

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATCHITOCHE PARISH COUNCIL
PARISH OF NATCHITOCHE, STATE OF LOUISIANA
TAKEN A REGULAR MEETING HELD, TUESDAY,
February 21, 2017
5:30 p.m.

The Natchitoches Parish Council met in regular and legal session in the Council Board Room of the Natchitoches Parish Courthouse, on Tuesday, February 21, 2017 for a Regular of Natchitoches Parish Council meeting at five(5:30) o'clock p.m. and for the Natchitoches Parish Council Meeting.

The Parish of Natchitoches was then convened as the governing authority by Chairman Patsy Ward Hoover who stated that the Parish was ready for the transaction of business.

The invocation was given by Pastor Steve Harris and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Assistant District Attorney Shantel Wemprem.

After the roll call there were present Chairman Patsy Ward Hoover and Council: Rodney Bedgood, Doug de Graffenried, Chris Paige, and Russell Rachal.

Absent: None.

Chairman Hoover stated the next item was for the adoption of the agenda with the added amendment. The added agenda amendments items are:

1. Council to consider authorizing the Parish President to execute an agreement with Gulf South Pipeline for the relocation of Earl Shaw Road and to purchase the required right-of-way, subject to review and approval of the Office of District Attorney.
2. To correct a date in agenda item 14. Council to consider a Resolution approving and calling an election in Fire Protection District No. 5 continuation of an ad valorem tax April 29, 2017
3. To change a word in Agenda items 10, 11, 12 from Introduction to Adopting.
4. Council to consider Introducing Ordinance 004-2017 Budget Revision for Highway Department: (Fish Hatchery Road Fund 101 and Old River Road).

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by Councilman Rodney Bedgood that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby amend the agenda.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes:	Councilman Paige
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes:	Councilman Paige
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

Chairman Hoover stated the next item was for the adoption of the agenda.

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by Councilman Rodney Bedgood that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt the agenda.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilman de Graffernied
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

Chairman Hoover then asked for visitors at this time.

Mr. James Edwards wanted to give an update on things that's still going on wrongful at the Fire District 1 Board meetings. Mr. Edwards informed the Council that the Fire Chief and his kid showed up asking if the Fire District 1 Board was going to let them cut the grass again this year. Mr. Edwards stated, "Instead of the Chairman telling them no, he said, "I would like to talk to you after the meeting." Mr. Edwards also discussed things the Fire Chief said in the meeting about reports and reasons why she's not going to come to the Fire Station, unless they build her a bathroom. Mr. Edwards, asked, "How long will it take to get something done about this situation concerning the Fire District 1 Board? Councilman Rachal, Parish President Nowlin wanted Mr. Edwards to know it's a process and they are investigating everything. Parish President wanted to let Mr. Edwards know he doesn't want to take any actions until he has gathered all the information concerning all the allegations made against the Fire District Board. Mr. Edwards, stated, "What, I can't understand, we know we was taken off the PIAL insurance for around two or three years ago, my question to you, Mr. Nowlin, "Why did you wait this long until we came up here to the Council? Should that have been something you should have done two to three years ago?" Mr. Nowlin, responded, "We have problems, my office last year sent out over 1500 letters, asking people to volunteer, I don't know how long you've been a member to volunteer down there has it been two or three years ago?" Mr. Edwards, replied, "No, I've just gotten involved." Mr. Nowlin, replied, "You, just gotten involved, thank you very much." At this time there was words exchanged between Parish President, Rick Nowlin, and Mr. Edwards, and Chairman Hoover had to continue to hit the gavel for order. Chairman, Hoover, thanked Mr. Edwards for coming and she commends him for standing up. She asked, Mr. Nowlin, could this be speeded up because this is the third month Mr. Edwards, Mr. Chris Posey, and others have been coming to the meetings to inform the Council on what's going on with this Fire District. There were more discussions on this matter between the Parish President, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Posey, and Councilman Rachal. Detailed word for word script can be requested by CD or Junk Drive.

Mr. Richard Roberson from the Hampton Road, wanted an update on the status of the Hampton Road. Mr. Verret, replied, "Hopefully the project would be ready for construction around Summer." Mr. Verret informed, Mr. Roberson many events have come up that has been very pressing and the design work have to be finished then it has to be put out for bids. Mr. Roberson wanted to know if any of the work have been done concerning Hampton road. Mr. Verret, replied, "Yes, Sir, some of the preliminary work has been done." Mr. Verret, stated, "Usually, it doesn't take that long of time, but the Council distributed some roads such as the CoCo Bed Road and Payne Subdivision Roads and these roads designs has to be finished first." Mr. Verret also stated, "I know the Red River Waterway is funding this project and I know they would like for a product to last for a very long time." Mr. Roberson and the other residents of Hampton Road is confused about why their road isn't being done, when the money is there. The residents is wondering, Why can't they just go out and do the road? The Red River Waterway is paying for this and not the State, Why do they have to wait?

Mr. Verret, replied, "We just can't go out there and do something, we have to meet design standards." Councilman Paige had discussions about CoCo Bed Road and Payne Subdivision, they should not be in the same category with Hampton Road, when you're talking about Red River Waterway is paying for this road to be fixed and not the State. Mr. Verret, asked Councilman Paige, "So you're saying it's okay to put Hampton Road a top priority over these other roads?" Councilman Paige, replied, "I'm saying people is wanting to see some roads being worked on, and if Red River Waterway has the money available and ready to be worked, people of Payne Subdivision and Coco Bed Road have waiting for forty five years. The people of Payne Subdivision are tired of coming and asking for their roads to be fixed, they're tired of being lied to. I'm going to just leave that alone, one is coming from the State and the other from Red River Waterway and you have certain criteria's by the State, but not by the Cane River Waterway. We have had no road work done in this Parish, please correct me, if I'm wrong. The people would just like to have a way home." Mr. Verret, replied, "Yes, the money is there, but you still have to go with the requirements for the roads and you still have to complete the design of the road."

Parish President, Rick Nowlin, stated, "Going out there just doing something is what happened in the past, that's why roads didn't hold up. There are requirements that have to be met, on making sure the roads are done properly." Councilman de Graffenried, asked, "Can we ask the Red River Waterway to find an outside Engineer to get it Engineered and done?" Parish President, replied, "We can't afford it." Councilman, de Graffenried, replied, "They're paying for it." Parish President, responded, "No, they're only paying for the construction of the road." Councilman, de Graffenried, replied, "I'm going to ask my follow up question, So how long does it take to Engineer a road? Isn't your work on CAD?" Mr. Verret, responded, "I've hired a person to do the CAD work." Councilman, de Graffenried, responded, "You use the computer assisted design that all Architects and Engineers uses, isn't it a matter of inputting the data in the database and it just prints it out?" Mr. Verret, replied, "It's not just that simple." Councilman, de Graffenried, responded, "I know it's not that simple, you have the elevations and the other things that need to be done, but I'm just asking, How long does it take to Engineer a road?" Mr. Verret, replied, "Really a few weeks, if I can just commit my entire time to it, it want take that long, but that's not the issue." Councilman, de Graffenried, replied, "What's the issue?" Mr. Verret, was about to respond, but Parish President quickly responded, by saying, "If he spends only a hour a day on it, it's take longer." Councilman de Graffenried, asked, "What else are we Engineering right now?" Mr. Verret, replied, "I'm doing more than Engineering, Sir, I'm running the Highway Department, I'm doing Administrative work, and for the last six weeks, I've been working on FEMA applications, that if I don't finished them by Friday we're lose out on \$839,000 in flood control improvements that would benefits the residents and farmers in the areas of Cloutierville and Marco, it's not like I'm just sitting around twiddling my thumbs." There was more discussions on this between the Council, Parish President, and Mr. Nick Verret.

Ms. Carolyn Sawyer, a resident of the Village of Clarence, Ms. Caroline wanted to ask the Parish President, "What's available in the Village of Clarence in reference to Flooding, Draining, and the repairing of roads in our area, there will soon be tornado and hurricane weather and we flood quickly. If there are funds available, we would like to know what's available to us and when can we can get something done and to help with the drainage." She also wanted to make an appointment with Mr. Nowlin, to ask questions concerning the mitigation plan for Clarence.

Mr. Verret, replied, "I have met with Mayor, Evans we've been in discussion about some of the drainage issues. That's another thing, I have to work on getting some surveying to determine what exactly needs to be done with the drainage issues. We have also talked about the streets getting some reclaim asphalt from DOTD for Clark Road and working with Regions to get some liquid asphalt to hold everything together to keep the materials in place." There were other discussions between Mr. Verret, Mr. Nowlin, and Ms. Sawyer concerning the Village of Clarence. Ms. Sawyer, wanted to set up a meeting with Mr. Nowlin, to discuss questions she has about her concerns of the mitigation plan for the Village of Clarence. There were questions from Councilman Rachal concerning requirements for municipalities in an incorporated areas. Councilman Rachal, asked, "Do we go into the incorporated areas without a request from them? Mr. Verret, answered, "No, Sir." Councilman Rachal, replied, "With that said, would they have to apply for their own FEMA monies? Mr. Verret, explained on how the Parish can apply on the behalf of the municipalities if they requested it. Other discussion was done on this between Councilman Rachal, Parish President Rick Nowlin and Mr. Verret.

Mr. Pat Todd, property owner on the King Hill Road, is requesting with the other owners on the King Hill Road, for their road to be scarified. There is 1/2 mile in such bad condition they have made a road in the ditches to travel. Mr. Todd is requesting the Council to give permission to the Highway department to scarify the King Hill Road.

Relatively from this discussion and more discussion, it was agreed on by recommendation from the Assistant District Attorney and some of the Council members there should be a public hearing so residents can give their input on this. Mr. Verret would have to request this to be placed on the Agenda for Council approval. Councilman Bedgood, is very concerned would the Parish be able to upkeep the road with general maintenance work. Would the grader person be able to keep the road up after scarifying it? He's not against it, but just wondering if the Parish can maintain it.

Councilman de Graffenried, stated, "What is a road?" We need to know what is a road, because some roads that are called roads are not. There were more discussion on this matter.

Ms. Juanita Murphy and Ms. Debbie Tebbetts came to share information concerning the Humane Society and stating their at the end of their funding and this program needs to keep going. Ms. Murphy and Ms. Tebbetts are very concern about animals not being able to be spayed and neutered. Ms. Murphy gave out a pamphlet showing each day over 70,000 puppies and kittens are born in the US, and because of overpopulation, more than 3.7 million animals are still being euthanized each year in shelters across the country. Ms. Juanita Murphy and Ms. Debbie Tebbetts is asking for help in keeping this spayed and neutered program continuing in Natchitoches Parish.

Ms. Monique Sarpy from the Village of Natchez informed the Council the Village of Natchez is trying to renovate their Community Park. The Village of Natchez is requesting assistant in finishing to break up asphalt and removing it from the Basketball courts in their Community Park. There is(1)one good goal out of six(6)goals that can be used due to bad asphalt. The Village doesn't have the equipment to finish breaking up the old asphalt and removing the asphalt. The Village of Natchez will do the other work that is required. The Village of Natchez just wants a safe environment for the children. Chairman, Hoover, thanked Ms. Sarpy for coming and asked Ms. Sarpy did she hear the requirements and she should get with her Mayor, and the Mayor should put the request in to the Parish for this project to be submitted for funding.

Chairman Hoover asked were there any other visitors.

Mr. John Hodgeson from Pardee road came to the podium. He first wanted to know the name and number of Natchitoches Parish Home Security Officer and he also wanted to get a contact number for a FEMA representative. Ms. Mary Jones name and business number was given to him for the Homeland Security representative. Mr. Hodgeson stated, "I went down to see the Governor, but he was in Washington, begging for money too." Mr. Hodgeson wasn't able to talk with the Governor, himself, but was able to speak with some of the Governor's staff. Mr. Hodgeson gave a report on the money that has been awarded to parishes to help them with their twenty-five (25) percent match money the parishes are responsible for. Parish President, Rick Nowlin, reported that Natchitoches Parish spent around \$300,000 to \$400,000 due to the March 08, 2016 flood, and with that being spent the Parish will probably receive around \$100,000 or more from this program, this is not additional money this was match money that was spent from the Parish's Operating Account. There was a lengthy discussion between Mr. Hodgeson, Mr. Verret, and Mr. Nowlin concerning Pardee road and money for the Parish.

Chairman Hoover stated the next item to adopt the minutes of the regular meeting of the Natchitoches Parish Council held Tuesday, January 17, 2017.

On motion by Councilman Russell Rachal, duly seconded by, Councilman Rodney Bedgood that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt the minutes of the regular meeting of the Natchitoches Parish Council held Tuesday January 17, 2017.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Paige

Motion Passed

Chairman Hoover stated the next item on the agenda is to consider adopting a resolution confirming re-appointment/appointments to the following boards/commissions.

A. Confirmation of Mr. Frank Fuller for re-appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Library Board.

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by, Councilman Doug de Graffenried that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby re-appoint Mr. Frank Fuller to the Natchitoches Parish Library Board.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

Chairman Hoover stated the next re-appointment to the Boards or Commission is:

- B. Confirmation of Mr. Clyde H. Masson for re-appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Water Works District 2.

On motion by Councilman Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by, Councilman Russell Rachal that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby re-appoint Mr. Clyde H. Masson to the Natchitoches Parish Water Works District 2.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

Chairman Hoover stated the next re-appointment to the Boards or Commission is:

- C. Confirmation of Mr. Michael Marbut for re-appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District 7 Board.

On motion by Councilman Russell Rachal, duly seconded by, Councilman Chris Paige that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby re-appoint Mr. Michael Marbut for re-appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District 7 Board.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

Chairman Hoover stated the next item on the agenda is Council to consider to authorizing The Parish President On Behalf Of The Parish Of Natchitoches to enter into and execute a Professional Services Agreement with Archon Information Systems, L.L.C., D/B/A CivicSource for the administration of an online auction and sale of adjudicated properties program.

Ronnie Harris and Bryan Barrios from Civic Source came to give a presentation on Adjudicated Properties. The Parish has many properties that are now considered adjudicated. This company, CivicSource will help get these properties back on the roll again, or if these properties are sold ,the owners, will have a clear title to the property by going through this company. This will not cost the Parish any upfront money. The company gets its money through the sale of the property from the person who's buying it.

After Mr. Barrios had given his presentation, Councilman Paige, wanted them to explain a situation with property concerning Mr. Robert Jackson Sr., but at that time Mr. Jackson said that everything has been resolved concerning that issue with the Parish President and the Office of the District Attorney. He's here now to find out about what CivicSource is offering the Parish on adjudicated properties.

With that being said Mr. Barrios and Mr. Harris went into an explanation about the process, and then Mr. Jackson gave his insight on how he felt about the whole process, and he just wants the process to be fair to all property owners and not for self gain for employees and family members, and friends to get resident's property. If this was happening it's a form of Inside-Trading in the Government will be illegal, and the CivicSource representatives said this is true, but this will not be the case.

Relatively to this discussion,

On motion by Councilman Russell Rachal, duly seconded by, Councilman Doug de Graffenried that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby authorize the Parish President On Behalf Of The Parish Of Natchitoches to enter into and execute a Professional Services Agreement with Archon Information Systems, L.L.C., D/B/A CivicSource for the administration of an online auction and sale of adjudicated properties program.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes:	Councilman Rachal
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes:	Councilman Paige
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

Chairman Hoover stated the next item on the agenda is to conduct a public hearing to hear any and all comments or objections relative to the adoption of the following items:

1. Council to consider Adopting Ordinance 001- 2017 to add a part-time Parish Engineer paid a hourly rate as needed to the job description of the Parish Personnel Manual.
2. Council to consider Adopting Ordinance 002- 2017 to remove Engineering qualifications and duties/responsibilities off Director of Public Works job description in Parish Personnel Manual.

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by Councilman Doug de Graffenried, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby open the public hearing to hear any and all comments or objections relative to the adoption of the following items:

1. Council to consider Adopting Ordinance 001- 2017 to add a part-time Parish Engineer paid a hourly rate as needed to the job description of the Parish Personnel Manual.
2. Council to consider Adopting Ordinance 002- 2017 to remove Engineering qualifications and duties/responsibilities off Director of Public Works job description in Parish Personnel Manual.

Council went into discussion on Ordinance 001-2017, and at this time Councilman Rachal would like to amend the Ordinance by adding this position will have a starting rate at \$30.00 per hour and not to exceed \$50.00 a hour. There was a lengthy discussion between the Parish President and the Council about putting this dollar amount on the Engineer pay. Also Mr. Verret gave a sheet with everything he does and if an outside Engineer is hired how much it will cost the Parish.

On motion by Councilman Russell Rachal, duly seconded by, Councilman Doug de Graffenried that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby amend Ordinance 001-2017 to add a part-

time Parish Engineer paid a hourly rate of \$30.00 and not to exceed \$50.00 a hour as needed to the job description of the Parish Personnel Manual.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Nayes: Councilman Paige
Nayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

The discussion continued after the Ordinance had been amended between Parish President, Nick Verret, and Council members. These discussions can be review by requesting audio tape if needed. Parish President didn't agree on this amendment to the Ordinance.

After this lengthy discussion

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by Councilman Russell Rachal, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby close the public hearing to hear any and all comments or objections relative to the adoption of the following items:

1. Council to consider Adopting Ordinance 001- 2017 to add a part-time Parish Engineer paid a hourly rate of \$30.00 and not to exceed \$50.00 a hour as needed to the job description of the Parish Personnel Manual.
2. Council to consider Adopting Ordinance 002- 2017 to remove Engineering qualifications and duties/responsibilities off Director of Public Works job description in Parish Personnel Manual.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover

Chairman Hoover stated the next item on the agenda is council to consider Adopting Ordinance 001- 2017 to add a part-time Parish Engineer paid a hourly rate of \$30.00 and not to exceed \$50.00 a hour as needed to the job description of the Parish Personnel Manual.

On motion by Councilman Russell Rachal, duly seconded by, Councilman Doug de Graffenried that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt Ordinance 001-2017 to add a part-time Parish Engineer paid a hourly rate of \$30.00 and not to exceed \$50.00 a hour as needed to the job description of the Parish Personnel Manual.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Nayes: Councilman Paige
Nayes: Councilman Bedgood
Nayes: Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Didn't Pass

Chairman Hoover stated the next item on the agenda is Council to consider Adopting Ordinance 002- 2017 to remove Engineering qualifications duties/responsibilities off Director of Public Works job description in Parish Personnel Manual.

On motion by Councilman Russell Rachal, duly seconded by, Councilman Doug de Graffenried that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt Ordinance 002-2017 to remove Engineering qualifications duties/responsibilities off Director of Public Works job description in Parish Personnel Manual.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes:	Councilman Rachal
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried
Nayes:	Councilman Paige
Nayes:	Councilman Bedgood
Nayes:	Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Didn't Pass

At this time a recommendation was made to move Agenda item number 21 up to due presenter needing to leave.

Chairman Hoover stated the next item on the agenda is Council to consider Introducing Ordinance 003-2017 to authorize the Parish President to execute a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between the Parish of Natchitoches and Campti Field of Dreams to permit CFOD to use the tracts of land described therein in support of its program to develop Agri-business opportunities for the citizens of the Parish.

At this time Ms. Donna Isaacs, Executive Director for the Campti Field of Dreams, Inc and Dr. Naveen Adusumilli, Assistant Professor, LSU AgCenter Red River Research Station gave a presentation on how the tracts of land will help people in the Parish and how it will bring Economic growth to those areas. Ms. Isaacs gave a very detailed presentation along with Dr. Naveen Adusumilli the positive outcomes this will have.

Councilman de Graffenried, ask, Ms. Isaacs, "Is Campti Fields of dreams have a 501C or Subsidized?" Ms. Isaacs, responded, "I have it on my own 501C." Councilman de Graffenried, asked, "Do you have liability insurance?" Ms. Isaacs, No, but," before she could finished, Councilman de Graffenried, asked, "Do you have bylaws?" Ms. Isaacs, responded, "Yes." and she finished to complete what she had began before by saying, "The funding for the Grant allows 10 percent direct cost and liability insurance is one of the things that it does allows you to cover in your indirect cost, and that specifically came up in the webinar that we were talking about the Grant." There were more discussion between Ms. Isaacs, and the Council on these tracts of land and farming.

Relatively after this presentation,

On motion by Councilman Doug de Graffenried, duly seconded by, Councilman Russell Rachal that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby authorize Introducing Ordinance 003-2017 the Parish President to execute a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between the Parish of Natchitoches and Campti Field of Dreams to permit CFOD to use the tracts of land described therein in support of its program to develop Agri-business opportunities for the citizens of the Parish.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Nayes: Councilman Paige
Nayes: Councilman Bedgood
Nayes: Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Didn't Pass for Introduction

Chairman Hoover stated the next item on the agenda Council to authorize the Parish President to execute all municipal resolutions requesting assistance in 2017 that are submitted in accordance with Section 15-2 of the code of ordinances.

Parish President explained to the Council that instead of doing on a one by one basis for approval, would the Council give him permission whenever a Resolution comes in by the municipalities with the required guidelines he could submit their paperwork on their behalf.

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by, Councilman Rodney Bedgood that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby authorize the Parish President to execute all municipal resolutions requesting assistance in 2017 that are submitted in accordance with Section 15-2 of the code of ordinances.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

Chairman Hoover stated the next item on the agenda Council to consider a Resolution approving and calling an election in Fire Protection District No.5 continuation of an ad valorem tax April 29, 2017.

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by, Councilman Rodney Bedgood that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby approve a Resolution approving and calling an election in Fire Protection District No.5 continuation of an ad valorem tax April 29, 2017.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

Chairman Hoover stated the next item on the agenda Council to consider authorizing the Parish President to execute a contract for waste tire disposal.

A short discussion was done on this agenda item. It was suggested to use the tires to do road patching.

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by, Councilman Doug de Graffenried that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby authorize the Parish President to execute a contract for waste tire disposal.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

Chairman Hoover stated the next item on the agenda Council to consider authorizing the Parish President to execute a contract to provide for archaeological monitoring associated with the replacement of a damaged cross-drain structure on Tauzin Island Road.

A brief discussion was done to if they had to do this and Mr. Verret informed them, the Parish has to do this.

After further discussion on this item

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by, Councilman Doug de Graffenried that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby authorize the Parish President to execute a contract to provide for archaeological monitoring associated with the replacement of a damaged cross-drain structure on Tauzin Island Road.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

Chairman Hoover stated the next item on the agenda Council to consider authorizing the Parish President to advertise for bids for the patching of isolated base failures on paved roads Parish-wide utilizing LGAP funds.

There were discussions on this item and following the discussion.

On motion by, Councilman Doug de Graffenried duly seconded by Councilman Chris Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby authorize the Parish President to advertise for bids for the patching of isolated base failures on paved roads Parish-wide utilizing LGAP funds.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

Chairman Hoover stated the next item on the agenda Council to consider authorizing the Parish President to execute an agreement with Gulf South Pipeline for the relocation of Earl Shaw Road, and to purchase the required right-of-way, subject to review and approval of the Office of the District Attorney.

There was discussion on how the road was laid over pipes and brief summary in Gulf South Pipeline purchasing required right-of-way.

On motion by Councilman Doug de Graffenried, duly seconded by, Councilman Russell Rachal that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby authorize the Parish President to execute an agreement with Gulf South Pipeline for the relocation of Earl Shaw Road, and to purchase the required right-of-way, subject to review and approval of the Office of the District Attorney.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes:	Councilman Rachal
Ayes:	Councilman Paige
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

Chairman Hoover stated the next item on the agenda Council to consider accepting into the Parish system a new street in the Deer Park Subdivision designated as Alex Avenue.

Mr. Verret begin to explain the conversations between him and Mr. Ralph Ingram for the development of the street and how he would like the street to become part of the Parish Road System. Mr. Verret explained he was involved in all the requirements and design of this street and it meets the Parish design standards and DOTD standard specifications requirements.

There was Discussion by Councilman de Graffenried which read a statement from the Parish Code of Ordinance Sec 15-6 number 2. The subject road must serve a public need or purpose, or a purpose that, when balanced against a private need or purpose, is predominately in the public interest rather than the private interest. Council de Graffenried then stated, "It's a donut. If you banked it enough, it will make a wonderful go-cart track, it goes to nowhere. Why do we need to take it into our system?"

Mr. Verret, begin to explain, "It's something the Parish has always done, and it serves to access of multiple properties." Councilman Rachal also wanted to know if Mr. Verret was in on all the planning of this road and have the specifications on the road. Councilman Rachal wanted to know, "How much soil cement is on this road?" Mr. Verret, replied, "It's 12 inches from the treated cement base." Councilman Rachal, replied, "Mr. Ingram told us the other day it started at an 8inch base and you told him he needed to come back and cut some more to make it 12 inches and that's only for 2/3 but the other third of the road is still at(8)inches." Mr. Verret, replied, "That's two different sections one part we designated as Independence Street extensions that was street already accepted into the System a few years ago by Parish Ordinance." Mr. Verret begins to notice failure, base failures. so I requested Mr. Ingram to hire a team to do the soil base testing, and pavement design. Garbage trucks were part of the failure, because it wasn't designed to hold those heavy trucks, so that's lead to a different phase with the new part to reinforce instead of having an eight (8) inch base it was made into a twelve (12) inch base and asphalt the top."

Councilman Rachal, asked, "How much asphalt is on top of that base?" and Mr. Verret, replied, "2 inches."

The Council continued talking weight specifications and axle loaded weight of Garbage trucks. They also talked about what type of homes is located in the area. Council also discussed with the number of homes located down. They discussed in the pass it was discussed to placing something down there for them to put their garbage in to be picked up from one location. Other things were discussed for a brief period of time concerning this road, but relative to all discussion

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, but the motion dies for lack of second.

Chairman Hoover stated the next item on the agenda Council to consider authorizing the Parish President to solicit proposals and to execute a contract for the undersealing of voids in abutments on bridges located on paved roads throughout the Parish where issues have been noted during DOTD inspections.

Mr. Verret gave a brief summary of bridges with abutments damages. (the timber that is damage at the end of the bridges) at total about 6 to 8 bridges need this type of work done on them.

On motion by Councilman Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by, Councilman Russell Rachal that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby authorizing the Parish President to solicit proposals and to execute a contract for the undersealing of voids in abutments on bridges located on paved roads throughout the Parish where issues have been noted during DOTD inspections.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

Chairman Hoover stated the next item on the agenda Council to consider authorizing the Parish President to advertise for bids for a rubber tire tractor/loader/backhoe to replace the one for which the current lease expires on May 6, 2017.

Mr. Verret gave a brief summary on the lease that is going to expire in May. Chairman Hoover, asked, "How much the Parish is paying currently for the leasing of this machine?" Mr. Verret, "We pay \$609.87 per month for this current lease."

On motion by Councilman Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by, Councilman Russell Rachal that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby authorize the Parish President to advertise for bids for a rubber tire tractor/loader/backhoe to replace the one for which the current lease expires on May 6, 2017.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

Chairman Hoover stated the next item on the agenda Council to consider Re-introducing Ordinance 17-2016 giving authorization to the Parish President to enter into an agreement with the Natchitoches Parish Sheriff Office for the sale of the Parish building on 415 Trudeau Street and a certain parking lot to the NPSO, subject to an acceptable appraisal of the value.

Parish President Rick Nowlin, because telling the Council of the appraised value for the building and parking lot. The appraised value is \$140,500 total appraised value. The Sheriff is wanting to work with the Parish on the outstanding debt the Parish owes the Sheriff Department. Parish debt was over \$900,000 and now it'd down to around \$700,000 which the Parish pays the current monthly payment plus an additional \$5,000 per month to work towards the arrears. The Sheriff has offered \$200,000 credit off the debt plus suspend the additional \$5,000 for a twelve month period.

A very lengthy discussion was taken on this agenda items and two actions came out of this discussion. The first action consist as follows.

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by, Councilman Rodney Bedgood that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does table Re-introducing Ordinance 17-2016 giving authorization to the Parish President to enter into an agreement with the Natchitoches Parish Sheriff Office for the sale of the Parish building on 415 Trudeau Street and a certain parking lot to the NPSO, subject to an acceptable appraisal of the value.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes:	Councilman Paige
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood
Nayes:	Councilman de Graffenried
Nayes:	Councilman Rachal
Nayes:	Councilwoman Hoover

Motion did not Pass

The second action that was taken as follows:

On motion by Councilman Doug de Graffenried, duly seconded by, Councilman Russell Rachal that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby approve Re-introducing Ordinance 17-2016 giving authorization to the Parish President to enter into an agreement with the Natchitoches Parish Sheriff Office for the sale of the Parish building on 415 Trudeau Street and a certain parking lot to the NPSO, subject to an acceptable appraisal of the value.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes:	Councilman Rachal
Nayes:	Councilman Paige
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

Chairman Hoover stated the next item on the agenda Council to consider Introducing Ordinance 004-2017 for Budget Revision for the Highway Department.(Fund 101, Fish Hatchery Road, and Old River Road)

Ms. Debbie, Parish Treasurer discussed this at the beginning explaining why this revision was needed.

On motion by Councilman Doug de Graffenried, duly seconded by, Councilman Russell Rachal that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby approve Introducing Ordinance 004-2017 for Budget Revision for the Highway Department.(Fund 101, Fish Hatchery Road, and Old River Road)

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes:	Councilman Rachal
Ayes:	Councilman Paige
Absent:	Councilman Bedgood
Nayes:	Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

Chairman Hoover then recognized Mr. Nick Verret, Director of Public Works, Mr. Verret wanted to know if any Council members had any questions from his report that was given to them.

Councilman de Graffenried, asked, "Coco Bed are we ever going to get there?" Mr. Verret, replied, "Yes." The State has given their go ahead to move forward with this project. Councilman Paige, asked, "Has there been in shovel put on that road?" Mr. Verret, "No, Sir, but we're more closer now than we was before." Councilman Paige went on to discuss other matters concerning CoCo Bed that had happened in the past and he will continue to ask when Payne Subdivisions will be done.

Chairman Hoover then recognizes Ms. Sharon Harris, OCS/Head Start Executive Director, she gave her reports.

Ms. Harris wanted to know if the Council had any questions about her reports that was given to them. She also gave a summary of the workshop that was given on Program Governance Training and a updated Child and Adult Care Food Program Claim for Reimbursement form.

Chairman, Hoover wanted an update on the money being put back in the correct fund from a loan being borrowed from Food Services to go into a different fund. Ms. Harris informed Chairman, Hoover, that's Finance and she doesn't handle Finance she needs to ask that question to the Finance Department.

Ms. Debbie Miley, informed Chairman, Hoover this money has been put back and they're working on the other problems, but she didn't have this with her because it wasn't on the agenda and she will discuss it with her at a later time, but not in an open meeting.

Chairman, Hoover then read a letter from Mrs. Rosa Shields concerning meals at the Head Start center, which her grandchild attends. She's wanting to know why these children are not getting hot and nutritious meals fed to them on a daily basis? Why there are not better meals being served? She wants someone to look into this matter and it should be corrected. Chairman, Hoover read the entire letter to the Council.

Parish President replied, "When I got the letter, I contacted Ms. Harris and ask her to investigate and to prepare a response to Mrs. Shields concerning this matter. I think this is a case of being misinformed. The meals prepared by the Head Start meet State and Federal regulations. The menu was not limited that day as to what she was told it was. Ms. Harris has responded back to Mrs. Shields explaining it to her." Chairman, Hoover, explained, "I was reading the letter because the letter was for her and the Council and she was letting the Council know the letter was sent."

Chairman Hoover then recognizes Parish Treasurer, Debbie Miley. questions.

Ms. Miley, asked were there any questions on what she had sent out in the Council's packages. Ms. Miley sent out the In-Mate report, Head Start Credit Card report, and other reports that were given to the Head Start Policy Council. She informed the Council Head Start was funded for another cycle.

Chairman Hoover then recognizes Parish President, Rick Nowlin Mr. Nowlin, began to say, "We have already talked about Coco Bed road and Payne Subdivision.

Parish President also talked on the Parish Road District 40 Tax Renewals and the other renewals. District 40 includes the entire Parish except for the City of Natchitoches. The renewal of this existing tax is absolutely critical to the continued operation of the Parish highway department. It is imperative that all members of the Parish government support the renewal tax. The Health Unit can be in jeopardy if this renewal doesn't pass. It is imperative that all members of the Parish government that support the highway department actively encourage their constituents to support the tax renewal.

On motion by Chairman Hoover, duly seconded by Councilman de Graffenried, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adjourn.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes:	Councilman Rachal
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood
Ayes:	Councilman Paige
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

Since there was no other business the meeting was adjourn:

Attest:

Sheryl Frederick,
Council Clerk

Patsy Ward Hoover, Chairman