

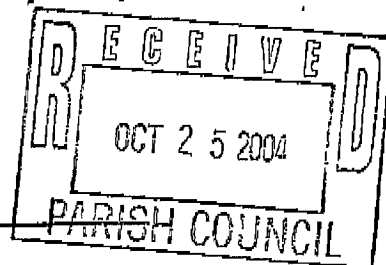
Council (persons to address the Council): Budget  
**PETITION TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL**

2004-0428

St. Charles Parish Council Chairman  
 P. O. Box 302  
 Hahnville, LA 70057  
 (985) 783-5000  
 (985) 783-5067  
 Dear Chairman:

Today's Date:

10/25/04



Please place my name to address the Council on:

DATE:

11/1/04

SPECIFIC TOPIC:

2005 Proposed Budget

one subject only

(\*see specific  
 guidelines on  
 reverse and  
 refer to  
 Parish Charter—  
 Article VII., Sec. I.)

DOCUMENTS, IF ANY: YES / ☒ NO

NAME:

Gwen Dufrene

ADDRESS:

3551 Hwy 306

Bayou La Batre LA 70030

PHONE:

(985) 758-7510

SIGNATURE:

Gwen Dufrene

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,

LANCE MARINO  
 COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

(OVER)

3551 Hwy. 306  
Des Allemands, LA 70030  
(985) 758-7510 or 758-5533 (Day)  
October 27, 2004

St. Charles Parish Council  
P. O Box 302  
Hahnville, LA 70057

Dear St. Charles Parish Council,


I am writing in regards to the way the Public Hearing was deemed satisfied for the 2005 Budget on Tuesday, October 19, 2004.

If the budget had been voted on that night, I could have understood. But as you know the budget was tabled, to be brought up at the November 1, 2004 Council meeting. There was to be a Public Hearing before the vote. Since there is more discussion and possible amendments or changes to the budget, the Public Hearing should not have been satisfied.

It seems to me that this was a clear cut case to keep the concerned citizens, who usually attend the Council meetings, from participating in the Public Hearing. I know that there were three meetings held for the budget with Public Hearings. But, one was an all day affair making it hard for people who worked to attend. The other two lasted only an hour or so, starting at a time most people are just getting home from work. There was no set agenda as to what department budgets would be brought up, discussed and voted on.

Since the ordinance for the budget has not been voted on, I request that the Public Hearing be re-opened before the vote is taken on the adoption of the budget. That would be the right thing to do. Remember, Council members are elected to represent and serve the people of this parish, not the administration.

I would appreciate if this letter could read aloud at the November 1, 2004 Council meeting, or at least before the vote on the budget is taken.

Yours truly,   
Gwen Dufrene, President Bayou Gauche Citizens Action Committee

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PAGE 02