

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATCHITOCHE PARISH COUNCIL  
PARISH OF NATCHITOCHE, STATE OF LOUISIANA  
TAKEN A REGULAR MEETING HELD, MONDAY,  
December 15, 2014  
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 Monday, December 15, 2014 for regular Natchitoches Parish Council meeting at five-thirty (5:30) o'clock p.m.

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

The invocation was given by Councilman Ricky LaCour and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilman Rodney Bedgood.

After the roll call there were present Chairman Aaron Johnson and Councilmen Rodney Bedgood, Ricky LaCour, Chris Paige, and John Salter.

There was absent: None.

Chairman Johnson then asked if there were any visitors who would like to speak and there was none.

Public Comments there were none.

On motion by Mr. Ricky LaCour, duly seconded by Mr. John Salter, 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 Monday, November 17, 2014.

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Lacour	<u>  x  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Salter	<u>  x  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	<u>  x  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Johnson	<u>  x  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Paige	<u>  x  </u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

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

- A. Consider adopting Ordinance #17-2014 to delete only 0.102 of the Harvey Birdwell Road, Parish Road No. 587A from the Parish Road System per Mr. Doug Birdwell.
- B. Consider adopting Ordinance #18-2014 to adding an new constructed street into the Parish Road System. This street is a 1,200 linear foot extension of Independence Street, which is currently in the Parish System.

On motion by Mr. Chris Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Rodney Bedgood, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby open the public hearing.

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Paige	<u>  x  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	<u>  x  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Johnson	<u>  x  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	<u>  x  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Paige	<u>  x  </u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

Since there were no discussion on the two public hearing items:

On motion by Mr. Chris Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Ricky LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby close the public hearing.

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Paige	<u>  x  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	<u>  x  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	<u>  x  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Johnson	<u>  x  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Salter	<u>  x  </u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

Relative to the items discussed during the public hearing, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Chris Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Rodney Bedgood, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt Ordinance #17-2014 to delete only 0.102 of the Harvey Birdwell Road, Parish Road No. 587A from the Parish Road System per Mr. Doug Birdwell.

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Paige	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Johnson	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Salter	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

On motion by Mr. Ricky LaCour, duly seconded by Mr. Chris Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt Ordinance #18-2014 to add a new constructed street into the Parish Road System which is 1,200 linear foot extension of Independence Street, which is currently in the Parish Road System.

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman LaCour	<u>  X  </u>	___	__	___
Councilman Paige	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	<u>  X  </u>	___	__	___
Councilman Johnson	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Salter	___	<u>  X  </u>	__	___

Motion Passed

Chairman Johnson then stated that the next item on the agenda was Council to consider approval of an adjustment in the Christmas Holiday Schedule.

After a lengthy discussion no action was taken and the days will remain the same Wednesday and Thursday is the Holiday's given and Friday is a working day unless you take leave.

Chairman Johnson then stated that the next item on the agenda was Council to consider Johnson, Thomas, & Cunningham to do audit of the financial statements for the Natchitoches Parish Government for the year ended December 31, 2014.

On motion by Mr. John Salter, duly seconded by Mr. Rodney Bedgood, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby approve Johnson, Thomas, & Cunningham to do audit of the financial statements for the Natchitoches Parish Government for the year ended December 31, 2014.

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Paige	<u>  X  </u>	___	__	___
Councilman Bedgood	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Johnson	<u>  X  </u>	___	__	___
Councilman LaCour	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Salter	<u>  X  </u>	___	__	___

Motion Passed

Chairman Johnson then stated that the next item on the agenda was Council to consider approving the amended 2014 Budget and the Proposed 2015 Budget for the operation of the North Louisiana Criminalistics Laboratory Commission.

On motion by Mr. Chris Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Ricky LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby approve the amended 2014 Budget and the Proposed 2015 Budget for the operation of the North Louisiana Criminalistics Laboratory Commission.

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Paige	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Johnson	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Salter	<u> X </u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

Chairman Johnson then stated that the next item on the agenda was Council to consider awarding of bids for Head Start Foods/Milk/other Products.

On motion by Mr. Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by Mr. Chris Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby awards the following bids to:

Milk and Dairy Products awarded to Harper's Distributing 172 East Ridge Drive Natchitoches, LA.

Fruit and Vegetables, Processed Foods, Bread and Bread Products, Kitchen and Cleaning Supplies, and Meat and Meat Products awarded to Reinhart Food Service 524 West 61st Street, Shreveport, LA.

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Bedgood	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Paige	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Johnson	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Salter	<u> X </u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

Chairman Johnson then stated that the next item on the agenda was Council to consider awarding of bids for Highway Department Materials.

On motion by Mr. John Salter, duly seconded by Mr. Ricky LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby awards the following bids to:

Crushed Stone awarded to Madden Contracting Company, LLC P.O. Box 856, Minden LA.

Cold Mix awarded to Diamond B. Construction CO, LLC, P.O. Box 7618, Alexandria, LA 71306

Oil and Grease Products awarded to Lott Oil Company, P.O. Box 17, Natchitoches, LA

Winn Rock awarded to Winn Rock, LLC P.O. Box 790, Winnfield, LA 71483

Black Rock awarded to James Rock Company, P.O. Box 25, Montgomery, LA 71454

Washed Gravel awarded to Larry Grayson & Son Trucking, LLC P.O. Box 250, Forest Hill, LA

CRS-2 Cationic Emulsified Asphalt awarded to Asphalt Products Unlimited, Inc, 4675 Interstate Hwy, Port Allen, LA

Metal Culverts awarded to Wilson Culvert, Inc. P.O. Box 940, Elkhart, TX 75839

Commercial/Industrial, Passenger, Light Truck, and Trailer Tires awarded to Natchitoches Tire Service, Inc. DBA Despino's Tire Service, 1721 Hwy 3175, Natchitoches, LA

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Salter	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Johnson	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Paige	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

Chairman Johnson then stated that the next item on the agenda was Council to consider changing the January 19, 2015 Council meeting date to another date due to holiday. Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday.

After a short discussion on this matter the following decision was made:

On motion by Mr. Chris Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Ricky LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby change the January 19, 2015 Council meeting date to January 20, 2015 due to holiday of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday.

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Paige	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Johnson	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Salter	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

Chairman Johnson then stated that the next item on the agenda was Council to consider authorizing Parish President to execute a revised agreement with LA DOTD for the transfer of LA-486 to the Parish after construction of a proposed new roadway section.

After a brief discussion on this matter the following decision was made:

On motion by Mr. Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by Mr. Chris Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby authorize Parish President to execute a revised agreement with LA DOTD for the transfer of LA-486 to the Parish after construction of a proposed new roadway section.

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Bedgood	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Paige	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Johnson	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Salter	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

Chairman Johnson then stated that the next item on the agenda was Council to consider authorizing Parish President to sign the agreement between the parish and Louisiana Housing Energy Assistance Program for the grant period 10-01-2014 through 09-30-2016.

On motion by Mr. Chris Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Rodney Bedgood, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby authorize Parish President to sign the agreement between the parish and Louisiana Housing Energy Assistance Program for the grant period 10-01-2014 through 09-30-2016.

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Paige	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Johnson	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Salter	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

Chairman Johnson then stated that the next item on the agenda was Council to consider authorizing Ms. Sharon Harris, OCS/Head Start Executive Director permission to sign the weekly reports and other such required documents in connection with the program grant.

On motion by Mr. Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by Mr. Chris Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby authorize Ms. Sharon Harris, OCS/Head Start Executive Director permission to sign the weekly reports and other such required documents in connection with the program grant.

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Bedgood	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Paige	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Johnson	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Salter	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

Chairman Johnson then stated that the next item on the agenda was to consider adopting a resolution confirming the re-appointments/appointments to the following boards/commissions:

Ms. Melinda Robinson for appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Children & Youth Planning Board.

Mr. Michael G. Dawson for re-appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District 6 Board.

On motion by Mr. Chris Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Ricky LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt the resolution confirming the re-appointment/appointments of the following members to these boards and commissions:

Ms. Melinda Robinson for appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Children & Youth Planning Board.

Mr. Michael G. Dawson for re-appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District 6 Board.

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Paige	<u>X</u> __	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	<u>X</u> __	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	<u>X</u> __	___	___	___
Councilman Johnson	<u>X</u> __	___	___	___
Councilman Salter	<u>X</u> __	___	___	___

Motion Passed

Chairman Johnson then recognized Mr. Nick Verret, Director of Public Works, who presented his reports.

The mechanical pothole patcher was repaired on December 4 and the process is being initiated to hire a part-time operator to replace the previous operator of this equipment, who left Parish employment several weeks ago. It is felt that the weather limitations will not justify hiring a full-time person at this time.

Solid Waste:

The charges for November reflect a 7% reduction from October.

Enclosure of the Readheimer bin site is still pending the resolution of a conflict in the legal description of the Parish property at that location. Repeated attempts to talk with the adjacent property owner have been unsuccessful, but efforts will continue to resolve this issue as soon as possible.

Chairman Johnson then recognized Ms. Sharon Harris OCS/Head Start Executive Director. Ms. Harris went over her report discussing LIHEAP awaiting written authorization for Parish President to sign contract between Natchitoches Parish Office of Community Services and Louisiana Housing Corporation (LHC)

**Food for Seniors** which provided 40-pound box to individuals 60 years.

November 20, 2014 is the distribution date and 218 individuals were provided for.

**The Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)** Month of December 25 food boxes will be delivered to eligible households. Donation from Natchitoches Fire Department. Month of December additional can goods will be provided along with the 40# boxes to Food for Senior recipients. Donations are made possible through the Natchitoches Parish School Districts.

**Commodity** provided Services for the month of December were 142 households. Distribution is for December 18, 2014.

**HEADSTART:**

1. Enrollment as of today, 11/15/2014 is 309 children full enrollment. Recruitment efforts are ongoing.
2. Attendance: 80.42%
3. Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)  
Meals: Breakfast 3,732 ADA 249; Lunch-3,744 ADA 250; Snack-3,740 ADA 249  
Total Reimbursement \$21,196.40.

**SENIOR COMPANION PROGRAM (SCP):**

38 SCP Volunteers  
2,990 volunteer hours \$7,923.50  
4,938 miles  
40 clients.

**CHRISTMAS PARKING**

The total for OCS Christmas parking was \$4,860 after attendants were paid.

Chairman Johnson then recognizes Ms. Debbie Miley, Parish Treasurer, Ms. Miley distributed the 2015 Consolidated Budget to Councilmen for review and if they have any discussion about it please bring it to the January meeting for discussion. She stated we will get an active In-mate report next month.

She asked the Council if they had any questions for her and there was none.

Chairman Johnson then recognized Parish President Rick Nowlin he gave an update on:

**FIRE DISTRICTS:**

Fire District No. 1 has requested that we issue a call for volunteers that are needed to improve its participation at fires and thereby improve the fire rating of the district.

Fire District No.4 has reported an increase in its volunteer count from 25 to 45 during 2014.

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

- a. City of Natchitoches Annexation: On November 24th, the Parish was informed by the City of Natchitoches that the

public hearing scheduled for that afternoon in connection with proposed annexation of the new Dollar General business located on LA Hwy 6. West had been canceled. The reason for the cancellation was that the applicant had withdrawn the application for annexation.

- b. Met with representatives of the Pace Community Center on December 12th in regard to the Center's effort to locate another organization to take over the center and its operation.

Parish President also gave a list of his Recent events and his upcoming events.

Chairman Johnson stated the next item on the agenda was to go into an "Executive Session" to talk on two agenda items. At this time all person(s) were asked to step out until the "Executive Session" has closed.

On motion by Mr. Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by Mr. John Salter, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby open the "Executive Session" hearing.

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Bedgood	<u>  x  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Salter	<u>  x  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Johnson	<u>  x  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	<u>  x  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Paige	<u>  x  </u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

Discussion was done and after all discussion was completed.

On motion by Mr. John Salter, duly seconded by Mr. Rodney Bedgood, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby close the "Executive Session" hearing.

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Salter	<u>  x  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	<u>  x  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Johnson	<u>  x  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	<u>  x  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Paige	<u>  x  </u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

Since there was no other business, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. John Salter, duly seconded by Ricky LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby adjourn until the next regular or called meeting of the Natchitoches Parish Council.

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Salter	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Johnson	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Paige	<u>  X  </u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Aaron Johnson, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sheryl Frederick,  
Council Clerk