



# St. Charles Parish

## Meeting Minutes

### Parish Council

St. Charles Parish  
Courthouse  
15045 Highway 18  
P.O. Box 302  
Hahnville, LA 70057  
985-783-5000  
[www.stcharlesparish.gov](http://www.stcharlesparish.gov)

### Final

**Council Chairman Beth A. Billings**  
**Councilmembers Holly Fonseca, La Sandra Darensbourg Gordon,**  
**Mary K. Clulee, Dick Gibbs, Nicky Dufrene, Marilyn B. Bellock,**  
**Bob Fisher, Julia Fisher-Cormier**

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**Monday, August 14, 2023**

**6:00 PM**

**Council Chambers, Courthouse**

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### ATTENDANCE

**Present** 9 - Beth A. Billings, Holly Fonseca, La Sandra Darensbourg Gordon, Mary K. Clulee, Dick Gibbs, Nicky Dufrene, Marilyn B. Bellock, Bob Fisher, and Julia Fisher-Cormier

### Also Present

Parish President Matthew Jewell, Legal Services Director Corey Oubre, Chief Administrative Officer Mike Palamone, Chief Operations Officer Darrin Duhe, Director of Communications/Public Information Officer Samantha de Castro, Public Works Director Miles Bingham, Planning & Zoning Director Michael Albert, Waterworks Director Gregory Gorden, Parks and Recreation Director Duane Foret, Blaine Faucheux, Public Information Office

### CALL TO ORDER

### PRAYER / PLEDGE

Pastor Charles Johnson, Sr.  
Mount Zion Community Church, Boutte

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**A motion was made by Councilmember Fonseca, seconded by Councilmember Bellock, to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of July 31, 2023. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yea:** 9 - Billings, Fonseca, Darensbourg Gordon, Clulee, Gibbs, Dufrene, Bellock, Fisher and Fisher-Cormier

**Nay:** 0

**SPECIAL BUSINESS (PROCLAMATIONS, CANVASS RETURNS, ETC.)**

[2023-0204](#)

In Recognition: Robert Tranchant, Jr., 100th Birthday

**Sponsors:** Ms. Fonseca

**Read**

[2023-0205](#)

In Recognition: Mr. Donnie White

**Sponsors:** Mr. Dufrene

**Read**

[2023-0206](#)

In Recognition: Lori Lyons, Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame Inductee

**Sponsors:** Mr. Fisher

**Read**

[2023-0207](#)

In Recognition: Kenny Wenning, Jr., St. Charles Parish Communications District

**Sponsors:** Mr. Fisher

**Read**

[2023-0208](#)

Proclamation: "National Fentanyl Prevention and Awareness Day"

**Sponsors:** Ms. Billings

**Read**

[2023-0217](#)

In Recognition: New Orleans DFC UY-17 Girls Soccer Team

**Sponsors:** Mr. Jewell

Public comment opened on the deviation; no public comment

**A motion was made by Councilmember Fisher, seconded by Councilmember Darensbourg Gordon, to deviate from the regular order of the agenda to take up File No. 2023-0217; a matter not on the agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yea:** 9 - Billings, Fonseca, Darensbourg Gordon, Clulee, Gibbs, Dufrene, Bellock, Fisher and Fisher-Cormier

**Nay:** 0

**Deviated**

**Read**

**A motion was made by Councilmember Fisher, seconded by Councilmember Darensbourg Gordon, to return to the regular order of the agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yea:** 9 - Billings, Fonseca, Darensbourg Gordon, Clulee, Gibbs, Dufrene, Bellock, Fisher and Fisher-Cormier

**Nay:** 0

**Returned**

## **REPORTS (FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES)**

### [2023-0209](#)

St. Charles Council on Aging, Inc.

Ms. April Keller, Executive Director, reported.

Chairman Billings spoke on the matter.

Ms. Keller spoke on the matter.

**Reported**

### [2023-0210](#)

Department of Waterworks

Waterworks Director Gregory Gorden reported.

Mr. Gorden invited Ms. Melanie Caillouet, Project Manager, All South Consulting Engineers, to the podium to speak on the matter.

Ms. Caillouet spoke on the matter.

Councilwoman Fonseca spoke on the matter.

Ms. Jessica Naquin, Billing Coordinator, Waterworks, spoke on the matter.

Parish President Matthew Jewell spoke on the matter.

Councilman Dufrene spoke on the matter.

Councilwoman Darensbourg Gordon spoke on the matter.

Mr. Gorden spoke on the matter.

President Jewell spoke on the matter.

Councilman Fisher spoke on the matter.

Councilwoman Bellock spoke on the matter.

**Reported**

*Councilwoman Fisher-Cormier departed the meeting.*

[2023-0211](#)

Parish President Remarks/Report

**Sponsors:** Mr. Jewell

Parish President Matthew Jewell reported.

Councilwoman Darensbourg Gordon spoke on the matter.

**Reported**

**IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE IV, SECTION B OF THE HOME RULE CHARTER, CHAIRMAN BILLINGS AUTHORIZED THAT THE ORDINANCES, HAVING BEEN PRESENTED FOR INTRODUCTION, DISTRIBUTED TO COUNCIL MEMBERS AND THE PARISH PRESIDENT, AND NOT REJECTED BY TWO-THIRDS OF THE COUNCIL MEMBERS, ARE TO BE PUBLISHED IN SUMMARY FORM AS FOLLOWS IN THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL WITH NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, AUGUST 28, 2023, 6:00 P.M., COUNCIL CHAMBERS, COURTHOUSE, HAHNVILLE, TO BE CONSIDERED FOR FINAL PASSAGE:**

[2023-0212](#)

An ordinance approving and authorizing the Parish President to execute a Lease Agreement with D.J.V., LLC for the River Parishes Workforce Development Board Office in St. Charles Parish.

**Sponsors:** Mr. Jewell and General Government Buildings

**Publish/Scheduled for Public Hearing to the Parish Council on August 28, 2023**

[2023-0214](#)

An ordinance to amend the St. Charles Parish Zoning Ordinance of 1981, to change the zoning classification from C-1 to R-1A on Lots 1-A and a portion of 2-A as shown on the survey by R.P. Bernard, PLS dated March 19, 1996, 138 & 164 Schexnaydre Lane, Hahnville, as requested by Parish President Matthew Jewell at the recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Department.

**Sponsors:** Mr. Jewell and Department of Planning & Zoning

**Publish/Scheduled for Public Hearing to the Parish Council on August 28, 2023**

[2023-0215](#)

An ordinance to amend the St. Charles Parish Zoning Ordinance of 1981, to change the zoning classification from R-1A to C-2 on Lots 28, 29, and portions of 30, 31, 32, and 33, Square 4, Goodhope Annex as shown on the survey by Stephen P. Flynn, PLS dated August 11, 2022, 191, 195, and 199 Goodhope Street, Norco, as requested by Malcolm Darensbourg for M.A.D. III, LLC.

**Sponsors:** Mr. Jewell and Department of Planning & Zoning

**Publish/Scheduled for Public Hearing to the Parish Council on August 28, 2023**

[2023-0216](#)

An ordinance approving and authorizing the execution of a Professional Services Agreement with Alpha Testing and Inspection, Inc., to perform testing services for Road Maintenance 2022-23 (Project No. P220501), in the not to exceed amount of \$40,000.00.

**Sponsors:** Mr. Jewell and Department of Public Works

**Publish/Scheduled for Public Hearing to the Parish Council on August 28, 2023**

[2023-0218](#)

An ordinance to amend the St. Charles Parish Code of Ordinances, Chapter 8, Elections, Section 8-2. Visible Voting Precinct Boundaries and Polling Places to merge voting precincts.

**Sponsors:** Ms. Billings, Ms. Fonseca, Ms. Darensbourg Gordon, Ms. Clulee, Mr. Gibbs, Mr. Dufrene, Ms. Bellock, Mr. Fisher and Ms. Fisher-Cormier

**Publish/Scheduled for Public Hearing to the Parish Council on August 28, 2023**

[2023-0219](#)

An ordinance approving and authorizing the execution of a Professional Services Agreement with Murray Architects Inc., to perform architectural, conceptual design, and construction management, etc. for the St. Charles Parish Courthouse 1st Floor Renovation (Project No. GBCH023), for a period of 12 months, in the not to exceed amount of \$217,685.00.

**Sponsors:** Mr. Jewell and General Government Buildings

**Publish/Scheduled for Public Hearing to the Parish Council on August 28, 2023**

**PLANNING AND ZONING PETITIONS**[2023-0195](#)

An ordinance to amend the St. Charles Parish Zoning Ordinance of 1981, to change the zoning classification from C-3 to R-1A(M) on Lot 5, Block C, Boots Subdivision as shown on the survey by E. M. Collier dated August 12, 1968, 429 Good Children Street, Boutte, as requested by Melanie Johnson.

**Sponsors:** Mr. Jewell and Department of Planning & Zoning

Reported:

P & Z Department Recommended: Approval

Planning Commission Recommended: Approval

Planning & Zoning Director Michael Albert spoke on the matter.

**Public Hearing Requirements Satisfied**

Enactment No: 23-8-1

Council Discussion

**VOTE ON THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE**

**Yea:** 8 - Billings, Fonseca, Darensbourg Gordon, Clulee, Gibbs, Dufrene, Bellock and Fisher

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Fisher-Cormier

Enactment No: 23-8-1

[2023-0196](#)

An ordinance to amend the St. Charles Parish Zoning Ordinance of 1981, to change the zoning classification from C-3 to M-1 on two triangular lots designated a portion of Lots 7, 8, & 9 of the John Lambert Tract, or Lots 55, 56, 57, and 58, Almedia Townsites Section "A" as shown on the survey by Cody A. DiMarco, PLS dated December 16, 2020, 275 I-310 Service Road, St. Rose, as requested by Conrad Frey for Southern Trucking & Transportation, LLC.

**Sponsors:** Mr. Jewell and Department of Planning & Zoning

Reported:

P & Z Department Recommended: Approval

Planning Commission Recommended: Approval

Planning & Zoning Director Michael Albert spoke on the matter.

**Public Hearing Requirements Satisfied**

Enactment No: 23-8-2

Council Discussion  
Mr. Albert spoke on the matter.

**VOTE ON THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE**

**Yea:** 8 - Billings, Fonseca, Darensbourg Gordon, Clulee, Gibbs, Dufrene, Bellock and Fisher

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Fisher-Cormier

Enactment No: 23-8-2

**ORDINANCES SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING  
(INTRODUCED AT PREVIOUS MEETING)**

[2023-0194](#)

An ordinance to amend the Code of Ordinances to revise Chapter 15, Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Section 15-9. Speed Limits (a) to provide an exception to the Twenty-five (25) Miles Per Hour Speed Limit, to raise the speed limit on **Riverwood Drive in Riverwood Estates, St. Rose, to twenty (20) miles per hour.**

**Sponsors:** Ms. Bellock

Reported:

Councilwoman Bellock Recommended: Approval

**Public Hearing Requirements Satisfied**

Enactment No: 23-8-3

**VOTE ON THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE**

**Yea:** 8 - Billings, Fonseca, Darensbourg Gordon, Clulee, Gibbs, Dufrene, Bellock and Fisher

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Fisher-Cormier

Enactment No: 23-8-3

[2023-0203](#)

An ordinance approving and authorizing the execution of a Contract with Quality Court Industries, LLC, for improvements to the West Bank Bridge Park Tennis and Pickleball Courts (Project No. RECWB122) in the amount of \$435,132.00.

**Sponsors:** Mr. Jewell and Department of Parks and Recreation

Reported:

Parks and Recreation Department Recommended: Approval  
Parks and Recreation Director Duane Foret spoke on the matter.

Speakers:

Coach Crystal Cantrelle, Luling

**Public Hearing Requirements Satisfied**

Enactment No: 23-8-4

Council Discussion  
Mr. Foret spoke on the matter.

**VOTE ON THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE**

**Yea:** 8 - Billings, Fonseca, Darenbourg Gordon, Clulee, Gibbs, Dufrene, Bellock and Fisher

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Fisher-Cormier

Enactment No: 23-8-4

**PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL**

[2023-0213](#)

Ms. Mary (Becky) Thomas: Air Quality Issue from Mid-stream offloading of Bulk Concrete

Chairman Billings stated Ms. Thomas was unable to attend the meeting.

**Not Heard**

**APPOINTMENTS**[2023-0191](#)

A resolution appointing a member to the St. Charles Parish Communications District representing the St. Charles Parish Council.

Nominee:

Councilman Fisher nominated Mr. Michael Heath

**Nomination(s) Accepted**

**A motion was made by Councilmember Gibbs, seconded by Councilmember Fonseca, Close Nomination(s) for File No. 2023-0191. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yea:** 8 - Billings, Fonseca, Darensbourg Gordon, Clulee, Gibbs, Dufrene, Bellock and Fisher

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Fisher-Cormier

**Nomination(s) Closed**[2023-0192](#)

A resolution appointing a member to the Industrial Development Board.

Nominees:

Councilwoman Fonseca nominated Mr. Timothy J. Vial

Councilwoman Bellock nominated Ms. Jahida Lewis-Crawford

**Nomination(s) Accepted**

**A motion was made by Councilmember Fisher, seconded by Councilmember Clulee, Close Nomination(s) for File No. 2023-0192. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yea:** 8 - Billings, Fonseca, Darensbourg Gordon, Clulee, Gibbs, Dufrene, Bellock and Fisher

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Fisher-Cormier

**Nomination(s) Closed**

[2023-0193](#)

A resolution appointing a member to the Industrial Development Board.

Nominee:

Councilwoman Fonseca nominated Mr. Billy Raymond

**Nomination(s) Accepted**

**A motion was made by Councilmember Clulee, seconded by Councilmember Fisher, Close Nomination(s) for File No. 2023-0193. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yea:** 8 - Billings, Fonseca, Darenbourg Gordon, Clulee, Gibbs, Dufrene, Bellock and Fisher

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Fisher-Cormier

**Nomination(s) Closed**

Councilwoman Clulee thanked all qualifying candidates and wished them good luck on their races for the upcoming St. Charles Parish elections.

## ADJOURNMENT

**A motion was made by Councilmember Fisher, seconded by Councilmember Dufrene, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 7:38 pm. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yea:** 8 - Billings, Fonseca, Darenbourg Gordon, Clulee, Gibbs, Dufrene, Bellock and Fisher

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Fisher-Cormier

**I HEREBY CERTIFY THE FOREGOING TO BE EXACT AND TRUE.**

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**Michelle Impastato**  
**Council Secretary**