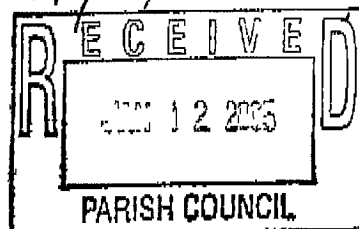


PETITION TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

2005-0024

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

Today's Date: 1/12/05



Dear Chairman:

Please place my name to address the Council on:

DATE: 1-24-05

SPECIFIC TOPIC: REQUEST FOR ESTIMATED TOTAL

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

COST TO PURCHASE, CLEAR, & FILL
THE PROPOSED J.B. GREEN RD PARK

DOCUMENTS, IF ANY: YES NO

NAME:

PAUL J. HOGAN

MAILING ADDRESS:

P.O. Box 250
Des ALLEMANDS, LA 70030

PHONE:

504-615-4862

SIGNATURE:

Paul J. Hogan

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.
- > **Slandorous 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,

Desmond J. Hilaire
DESMOND J. HILAIRE
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

(OVER)

QUESTION PRESENTED FOR THE COUNCIL FOR
ANSWERS AT THE JANUARY 24, 2005 COUNCIL MEETING
AS A CONCERNED CITIZEN AND TAXPAYER

- 1 A 2.56-acre site was offered to the Parish which is cleared and needs no fill for immediate use just as it was used for over 50 years. It has a clear title and it could have been used the day after it would have been purchased. Just the useable area utilized by the community for over 50 years (the area behind the low spot across the front of the site) is ½ an acre larger than the site the Parish wished to purchase on J.B. Green Road.

Please explain to me as a concerned citizen and to those watching how the Council has determined that the purchase of the J.B. Green property is the "fastest, quickest way" to provide a park for the community due to the fact that the 1.75 acre wooded site on J.B. Green Road will need to be cleared and filled with over 9,000 cubic yard of fill, and it has a clouded title which must be cleared? All of this will end up taking more than just one day to accomplish and resolve as compared to the other site that was offered and is ready for use as is.

- 2 In reference to the purchase of the J.B. Green site, the Council stated "This is the best deal for the Parish". This was partially erroneously quantified by the Parish when stated that it can clear the heavily wooded 1.75-acre site for \$2,000 dollars. The attached \$2,002 Parish estimate written by Mr Rusty Eusea details the equipment and manpower that was estimated to clear the underbrush from the site when Councilman Authement wanted to put walking trails and picnic areas under the trees. It was confirmed by Mr. Eusea that it was not an estimate to clear the site. The Council however used this as the cost to clear the entire site as part of its justification on wanting to purchase the J.B. Green.

As a taxpayer, I want to know what is the Parish's realistic estimate to remove the trees and stumps and to dispose of them at an off site location? Please provide a detailed written cost estimate showing the estimated labor, fuel, equipment, and disposal cost to remove the 200 plus trees from the site. If this does not exist at this time, please have it prepared in time for the January 24, 2005 Council meeting.

3. Over 9,000 cubic yards of fill is needed to bring the J.B Green site up to the elevation of the other site that was offered to the Parish. The Parish said that it can purchase fill material for 50 cents per cubic yard. The Parish used this cost to help justify the purchase of the J.B. Green site. The cheapest fill dirt material cost I have found to date is \$1.50 per cubic yard in Paradis. Spillway dirt is available for \$1.00 per cubic yard but it is 5 times further away and will have a higher trucking cost. What is the source and supplier of the 9,000 cubic yards of fill material where the Parish can purchase it for 50 cents per cubic yard? As a taxpayer, I want to know what is the Parish's realistic estimate on the total cost to fill and dress the site? Please provide a detailed written cost estimate showing the estimated fill material, labor, fuel, equipment, and trucking cost to bring the 9,000 cubic yards onto the site. If this does not exist at this time, please have it prepared in time for the January 24, 2005 Council meeting.
4. Taking all cost associated with the proposed purchase of the J.B. Green property and the estimated cost to just clear and fill the site, I as a taxpayer want to know what is the Parish's total estimated cost for this park site upon its completion? How does this cost compare with the ready to use site the Parish was offered for which the Parish would have paid only \$51,400, for which the Parish would have received ¾ of an acre more land, and for which the community would have received the site it overwhelmingly requested the Parish secure?

PUBLIC WORKS DRAINAGE DEPARTMENT COST ESTIMATION

EQUIPMENT:

for Ball Park in O.A. J.B. Green

HOURS WORKED	EQUIPMENT USED	EQUIPMENT COST	TOTAL EST. COST
30	Chipper	5.90	177.00
10	Dozer	16.50	165.00
20	Exc. Hyd.	29.00	580.00

MATERIAL:

QUANTITY	EST. MATERIAL NEEDED	EST. MATERIAL COST	TOTAL EST. COST

LABOR COST:

HOURS WORKED	CLASSIFICATION	LABOR COST PER HOUR	TOTAL EST. COST
30	op. IV	15.00	450.00
30	op. III	13.00	390.00
30	op. I	8.00	240.00

ESTIMATED TIME

ESTIMATED COST

30	2,002.00
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SIGNATURE:

Russell Green 