin Stelly, to forward to the full Council, that the Council appoint a Councilperson or the Chairman to represent the Council's taxing authority at the St. Landry Parish School Board's sales and use tax department meetings.

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

WHEREUPON, this motion was forwarded on this, the 6th day of January, 2016.

8. Discuss parish vehicle for Parish President Bill Fontenot. (Councilwoman Pam Gautreau)

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "Mr. Chairman, if you all will remember, a few months ago when Mr. Fontenot made his spiel about why he was deserving of a forty thousand (\$40,000.⁰⁰) dollar a year raise, he brought up a couple of issues. In fact, he kind of lamented the fact that he was not given a Parish Government vehicle. If y'all remember, four years ago, there were Parish Government vehicles available for the previous Parish President. Mr. Fontenot chose not to take up a vehicle. He wanted the mileage instead. So, we've been paying fifty two (.52¢) cents a mile. We have never received a financial report as to how much money that is costing the taxpayers. Everybody brags about this C&G terminal we have thanks to all the decomposing garbage at Solid Waste. I would offer up a motion that this parish purchase a vehicle for Mr. Parish President Bill Fontenot that runs on that C&G fuel and have that be his business vehicle and to put a stop to the mileage situation since we can't seem to get a report as to how much money is being paid out. I think if Mr. Fontenot is going to all of these functions, I think we should be well represented with a vehicle that has the St. Landry Parish Government logo on it. And, that we are putting our money where our mouth is when it comes to that fuel station."

A motion was offered by Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, seconded by Councilman Alvin Stelly, that a vehicle, which will run on the fuel converted by C&G, be purchased for Parish President Bill Fontenot and that reimbursement for mileage paid to the President be ended.

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

WHEREUPON, this motion was forwarded on this, the 6th day of January, 2016.

9. Request the change of Fire District No. 1 boundaries to incorporate additional properties. (Fire District No. 1 board)

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "Fire District No. 1 board, I think everyone has it in their packet. The map that they included in our packet with the names and the addresses and, in some cases, the phone number and the yes votes of why they want to enlarge this district. I think you can see they have quite a few signatures. I'm going to ask, that's in your area Mr. Hurlin?"

Councilman Hurlin Dupre, "No, it's in Mr. Buschel's area."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "Mr. Buschel, you have a comment on that?"

Councilman Ronald Buschel, "Yes, it's been some problems in that area for a good many years. They had been collecting taxes for an area that the fire department said is not in their district. So, the people have felt that they haven't got representation there and hadn't got anything out of the money they've paid in. The tax is collected, because I've checked the tax rolls that the people got and they are charged for Fire District No. 1. They're not getting any service out there."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "You are requesting that we enlarge the boundaries."

Councilman Ronald Buschel, "Yes."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "Mr. Hurlin you had a part of that also? Or that's not in your district. It used to be in your area."

Councilman Hurlin Dupre, "Not anymore."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "I would like for this information to be brought back in our packets so that any Councilmembers that might have any questions on it that's on the other Committee."

A motion was offered by Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, seconded by Councilman Hurlin Dupre, to forward to the full Council, a vote on a change of the boundaries of Fire District No. 1 to incorporate additional properties.

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

WHEREUPON, this motion was forwarded on this, the 6th day of January, 2016.

10. Ratify two appointments to the St. Landry Parish Communications District E-911. Mr. Richard Daigle, Eunice Police Department representative; and, Cindy

Stelly, Municipal Association.

A motion was offered by Council Jimmie Edwards, seconded by Councilman Hurlin Dupre, to forward to the full Council, a vote on two appointments to the St. Landry Parish Communications District E-911 board. Applicants are Richard Daigle, representative for the Eunice Fire Department; and, Cindy Stelly, representative for the Municipal Association.

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

WHEREUPON, this motion was forwarded on this, the 6th day of January, 2016.

11. Authorize Council Clerks to advertise for four appointments to Fire District No. 3.

A motion was offered by Councilman Jimmie Edwards, seconded by Councilman Hurlin Dupre, to forward to the full Council, a vote to authorizing the Council Clerks to advertise four appointments to the Fire District No. 3 board.

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

WHEREUPON, this motion was forwarded on this, the 6th day of January, 2016.

12. Authorize Council Clerks to advertise for two appointments to Fire District No. 6.

A motion was offered by Councilman Jimmie Edwards, seconded by Councilman Hurlin Dupre, to forward to the full Council, a vote to authorize the Council Clerks to advertise two appointments to the Fire District No. 6 board.

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

WHEREUPON, this motion was forwarded on this, the 6th day of January, 2016.

13. Authorize Council Clerks to advertise for seven appointments to the St. Landry Parish Tourist Commission.

A motion was offered by Councilman Huet Dupre, seconded by Councilman Jimmie Edwards, to forward to the full Council, a vote to authorize the Council Clerks to advertise seven appointments to the St. Landry Parish Tourist Commission.

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

WHEREUPON, this motion was forwarded on this, the 6th day of January, 2016.

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

A) Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "Mr. Chairman. I have a couple of things. At the last full Council meeting Mr. Fontenot made some statements about a lawsuit that he had against one of our fellow Councilmembers, that the records were sealed. That seems to be a problem that's ongoing in trying to get documents from our Parish Government. When you're dealing with the tax dollars and the public's business those records are not sealed. I would like for you all to also know that for the past couple of years any time that I have made a public documents request I've been issued a letter that states that I'm going owe a dollar (\$1.⁰⁰) a page for any information that, as a Councilman, we all have access to according to the Home Rule Charter. I would hope that the next sitting Council doesn't let that stuff just sit there. When you need your documents I hope you get it, so that way when you go to vote on issues like the budget, and all of these funds that you can't the answers for now, that you will get answers for. The second thing is, the attorney that Mr. Fontenot has had for the past several years, in spite of the Attorney General's opinion that Mr. President cannot have an attorney without the Parish Council's approval. We have yet to get a bill, a full accounting, for how much Mr. Fontenot has used of the taxpayers' money for his attorney. I am going to make a motion to forward to the full Council meeting that Mr. Fontenot give a full accounting for his attorney for the past four years. I'll make that motion first if I can get a second."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "Second by Mr. Huet Dupre. Now you have the name of the attorney so that we'll be precise with who you are?"

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "Any attorney that Mr. Fontenot has had."

A motion was offered by Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, seconded by Councilman Huet Dupre, to forward to the full Council, a request that Parish President Bill Fontenot give a full accounting of fees paid to any and all attorneys he has employed during the past four years without the Parish Council's approval.

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

WHEREUPON, this motion was forwarded on this, the 6th day of January, 2016.

B) Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "Mr. Chairman. I am going to ask when will this Council, and hopefully the next Council will do it, is to uphold the laws and the oath that is going to be sworn on January 11 [2016]. That you're going to uphold the laws and the constitution of this state and of the Home Rule Charter. You have an Attorney General's opinion. One person up here stated that an Attorney General's opinion is just that, an opinion. However, we seem to pick and choose which opinions we're going to sit with and agree with and those that we're just going to let go by the wayside. That Attorney General's opinion regarding the Parish President's authority to have his own private attorney at the cost of the taxpayers, without approval by the Council, is against the Home Rule Charter. It's also against the oath that we all swore, among a lot of other things that have been going on for the last four years. My motion is going to be to forward to the full Council that it seek restitution and compensation from Bill Fontenot, the Parish President of St. Landry, to pay back all attorney fees that he has incurred since becoming the Parish President without the authority of the Council."

Councilman Alvin Stelly, "Mr. Chairman. I've talked to a lawyer about that already. About the opinions. He said we shouldn't have had an opinion, we should have had a ruling, instead of an opinion. Does that make any difference? I don't know. Mr. Fontenot has said, already, an opinion is just an opinion. This lawyer told me that instead of an opinion we should have asked for a ruling."

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "Well, do you want to forward a motion to the full Council for a ruling?"

Councilman Alvin Stelly, "Yes, for a ruling not an opinion."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "So, you're asking for a ruling, instead of an opinion."

A motion was offered by Councilman Alvin Stelly, seconded by Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, to forward to the full Council, the request for a ruling, instead of an Attorney's General opinion, regarding the Parish President's authority to hire a private attorney without the approval of the Parish Council.

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

WHEREUPON, this motion was forwarded on this, the 6th day of January, 2016.

- C) Pam Gautreau, "I have one question, where is the budget?"

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "Ms. Gautreau, to be honest with you, this may have been in my basket. But, the budget has never been presented, am I correct? Mr. Timmy Lejeune might can answer that question because he was talking about the budget the other day. I think he's gone."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "I have one other item. Mr. Fontenot's not here. I asked him, today, I had a conversation with him today. I had a phone call about three weeks ago from a gentleman by the name of Darrell Cobb, who represents Helena Chemical Company. They are interested in buying the Pernie Baily building. I think Gary you were here. Hurlin you were here. Mr. Buschel you were here. Pernie Baily building was taken over by this parish, am I correct? They had a plastic company there. They burnt some stuff. They violated some DEQ rules. So, when the gentleman called me in reference to this matter I said 'We may have some problems with it.' But that's what they have attorneys for. DEQ come out of the wall sometime. I asked him to please look into it. He told me today he had looked into it, but he doesn't have any answers yet. My concern, as a Councilmember here, we are strapped for funds. Young lady here just said, can't buy road signs. But, if we could sell this building, if we get clearance, I'd like for y'all to keep that in mind. We need to look at this situation."

Councilman Hurlin Dupre, "I'm not sure, but I think Mr. Ballard put that on the auction block that they run."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "I don't know. I've never seen it. I asked him bring it up tonight and to talk about the last DEQ report, but he left. I'm just asking this Committee to maybe forward that we look into the situation, ask Chad to look into it."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "I don't want to circumvent this. His deal is everyday operations. But my concern is if we have an empty building that belongs to this parish, let's get rid of it. If we can."

A motion was offered by Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, seconded by Councilman Alvin Stelly, to forward to the full Council, that Legal Advisor Chad Pitre research the legality of the sale of the Pernie Bailey building.

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

WHEREUPON, this motion was forwarded on this, the 6th day of January, 2016.

D) Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "Mr. Chairman. One other item before I leave. Adjudicated properties. When is the last time this Council received a report on the adjudicated properties and the listing of sales of adjudicated properties? Who holds the contract for handling adjudicated property sales?"

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "You're talking about the attorney?"

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "No, a few years there was a contract company out of New Orleans that was supposed to be handling adjudicated property sales for the parish. Has that contract been renewed without the Council knowing?"

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "You are offering that as a motion to look into adjudicated properties and a more specific listing?"

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "A full listing of adjudicated properties that are currently under the Council's purview and financials. Where's the money from any adjudicated sales?"

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "Is there a section in the budget in reference to that?"

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "There should be if the budget was done properly."

Councilman Ronald Buschel, "We have a, I don't know what you want to call it, a resolution or ordinance or what. We passed it, the Police Jury, when we started selling property that wherever the property was located that Council area got a portion proceeds."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "That's exactly right Mr. Buschel."

Councilman Ronald Buschel, "I never have received the difference."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "Did we sell any properties Mr. Bush?"

Councilman Ronald Buschel, "Oh yes Sir."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "Maybe we need a list of what was sold. Do you want to go back a certain amount of time on this motion?"

Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, "Four years ago. That's the last time we got a report. If that money is supposed to be coming into these individual districts. It's not listed in Road Taxing District No. 8."

Councilman Alvin Stelly, "There was a little piece of property sold in my district that the parish owned and they sold it last year."

Chairman Wayne Ardoin, "Do you remember where?"

Councilman Alvin Stelly, "On Elzay Road off of Seven Arpents. Right next to where Mrs. Turner's got that complaint about all those campers."

A motion was offered by Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, seconded by Councilman Alvin Stelly, to forward to the full Council, a report of the following: a full listing of adjudicated property sales currently under the Parish Council's purview; what company holds the contract for handling adjudicated properties for the parish; financial statements regarding funds acquired from these sales; and, where the funds from the sales of adjudicated properties have been allocated.

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

WHEREUPON, this motion was forwarded on this, the 6th day of January, 2016.

15. Adjourn.

A motion was offered by Councilwoman Pam Gautreau, seconded by Councilman Hurlin Dupre, to adjourn this meeting of the St. Landry Parish Administrative Finance Committee.

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

WHEREUPON, this motion was adopted on this, the 6th day of January, 2016.

This meeting was adjourned.

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

XVI. ADJOURNMENT