

**2025-1-RES a resolution in support of an ordinance requested by Matthew Jewell, Parish President / Dept. of Planning & Zoning to transfer the functions of the Local Coastal Zone Management Advisory Committee to the Planning Commission for an interim period up to 18 months or until such time as a committee is appointed.**

**Mr. Albert-** thank you Mr. Chairman. This is something that we brought up to you a few meetings back. What you have in front of you is a resolution saying that you as the Commission support this endeavor being the local coastal zone board has not met in a number of years it's constituency is not among us some places so we are looking to make sure that we are fully code compliant just for the record we have one coastal use permit per month and the only times you would actually need to see something is when there is something creating friction between my office and the person making the application. So, they would come to you for appeals and those matters. We would also be bringing to you, we are working on a local coastal plan supplement to prioritize projects in the parish so what we would eventually ask you to do is take off one hat as the planning commission and put on the other hat for that body and take a look at that plan as we move forward to council. But, we appreciate your support working with us and hopefully we can work with the council in these 18 months to reconstitute the original board. Thank you.

**Commissioner Keen** – does the parish want to come forward and say anything.

**Mr. Albert** – I would do this as a public hearing.

The public hearing was open.

**Walter Pile** Ex-Officio member of this Planning Commission and I'm also the district 3 Council so I will be hearing this later on. I understand what's trying to be done here and it seems like it's awfully simple, however the previous coastal zone management advisory committee it was approved as a local coastal program and that's why because we have committee. I'm learning a little bit more, however, the likelihood that the local coastal program was approved is because we had this committee. Now it hasn't been seen or heard from or needed perhaps since 2017, but when I read this, I was a little bit concerned about what it says here, you got the OCM which is an NOAA administration approved coastal management plan St. Charles Parish can now have local staff process coastal use permits of local concern faster than the state of OCM. In my first inclination what background and what qualifications do people on this committee have to make decisions of this particular regard. So, I also wonder if we haven't had this committee in roughly what now, 5 years, 6 years? So, is it important to get this board, the commission to take this responsibility when I'm not even sure people on this commission feel good about it, so that's all I have to say about this. As far as being able to process the coastal restoration strategy through the required approval process I don't see that being any issue for anyone because it was done by an engineering firm, ok. So consequently, you really probably don't have to do anything, but the real clincher for me was, the planning commission will have the authority to comment on coastal use permits of the local and state concern if they choose to. So, is this optional? What is it? I just don't see this, I'm sorry but I need more clarification. I would imagine you guys probably do as well. That's all I have, thank you.

**Mr. Albert** – part of the reason why we brought forth this resolution is so that we get conformation from the Planning Commission that you had no objection and were prepared to take on these responsibilities. So, part of that task is the vote tonight, you could vote in down and toss it back to the council entirely and they would have to sort that out. But the Planning Commission has done a good and regular of job managing a case load where we felt comfortable bringing this to you all for the work in hand. I don't believe that there's requirements, some public boards require engineer, architect, a lawyer, like different benchmarks to be set I don't believe the Coastal Zoning Board establishes those. So, as long as they have the council's support they would be a qualifying member. And I also think that, to Mr. Pile's point the board has a lot of ability to decide what it hears and does

not hear so they might not choose to take up a request. The board has a lot of capacity to decide what it entertains and what it relegates to my office to handle internally.

The public hearing is closed.

**Commissioner Frangella** – I have some questions going back to it. Was there any specific training that was done when they first put it together on the original one? And will we be getting any training?

**Mr. Albert** – to my knowledge no, it was not any specific training that was assigned. We're more than happy to arrange for whatever kind of training would help.

**Commissioner Frangella** – I guess it could be just something that would be, go over a few of the last cases when they did to see what it would be and see what...

**Mr. Albert** – and Marny will be available to take any of those request, we can easily schedule time for that.

**Commissioner Price** – any, I guess things that come up that we would have to look at, of course we would have expert opinion just as we have now. Right?

**Mr. Albert** – correct. And most of the time you will be hearing it on apelet matters, someone, you know most of the time a permit comes through my office it's going to get reviewed and, in all likelihood, issued. The only things you would really be hearing is if my office denied a permit to somebody or refused to take it a local level, they might appeal to you to review it at that point. So, the majority of all the leg works going to be done. And we don't, you know we said 18 months this is not permanent this is us making sure that we're meeting our regulatory standards and working with the council in the meantime to get a full board appointed.

**Commissioner Keen** – as a retired Army Corp. of Engineers officer I've dealt with a few of these in my time, Savannah Georgia (inaudible) was railroads interdictions, federal highway projects those type of things. So, will this be, the majority of people that come towards y'all putting in the request so far have they been state or federal entities or have they been local?

**Mr. Albert** – much smaller than what you just described it's all local. When it's a stated concern it gets kicked up to the state.

**Commissioner Keen** – so if anything comes afterwards from the state itself...

**Mr. Albert** – you're not going to get (inaudible) wells and trains or anything like that, this is mostly piers.

**Commissioner Keen** – ok

**Commissioner Jay** – I see that, so I was looking over this paperwork and it says that the coastal use permits of local concern are for small development projects, activities. Examples, subdivisions, houses, commercial buildings, maintenance of existing structures and developed sites, jetties, breakwaters, bulkheads, piers, camps, water control structures and that we're not responsible for permitting projects across parish lines or activities involving minerals oil and gas, state lands water bottoms or water and flood control structures or pipelines. So, in, can you give us any more specific examples of the things that we would be reviewing? Because I mean it does list a host of items, but it still is quite vague in my opinion.

**Mr. Albert** – you can think of it as anything that touches the water bottom, pier, jetty, some bulkhead if it's being done on a small site something that relegated to what that individual property is doing nothing of large-scale concern or weight.

**Commissioner Keen** – would an example be like someone wanting to build a new fishing camp?

**Mr. Albert** – yes.

**Commissioner Keen** – I imagine that's a lot of what y'all heard from.

**Mr. Albert**- correct.

**Commissioner Keen** – bulkhead improvement.

**Mr. Albert** – and even the bulkhead might be too big depending on where there at and what there doing.

**Commissioner Keen** – will this go to council.

Mr. Albert – the ordinance will go to council the proposed ordinance with your resolution of support attached to it. We just wanted, I mean we wanted come in and check in to make sure that we had your support that you were ok with doing this. Otherwise, it's going to be a council concern.

Commissioner Price made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Folse.

YEAS: KEEN, PRICE, FRANGELLA, FOLSE, ROSS, JAY

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: PETIT

**PASSED**

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