



V.J. ST. PIERRE, JR.
PARISH PRESIDENT

ST. CHARLES PARISH

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May 30, 2012



Councilman Larry Cochran
Council Chairman
St. Charles Parish Council
Post Office Box 302
Hahnville, LA 70057

Re: Veto of Ordinance No. 12-5-5

Dear Chairman Cochran,

At a regular meeting of the St. Charles Parish Council held on May 21, 2012, Summary No. 2012-0184, now Ordinance No. 12-5-5, was called by the Council Chairman whereupon a notice to amend the Ordinance was made by Councilman Faucheux to change the name of the engineering firm from Environmental Engineering Services, Inc. to Civil and Environmental Consulting Engineers.

That motion was accepted by the Council, the floor was opened for public input of which there was none, and then there was discussion among the Council. During this discussion, I asked the Parish Attorney whether or not the Council could legally approve the Motion and the response was negative. The reasoning was that the matter needed more advertisement, meaning "notice" and a public hearing.

The Ordinance, as presented, was a new contract and implied that an additional \$6,500,000.00 of work was being awarded, when in fact it should have been an amendment to an existing contract, Ordinance No. 08-10-10, with limited loan funds being used to complete additional work. I understand this may have created confusion, therefore on June 4, 2012 I will introduce a new Ordinance which will seek approval by the Council to amend the existing contract with Environmental Engineering Services, Inc. to clearly complete only specific projects.

There is one additional reason why the subject Ordinance was met by a veto. To substitute a different engineer would mean that the project would be delayed and would have become more expensive because of delays, particularly with regard to duplication of

professional effort. That substitution created a substantial change in the time and cost of the contract which is not sanctioned by the law.

For the reasons assigned above, the Council is requested to sustain the veto and support the proposed contract amendment on June 18, 2012.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'V. J. St. Pierre, Jr.', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

V. J. St. Pierre, Jr.
Parish President