

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

Today's Date: 5/3/19

Dear Chairman:

Please place my name to address the Council on:

DATE: 5/20/19

SPECIFIC TOPIC: Water encroachment on property located at 10 Houmas PL, Destrehan

(*See specific guidelines on the reverse side and refer to Parish Charter Article VII Sec. I)

DOCUMENTS, IF ANY: YES / NO
DOCUMENTS MUST BE ATTACHED AT THE TIME OF SUBMISSION

NAME: Myra Saad

COMPANY / ORGANIZATION:

MAILING ADDRESS: 10 C Houmas PL, Destrehan, La 70047

PHONE: 985-210-4424 EMAIL ADDRESS: msaad@bellsouth.net

SIGNATURE: Myra Saad

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. **All requests and pertinent information must be received in writing by the Council Secretary at least one (1) week prior to the scheduled meeting; request may be hand-delivered, mailed, emailed (scpcouncil@stcharlesgov.net), or faxed (985-783-2067) to be received by 4:00 pm. 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 reference the Council guidelines for time limit specifications.
- > Please forward supporting documents to the Council Secretary for distribution to the Parish Council at the time your form is submitted 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,

JULIA FISHER-PERRIER
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

bcc: Ms Myrza Saad

Karen S. Irion, P.E.

34 Granada Drive • Kenner, Louisiana 70065 • (504) 615-4186 / (504) 443-4470 fax • KSIRION@aol.com

March 24, 2019

Mr. Michael Albert

Director

St. Charles Parish Department of Planning and Zoning

14996 River Road

P.O. Box 302

Hahnville, LA 70057

RE: Complaint Concerning Nuisance Property
Lot owned by Civet, Inc.
Violations of Ordinances 16-25 and 25-35(a)

Dear Mr. Albert:

I am a Civil/Environmental Engineer, who has been retained by Ms. Myrza Saad, who lives at Apartment 10-C Houmas Place in Destrahan, LA 70047 to act in her behalf. The adjacent undeveloped property, which serves as a right-of-way for gas, electric and drainage lines, is owned by Civet, Inc., whose listed corporate president is Mr. Robert L. Raymond, and is in violation of Parish Ordinance Section 16-25. The area has not been properly maintained and is breeding rats, snakes and other vermin, as well as accumulating trash on the property. Please refer to Attachment A for an aerial view of this property. Please refer to Attachment B for photographs of the poorly maintained property.

Please note that similar property to the west across the street (Ormond Boulevard), which is owned by others, is well kept and groomed, completely unlike the poorly maintained property to the east of Ormond Boulevard.

Please also note that the owner of this property is also in violation of Parish Ordinance Section 25-35(a) through the owner's failure to maintain the drainage swale that runs along the north boundary of the property, southeast to the Stanton Hall Canal. This drainage swale is intended to carry stormwater between Ormond Boulevard to the Stanton Hall Canal, but due to negligence, several hundred feet of the swale have been allowed to become silted up and large ponds have developed onsite in violation of Parish Ordinance Section 25-35(a). These ponds now drain onto the houses to the north along Houmas Place, and are undermining and damaging properties to the north. Please refer to Attachment A for the aerial view of this stormwater violation.

Adverse conditions have arisen due to this sedimentation, and private property has been damaged in direct violation of Parish Ordinance Section 25-35(a). Please refer to Attachment C for photographs of some of this damage, which includes complete collapse of a section of a parking

lot. The drainage ditch from Ormond Boulevard to the existing swale needs to be reestablished to prevent further flooding and damage to the properties along Houmas Place.

Previous attempts to communicate with Mr. Raymond to address these issues have been ignored. The need to mitigate the risks to residents from flood/erosion damage and from vermin grows every more urgent day. We appreciate your prompt attention to these violations.

~~Please contact me at (504) 615-4186 with comments or questions concerning these complaints.~~
Thank you.

Sincerely,

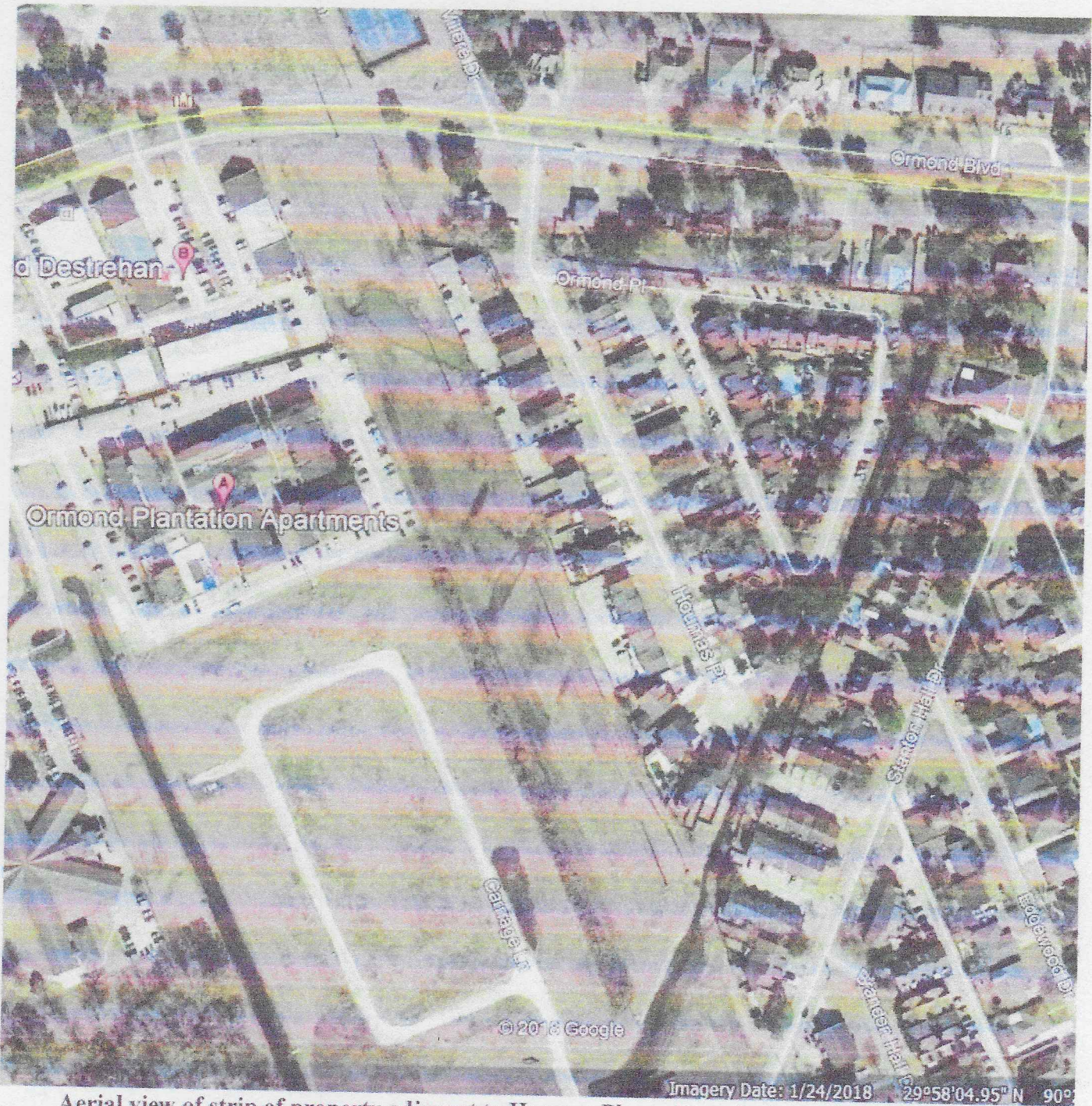


Karen S. Irion, P.E.

Attachments

cc: Mr. Earl Mathern, St., Charles Parish Flood Control Director
Mr. Clayton Fauchaux, Planning Administrator

ATTACHMENT A
AERIAL VIEW



Aerial view of strip of property adjacent to Houmas Place. Note the large ponds developing and flooding housing area on Houmas Place due to siltation of the drainage swale that should take stormwater to Stanton Hall Canal.

**ATTACHMENT B
PHOTOGRAPHS OF POOR
MAINTAINANCE**



Figure 1. Photograph of property not maintained per Ordinance 16-25. Trash and vermin are accumulating in this poorly maintained property.



Figure 2. View north from Carriage Lane across vacant lots showing high grass and weeds in poorly maintained property



Figure 3. View from Ormond Boulevard showing poorly maintained property to east.



Figure 4. View of poorly maintained property showing siltation of drainage swale west of Stanton Hall Canal.



Figure 5. View to east of portion of drainage swale not yet silted up. The swale needs to be re-excavated from Ormond Boulevard to this juncture.



Figure 6. View to east showing continuing siltation of drainage swale. Threat of flooding to homes on Houmas Place is increased daily due to poor maintenance of this swale.



Figure 7. View looking south of culvert discharge point to Stanton Hall Canal.



Figure 8. View looking east of culvert discharge point to Stanton Hall Canal.



Figure 9. View southeast of drainage swale to Stanton Hall Canal. Depth of swale indicates vital drainage purpose for this swale, since it is the prime swale used to carry stormwater from Ormond Boulevard east to Stanton Hall Canal in the area.

**ATTACHMENT C
PHOTOGRAPHS OF DAMAGE
TO PROPERTY CAUSED BY POOR
MAINTAINENCE OF SWALE**



Figure 1. Ponded water flooding area and undermining fences on Houmas Place.



Figure 2. Damage to parking lot from pond on Civet property.



Figure 3. Photograph of the undermining of parking lot and loss of parking spaces due to siltation of swale and formation of pond that directs flooding to houses on Houmas Place. This is a violation of Parish Ordinance 25-35(a).