



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

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

Monday, July 31, 2023

6:00 PM

Council Chambers, Courthouse

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, Executive Director of Technology and Cybersecurity Anthony Ayo, Director of Communications/Public Information Officer Samantha de Castro, Finance Director Grant Dussom, Public Works Director Miles Bingham, Senior Projects Manager Sam Scholle, Planning & Zoning Director Michael Albert, Waterworks Director Gregory Gordon, Community Services Director Joan Tonglet Diaz, Economic Development & Tourism Director Corey Faucheux, Parks and Recreation Director Duane Foret, Eric Zurcher, Public Information Office

CALL TO ORDER

PRAYER / PLEDGE

Silent Prayer

Pledge was led by Chairman Beth A. Billings (Councilwoman-At-Large, Division A).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilmember Fonseca, seconded by Councilmember Darensbourg Gordon, to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of July 10, 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.)

[2023-0180](#)

In Recognition: Sheriff Gregory C. Champagne, National Sheriff's Association President

Sponsors: Ms. Fonseca, Ms. Billings and Mr. Jewell

Read

[2023-0181](#)

In Recognition: Valero St. Charles Refinery, 20 Year Anniversary

Sponsors: Mr. Fisher

Read

[2023-0182](#)

In Recognition: Diamond Green Diesel, LLC, 10 Year Anniversary

Sponsors: Mr. Fisher

Read

[2023-0183](#)

In Recognition: First National Bank USA

Sponsors: Mr. Jewell

Read

[2023-0184](#)

Proclamation: "Vehicular Heatstroke Awareness Month"

Sponsors: Ms. Clulee

Councilwoman Clulee spoke on the matter.

Read

REPORTS (FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES)

[2023-0186](#)

The Arc of St. Charles

Executive Director Victoria Bryant reported.
Arc of St. Charles Client, Mr. Malcolm Moore reported.
Arc of St. Charles Client, Ms. Jenna Johnson reported.

Councilwoman Bellock spoke on the matter.
Councilwoman Fonseca spoke on the matter.
Ms. Bryant spoke on the matter.
Councilman Dufrene spoke on the matter.
Chairman Billings spoke on the matter.

Reported

[2023-0185](#)

Department of Community Services

Community Services Director Joan Diaz reported.

Councilwoman Fonseca spoke on the matter.
Ms. Diaz spoke on the matter.
Councilman Fisher spoke on the matter.
Councilwoman Darensbourg Gordon spoke on the matter.
Councilwoman Bellock spoke on the matter.

Reported

[2023-0187](#)

Parish President Remarks/Report

Sponsors: Mr. Jewell

Parish President Matthew Jewell reported.

President Jewell invited Mr. Jeremy Greer, Product Specialist, Winwater Co. and Mr. Kurt Nash, Master Meter, Inc., to the podium to speak on the matter.

Mr. Greer spoke on the matter.

Councilwoman Bellock spoke on the matter.

Mr. Nash spoke on the matter.

Chairman Billings spoke on the matter.

Councilman Dufrene spoke on the matter.

President Jewell spoke on the matter.

Councilwoman Fonseca spoke on the matter.

President Jewell 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 Darensbourg Gordon spoke on the matter.

Waterworks Director Gregory Gorden 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 14, 2023, 6:00 P.M., COUNCIL CHAMBERS, COURTHOUSE, HAHNVILLE, TO BE CONSIDERED FOR FINAL PASSAGE:

[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

Publish/Scheduled for Public Hearing to the Parish Council on August 14, 2023

[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

Publish/Scheduled for Public Hearing to the Parish Council on August 14, 2023

[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

Publish/Scheduled for Public Hearing to the Parish Council on August 14, 2023

[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

Publish/Scheduled for Public Hearing to the Parish Council on August 14, 2023

ORDINANCE SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION AT THIS PUBLIC MEETING (INTRODUCED AT PREVIOUS MEETING)[2023-0171](#)

An ordinance adopting, setting forth, levying and imposing taxes on all property subject to taxation in the Parish of St. Charles, State of Louisiana, as required by Section 23 of Article VII of the Constitution of Louisiana and Revised Statute 47.1705(B) for General Parochial Purposes; constructing, acquiring, maintaining, operating, extending and/or improving levees, facilities and structures associated with outer flood protection systems within the Parish; constructing, maintaining, and operating the Parish Road Maintenance program, Parish Recreation program, Parish Fire Protection, Mosquito Control Program, E-911 Telephone System, Health Unit and Council on Aging program; Council on Aging Program (2); Road Lighting District No. 1; Library Service District No. 1; the ARC of St. Charles; paying any costs associated with acquiring, constructing, improving, maintaining and operating wastewater facilities and systems in the Parish.

Sponsors: Mr. Jewell and Department of Finance

Reported:

Finance Department Recommended: Approval
Finance Director Grant Dussom spoke on the matter.

Speakers:

Mr. Matthew Allshouse, Hahnville
Mr. Johnathan Parnell, Hahnville
Mr. Donald Peyton, Destrehan

Chairman Billings stated Mr. Peyton's time expired and that he was scheduled to speak later in the meeting during Persons to Address the Council. Mr. Peyton requested to have additional time.

A motion was made by Councilmember Fisher, seconded by Councilmember Fonseca, to extend Mr. Peyton's time an additional three minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

Enactment No: 23-7-13

Time Extended

Enactment No: 23-7-13

Public Hearing Requirements Satisfied

Enactment No: 23-7-13

Council Discussion
Mr. Dussom spoke on the matter.

Councilwoman Bellock motioned, seconded by Councilman Dufrene to amend File No. 2023-0171.

Further Council Discussion
Councilwoman Fonseca requested a legal opinion whether or not the proposed Amendment is a substantial change.
Legal Services Director Corey Oubre stated the proposed Amendment would be a substantial change.

A motion was made by Councilmember Bellock, seconded by Councilmember Dufrene, to Amend File No. 2023-0171. The motion failed by the following vote:

Yea: 3 - Clulee, Dufrene and Bellock

Nay: 6 - Billings, Fonseca, Darenbourg Gordon, Gibbs, Fisher and Fisher-Cormier

Enactment No: 23-7-13

Motion Failed

Enactment No: 23-7-13

VOTE ON THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE

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

Nay: 1 - Dufrene

Enactment No: 23-7-13

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

[2023-0177](#)

An ordinance approving and authorizing the execution of a Contract with Kort's Construction Services, Inc., for the West Bank Bridge Park Improvements, Phase I, (Project No. RECWB122) in the lump sum amount of \$1,984,500.00.

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.

Public Hearing Requirements Satisfied

Enactment No: 23-7-14

Council Discussion
Mr. Foret spoke on the matter.

VOTE ON THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE

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

Nay: 0

Enactment No: 23-7-14

[2023-0178](#)

An ordinance approving and authorizing the execution of a Contract with All Star Electric, Inc., for the West Bank Bridge Park Improvements, Phase 1 Lighting, (Project No. RECWB122) in the lump sum amount of \$1,189,422.00.

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.

Public Hearing Requirements Satisfied

Enactment No: 23-7-15

VOTE ON THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE

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

Nay: 0

Enactment No: 23-7-15

Councilwoman Fisher-Cormier departed the meeting.

[2023-0179](#)

An ordinance approving and authorizing the execution of a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between St. Charles Parish and the Lafourche Basin Levee District relative to a levee lift for the Sunset Drainage District within the West Bank Hurricane Protection Levee System (Project A) and access roadway and surcharge area for a future boat ramp located on property known as Des Allemands Boat Launch (Project B).

Sponsors: Mr. Jewell and Department of Legal Services

Reported:

Legal Services Department Recommended: Approval
Chief Administrative Officer Mike Palamone spoke on the matter.

Public Hearing Requirements Satisfied

Enactment No: 23-7-16

Council Discussion
Parish President Matthew Jewell spoke on the matter.
Mr. Palamone 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: 23-7-16

PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

[2023-0201](#)

Mr. Donald Peyton, Fire Chief: Proposed Millage Roll Back

Mr. Donald Peyton addressed the council earlier in the meeting during public hearing on File No. 2023-0171.

Not Heard

[2023-0202](#)

Mr. Dwayne LaGrange: Waterworks

Chairman Billings spoke on the matter.

Heard

RESOLUTIONS

[2023-0197](#)

A resolution in support of the Planning and Zoning Commission's approval of 2023-3-SPU for an accessory dwelling unit in an R-1A zoning district at 100 Cadow Street, Paradis, with a waiver from the minimum building elevation, as requested by Robert and Heidi Lasserre.

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 comment opened

Mr. Sergio Medina, Paradis

VOTE ON THE PROPOSED RESOLUTION

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

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 - Fisher-Cormier

Enactment No: 6708

[2023-0198](#)

A resolution endorsing a waiver from Appendix C, Subdivision Regulations of 1981, Section III. Geometric Standards, C. Lots, 1. Size, a. Corner Lot, as requested by Boyd Kinler, Patti Gassen, Brent Kinler, Trudy Brooks, and Kerry Parlette.

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 comment opened; no public comment

VOTE ON THE PROPOSED RESOLUTION

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

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 - Fisher-Cormier

Enactment No: 6709

[2023-0199](#)

A resolution authorizing the St. Charles Parish Council to approve the Industrial Tax Exemption application for St. Charles Clean Fuels, LLC, Project ID: 20230093-ITE for participation in the Industrial Tax Exemption Program for a potential project in St. Rose, Louisiana.

Sponsors: Mr. Jewell and Department of Economic Development and Tourism

Reported:

Economic Development & Tourism Department Recommended: Approval

Parish President Matthew Jewell spoke on the matter.

Public comment opened; no public comment

VOTE ON THE PROPOSED RESOLUTION

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

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 - Fisher-Cormier

Enactment No: 6710

[2023-0200](#)

A resolution authorizing the St. Charles Parish Council to approve the Industrial Tax Exemption application for St. Charles Clean Fuels, LLC, Project ID: 20230132-ITE for participation in the Industrial Tax Exemption Program for a potential project in St. Rose, Louisiana.

Sponsors: Mr. Jewell and Department of Economic Development and Tourism

Reported:

Economic Development & Tourism Department Recommended: Approval
Parish President Matthew Jewell spoke on the matter.

Public comment opened; no public comment

VOTE ON THE PROPOSED RESOLUTION

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

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 - Fisher-Cormier

Enactment No: 6711

APPOINTMENTS

[2023-0188](#)

A resolution appointing Mrs. Amanda Pertuis to the St. Charles Parish Communications District representing the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office.

VOTE ON THE APPOINTMENT OF MRS. AMANDA PERTUIS

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

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 - Fisher-Cormier

Enactment No: 6712

[2023-0189](#)

A resolution appointing Mr. Oliver Dufrene to the St. Charles Parish Communications District representing the St. Charles Parish Firemen's Association.

VOTE ON THE APPOINTMENT OF MR. OLIVER DUFRENE

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

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 - Fisher-Cormier

Enactment No: 6713

[2023-0190](#)

Accept resignation of Mr. Kenny Wenning Jr. - St. Charles Parish Communications District representing the St. Charles Parish Council.

Resignation Accepted by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 - Fisher-Cormier

Resignation Accepted[2023-0191](#)

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

Councilman Fisher stated that File No. 2023-0191 will be deferred to the August 14, 2023 council meeting.

Deferred[2023-0192](#)

A resolution appointing a member to the Industrial Development Board.

Vacancy Announced[2023-0193](#)

A resolution appointing a member to the Industrial Development Board.

Vacancy Announced

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilmember Clulee, seconded by Councilmember Bellock, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:39 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.

Michelle Impastato
Council Secretary