

2012-0223

PETITION TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

St. Charles Parish Council Chairman
P. O. Box 302
Hahnville, LA 70057
(985) 783-5000

Today's Date:

Dear Chairman:

Please place my name to address the Council on:

DATE:

6-18-12

SPECIFIC TOPIC:

PUBLIC WORKS

(*see specific
guidelines on
reverse and
refer to

Parish Charter--
Article VII., Sec. I.)

DOCUMENTS, IF ANY: YES / NO

NAME:

JOHN F BRYANT

MAILING
ADDRESS:

322 RIVER POINT DR

DEST. LA 70047

PHONE:

985 320 4702

SIGNATURE:

John F Bryant

Dear Constituent:

Thank you for your active participation. Your views and comments will be considered by the Council in making our decisions. The Council has a considerable amount of business to conduct in a limited amount of time, therefore, please note the following items that are expected of you:

- > The Home Rule Charter provides for citizens to address the Council. It makes no provision for initiating debate, discussion, or question and answer sessions with Councilmembers or Administration Officials. Your right is also guaranteed to examine public documents as you prepare your presentation. Should you have any questions for Councilmembers and/or Department Heads as you prepare, please forward such inquiries to the Council Office to insure a timely response. Should you wish to speak to any Official or Department personally, a complete list of contact information will be furnished at your request.
- > Please be brief and limit your comments to the specific subject matter on which you have requested to address the Council.
- > Please forward supporting documents to the Council Secretary for distribution to the Parish Council before your scheduled appearance in order for the Council to prepare themselves, if necessary.
- > Upon completion of your allotted time to address the Council, please respect the time given to Councilmembers to respond to your comments by not interrupting or interjecting remarks.
- > Slanderous remarks and comments will not be tolerated. If slanderous remarks or comments are made, your opportunity to address the Council will end, regardless of the remaining time left to address the Council.
- > Repetitious comments and subject matter will be strictly limited.

A confirmation letter will follow when your name is placed on the agenda.

Sincerely,

LARRY COCHRAN
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

(OVER)

6/08/12

Approximate Chronology 322 River Point Dr.

Three and a half to four years ago I contacted Public Works (PW) to report either a separated joint or broken section in the drainage line in front of my home. PW supposedly checked and reported back to me that the cracks in the street, the void under the street and the separation I reported were due to "pumping action" caused by street traffic. I knew they were incorrect, but no reason to raise a fuss as time would prove me correct.

November of 2011 I contacted Risk Management (RM) and reported that my yard was sinking and that my driveway had twisted and snapped due to an open or separated drain line. PW and RM came out. PW ran a camera through the drain and sewerage lines and reported no breaks and no separations. Again knowing they were wrong I protested. PW returned in late November or early December with a Vactor truck and camera equipment. As the camera was being run through the drain line water was being sprayed onto the roadway. The camera operator could now see water running into the pipe (a large void had formed which allowed water to run straight into the broken section) proving that there was indeed a problem. The camera operator stated that he thought he spotted additional leaks in the line, and was then told by Billy Hebert that "they (do not know who they are) would not pay for the concrete to remove additional panels" and effect repairs. The only repair was to be the area where I had directed them years earlier.

A few days later a very nice gentleman, Ricky, came by in the morning to let us know that PW would be coming back to remove the street and make repairs. He further stated that due to holiday season and people already on jobs and having to burn their time before the lost it, it may be January before work could begin. He further stated that he was told by Billy that when the carpenters were available PW would be out to replace the drive.

Early January, trucks and equipment began showing up to begin work. Billy and I spoke for a few minutes and Billy stated that they were going to replace the driveway. Repairs were made to the drain line (large section of concrete pipe had broken off) and street was backfilled. I spoke with RM to let them know that repairs were underway and RM (Monique) also informed me that Billy had told her, and she agreed with him, that the drive would be replaced. I thanked Monique for her efforts and I sent an email to the Director of PW thanking him and letting him know that his crew was very nice and professional.

Several weeks later after the limestone had settled PW returned to pour the concrete and finish the roadway. Again, Ricky and Billy both told me that the drive was going to be replaced. The roadway was fixed, crew cleaned up and went on their way. I believe it was that same morning maybe a day or two after a very stoic individual (Bob Dublin) appeared with a few individuals, looked around, Billy was present, and he stated to Billy, "there was no void" to which Billy responded no, no void (Billy lied, but that will be covered further down). Bob's demeanor signaled that he had predetermined that no matter what the evidence or who he had to manipulate, PW would not honor their commitment.

I spoke with Monique who informed me that the drive was not being replaced. I tried to speak with both Bob and with Sam Sholle and reason with them. My offer was simple, give me the benefit of the

doubt, replace the drive, if there is no evidence of soil movement, then I will pay the cost back to the Parish. Neither of them would listen to me, their minds made up, they ignored and dismissed me. I then contacted the Parish President's office and spoke with VJ. Supposedly, VJ drove by my house and decided that the drive was not caused by the open drain line. When I asked VJ for a meeting, he had Rusty contact me to let me know they now considered the matter closed.

I contracted a Forensic Engineer to come out and examine the area. His report states that the problem was either caused or made much worse by the open drain line. I sent the report to RM who shared it with PW. To the best of my knowledge PW has chosen to ignore all facts.

Since the rejection by PW I have spoken with Ricky with PW, who stated that when the street was opened, there was indeed a void. I have spoken with an older white gentleman who the crew calls "Pops", who was in the hole assisting with repairs and he also stated there was a void and a large section of pipe broken leaving a large hole in the pipe. I spoke with an older black gentleman who I believe his name is "Tuson". He too was in the hole, and stated there was a void and that there was a large hole in pipe. A younger white man who was with the finish crew not only stated that there were problems, he also stated that even he could see where the ground had been sucked down by the open pipe. Additionally, most people I have spoken with, from PW, Water and other departments have consistently stated the following: Billy will lie when told to do so and would probably lie when the truth would save his life; that the leadership at PW would rather pass blame and ignore the citizens than correct problems, unless of course you are connected or live in Ormond.

As Public Servants, leadership and all personnel should serve the public first and foremost. While I did fault VJ, Sam and Bob for the failures of the Parish to investigate properly when I brought this up originally, I faulted them for not sighting the broken pipe the first time, I faulted them for not listening to a citizen and I faulted them for failure to honor what I had been told, their largest fault was their failure to be public servants. Why Bob and Sam from the beginning chose to deny I do not know. Maybe it is because I am not a buddy of VJ, or politically connected, or maybe I do not live in one of the more affluent neighborhoods or maybe because they sit as king and queen of their fiefdom and arbitrarily decide who can play in their sandbox. I do not know. What I do know is that I was given a warrant by Billy, Ricky and Monique that the driveway would be replaced and Bob and Sam failed to honor that warrant. They are not public servants.

John F. Bryant

322 River Point Dr
Destrehan
764-2827 H

985-320-4702 C

PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST REQUEST TO VIEW RECORDS

This form must be filled out before any Public Records Request is accepted by the Parish.

(Must be 18 years of age) La.R.S. 44:32(A)

Email: scpcouncil@st-charles.la.us Fax #: (985) 783-2067

DATE: 05/19/2012 TIME: 17:30

NAME & ADDRESS OF PERSON MAKING THE REQUEST (PRINT):

John F. Bryant
322 River Point Dr
Destrehan, La. 70047

PHONE#: 985-764-2827 cell 985-320-4702 Fax#: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS (PRINT): jfbryant@cox.net

ADDRESS/LOCATION OF ANY PROPERTY INFORMATION REQUESTS: (One address per form) (PRINT):

300 River Point Dr, corner of Cedar and River Point

INFORMATION REQUESTED (Please be specific) (PRINT):

All records concerning road repairs, drainage problems, sewerage problems related to the street repairs and any documents related including, work orders, inspection reports, engineering reports, departmental communications from, to or by all Parish departments related to the repairs or inspections or reports for the last five (5) years.

PERIOD OF TIME THIS INFORMATION WOULD LIKELY EXIST:

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE: FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

PRINT ALL INFORMATION

RECEIVED BY: _____ DEPT.: _____

DATE: _____

DATE RESPONDED TO: _____

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John F. Bryant
322 River Point Dr
Destrehan, La. 70047

PHONE#: 985-764-2827 cell 985-320-4702 Fax#: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS (PRINT): jfbryant@cox.net

ADDRESS/LOCATION OF ANY PROPERTY INFORMATION REQUESTS: (One address per form) (PRINT):

INFORMATION REQUESTED (Please be specific) (PRINT):

Job description and qualifications for the position of assistant director of public works.

PERIOD OF TIME THIS INFORMATION WOULD LIKELY EXIST:

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE: FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

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Destrehan, La. 70047

PHONE#: 985-764-2827 cell 985-320-4702 Fax#: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS (PRINT): jfbryant@cox.net

ADDRESS/LOCATION OF ANY PROPERTY INFORMATION REQUESTS: (One address per form) (PRINT):

St. Pierre on Annex Street, New Sarpy

INFORMATION REQUESTED (Please be specific) (PRINT):

All work orders, reports, claims information, surveys, findings, inspectors, supervisors, involved with Annex street and the flooding which occurred at the St. Pierre home, all occasions, determinations and final resolution, within the last five (5) years.

PERIOD OF TIME THIS INFORMATION WOULD LIKELY EXIST:

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EMAIL ADDRESS (PRINT): jfbryant@cox.net

ADDRESS/LOCATION OF ANY PROPERTY INFORMATION REQUESTS: (One address per form) (PRINT):

325 River Point Dr,

INFORMATION REQUESTED (Please be specific) (PRINT):

All work orders, reports, inspections, communications by the Department of Public Works concerning the storm drain in front of property address and the crossover pipe crossing to 324 River Point, including all findings of inspections, plans of action or other information shared within the department or shared outside of department within the Parish Government.

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