

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATCHITOCHE PARISH COUNCIL
PARISH OF NATCHITOCHE, STATE OF LOUISIANA
TAKEN A REGULAR MEETING HELD, MONDAY,
 May 18, 2015
 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, March 16, 2015 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 John Salter who stated that the Parish was ready for the transaction of business.

The invocation was given by Councilman Chris Paige and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilman Rodney Bedgood. After the roll call there were present Chairman John Salter and Councilmen Chris Paige, Rodney Bedgood, Ricky LaCour and Aaron Johnson.

There was absent: None.

Chairman Salter then asked if there were any visitors who would like to have a word and Mr. Michael Vaughn from Liberty National Life Insurance Company wanted to introduce himself to the Council. He works in Red River Parish and he just wants to know if the Parish needed any assistance with anything that he would be available.

There were no other public comments.

On motion by Mr. Aaron Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. Ricky LaCour, 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, April 27, 2015.

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Johnson	_x_	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	_x_	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	_x_	___	__	___
Councilman Paige	_x_	___	___	___
Councilman Salter	_x_	___	__	___

Motion Passed

Chairman Salter then stated that the next item on the agenda was to consider adopting a Resolution requesting the LA DOTD construct on-site detours at two upcoming bridge replacement sites.

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 a Resolution requesting the LA DOTD construct on-site detours at two upcoming bridge replacement sites.

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

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Councilman Paige	_x_	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	_x_	___	___	___
Councilman Johnson	_x_	___	__	___
Councilman LaCour	_x_	___	___	___
Councilman Salter	_x_	___	__	___

Motion Passed

Chairman Salter then stated that the next item on the agenda was to consider the awarding of the new grader lease.

Director of Public works went over the bids that were given to the Council they were as follows:

Louisiana Machinery Co.

2015 Caterpillar 12M3, 12' moldboard with mid-mount scarifier @ \$1,171.98 per month

Without scarifier @ \$973.37 per month

2015 Caterpillar 12M3, 14' moldboard with mid-mount scarifier @ \$1,171.98 per month

Without scarifier @ \$973.37 per month

Anticipated delivery date of August 15, 2015

Doggett Machinery Services

2015 John Deere 670G, 12' moldboard with mid-mount scarifier @ \$990.28 per month

Without scarifier @ \$941.22 per month

2015 John Deere 670G, 14' moldboard with mid-mount scarifier @ \$1,066.95 per month

Without scarifier @ \$807.86 per month

Anticipated delivery date of early August, 2015

Scott Equipment Co.

2012 Volvo G930B, 12' moldboard with mid-mount scarifier @ \$1,958.00 per month

Without scarifier @ \$1,645.00

Available immediately, as these are the machines currently used by Parish Highway Department.

Note: The LA Machinery and Doggett proposals are based on "piggy-backing" onto current leases with other governmental entities.

The Director of Public Works recommends award to Doggett Machinery Services for the lease of five 2015 John Deere 670G graders with 12' moldboard and mid-mount scarifier at the proposed price of \$990.28 per month.

On motion by Mr. Chris Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Aaron Johnson that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby award the new graders lease to Doggett Machinery Services for the lease of five 2015 John Deere 670G graders with 12' moldboard and mid-mount scarifier at the proposed price of \$990.28 per month.

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

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

Motion Passed

Chairman Salter 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:

Conduct a public hearing to hear any and all comments or objections relative to the adoption of the following items:

A. Ordinance #004-2015 An Ordinance adopting the Amending of the 2015 Operating Budget to include a supplemental appropriation for additional funds from FEMA to Highway Fund 101 and to allocate money for the Summer Youth Program to hire ten(10)summer Youth.

B. Ordinance #002-2015 An Ordinance adopting Blighted or Abandoned Property.

C. Ordinance #005-2015 An Ordinance adopting the Revision to the Natchitoches Parish Personnel Manual.

On motion by Mr. Aaron Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. Chris Paige, 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 Johnson	<u> x </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Paige	<u> x </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	<u> x </u>	___	__	___
Councilman LaCour	<u> x </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Salter	<u> x </u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

During the public hearing Councilman Chris Paige and Chairman John Salter thought it would be better to amend the agenda to correct the wording to add the proper funds which will be Government Building 105 the Youth Summer Jobs would be taken out of and to add Kistachie National Park in the wording also. This is all will still be under Ordinance #004-2015 but it will include an A & B.

With the Blighted or Abandoned Property Ordinance #002-2015 there were discussion from the Parish President and the Councilman. Mr. Nowlin, gave a revision on Blighted or Abandoned Property to help with undivided property issues but the revision still need some tweaking. Also Mr. Kip Fair also gave input on this discussion with undivided property and the Parish President along with the Councilman stated that this Ordinance is 90% accurate and if needed they will amend it as something happens, but they need to get something in place to protect and help residents that being affected by this.

Mrs. Jamie Flangan, who resides at 1440 Hwy 494 in Natchitoches, discussed a problem with tall grass obscuring her visibility when she exists her driveway onto LA-494. After further discussion, it appears that the grass to which she referred may actually be within the State highway right-of-way. Director of Public Works, took down Mrs. Flanagan information and he said he would notify DOTD and let them no they're responsible for this.

On Ordinance #005-2015 Adopting the Revisions to the Natchitoches Parish Personnel Manual there were discussion, First, the Director of Planning and Zoning wanted to know why was a position salary being reduced and there is no one in that position and Councilman Bedgood wanted to know about the high salaries. Parish President, Rick Nowlin, told, Planning and Zoning Director that salary reduction could be left out since there is no one in that position. Parish President Rick Nowlin, also told Councilman Rodney Bedgood that he didn't see anything in the revisions on salaries other than the two he suggested.

Parish President stated he didn't make any other changes to the Personnel Manual since they were given to Council for their review, Councilman Ricky LaCour again, asked the question are there any additional changes to the Personnel Manual other than what they have gotten, and Parish President stated, "No" there have not been no other changes.

Since there were no discussion on the public hearing items:

On motion by Mr. Chris Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Aaron Johnson, 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 Johnson	<u> x </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	<u> x </u>	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	<u> x </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Salter	<u> x </u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

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

Chairman Salter stated he need to amend the agenda to correct the wording to Ordinance #004-2015 to add a part A and B with the corrected wording.

- A. Ordinance #004A-2015 An Ordinance adopting the Amending of the 2015 Operating Budget to reflect additional cash carry over from 2014 of \$229,493, and increase in the budget to show additional \$115,284 received from Kisatchie Forest and added FEMA money of \$183,796 from fund #237. all additional revenues total \$528,573.
- B. Ordinance #004B-2015 Government Building Fund 105 revised to reflect expenses of hiring 10 summer youths for 6 weeks at minimum wage of \$7.25. per hour.

On motion by Mr. Chris Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Aaron Johnson, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in special and legal session convened, does hereby amend the agenda for Council approval to add to

- A. Ordinance #004A-2015 An Ordinance adopting the Amending of the 2015 Operating Budget to reflect additional cash carry over from 2014 of \$229,493, and increase in the budget to show additional \$115,284 received from Kisatchie Forest and added FEMA money of \$183,796 from fund #237. all additional revenues total \$528,573.
- B. Ordinance #004B-2015 Government Building Fund 105 revised to reflect expenses of hiring 10 summer youths for 6 weeks at minimum wage of \$7.25. per hour.

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

On motion by Mr. Chris Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Aaron Johnson, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in special and legal session convened, does hereby adopt Ordinance #004A-2015 An Ordinance adopting the amending of the 2015 Operating Budget to reflect additional cash carry over from 2014 of \$229,493, and increase in the budget to show additional \$115,284 received from Kisatchie Forest and added FEMA money of \$183,796 from fund #237. All additional revenues total \$528,573.

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

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

Motion Passed

On motion by Mr. Chris Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Ricky LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in special and legal session convened, does hereby adopt Ordinance 004B-2015 Government Building Fund 105 funds to reflect expenses of hiring 10 summer youths for 6 weeks at minimum wage of \$7.25. per hour.

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 Salter then stated that the next item on the agenda Council consider adopting Ordinance #002-2015 An Ordinance adopting Blighted or Abandoned Property.

On motion by Mr. Aaron Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. Chris Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in special and legal session convened, does hereby adopt Ordinance #002-2015 An Ordinance adopting Blighted or Abandoned Property.

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

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

Motion Passed

Chairman Salter then stated that the next item on the agenda Council consider adopting Ordinance #005-2015 An Ordinance adopting the Revision to the Natchitoches Parish Personnel Manual.

On motion by Mr. Ricky LaCour, duly seconded by Mr. Aaron Johnson, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in special and legal session convened, does hereby adopt Ordinance #005-2015 An Ordinance adopting the Revision to the Natchitoches Parish Personnel Manual.

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

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

Motion Passed

Chairman Salter stated the next agenda item was for council to consider to hold a public hearing at next month Council meeting to obtain views on the community development needs of the Parish and to discuss the submission of an application for funding under the State of Louisiana FY 2016/2017 Louisiana Community Development Block Grant (LCDBG) Program.

Parish President, Rick Nowlin stated to Council that November 1, 2015 is the due date for this application to be turned in into the Office of Community Development. He stated that the Council need to decide along with the residents which area of importance will they focus on in obtaining funding.

On motion by Mr. Aaron Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. Ricky LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in special and legal session convened, does hereby approve to hold a public hearing at next month Council meeting to obtain views on the community development needs of

the Parish and to discuss the submission of an application for funding under the State of Louisiana FY 2016/2017 Louisiana Community Development Block Grant (LCDBG) Program.

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

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

Motion Passed

Chairman Salter stated the next item on the agenda was to consider adopting a resolution confirming appointments to the following boards/commissions.

Confirmation of Ms. Karen Meshell Rawls for appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Tourist Commission.

On motion by Mr. Aaron Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. Ricky LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby approve adopting a resolution confirming the appointments to the following boards/commission:

Ms. Karen Meshell Rawls for appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Tourist Commission.

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

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

Motion Passed

Chairman Salter then recognized Mr. Nick Verret, Director of Public Works, who presented his report.

He stated it hard hiring truck drivers. The owned mini-trackhoe is down, pending completion of repairs to the tracks, idlers, and rollers at an estimated cost of \$9,870. The mechanical pothole patcher will hopefully be repaired this week, as the blower parts have been received and shop personnel should be available for this work. While this machine has been down, the operator has been utilized as a truck driver.

The Cane River Bank Erosion along LA 484 Near St. Augustine Church-Parish officials recently attended a meeting of church representatives, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers officials, and other stakeholders to explore funding for the needed repairs. Subsequent to the meeting, DOTD performed a survey to determine the extent of bank caving. A follow up meeting with church representatives and other stakeholders was schedule earlier today May 18 to discuss what local entity might be willing to serve as the non-Federal sponsor for a bank stabilization project.

Chairman Salter then recognizes Ms. Sharon Harris, OCS/Head Start Executive Director, she gave her 2014 year report with other reports:

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program(LIHEAP)

Provided utility assistance to 106 households totaling \$39,700.00
Call for an appointment on June 4, 2015.

Food for Seniors which provided 40-pound box to 212 individuals 60 years or older.

April: 219 individuals.

Next distribution date May 28, 2015

Commodity provided food items to:

April: 153 families.

Next distribution date May 28, 2015

Certification ongoing.

HEADSTART:

1. Enrollment as of today, 05/18/2015 is 309 children full enrollment. Recruitment efforts are ongoing.
2. Operating Days: 18
3. Attendance 81.84%

Announcements - Upcoming Events

- May 21, 2015 Family Fun Day
- May 22, 2015 Graduation and last day for children
-All Natchitoches Parish Centers will have graduation @ MLK Recreation Center @1:00 p.m.
- May 29, 2015: Last day (Classroom staff, food technicians and food delivery driver)
- Policy Council meeting June 9th @ 6:00 p.m. @ MLK Head Start Center
- Mansfield Head Start Library

- Head Start Gym at @MLK Center

SENIOR COMPANION PROGRAM (SCP)

- 41 SCP volunteers
- 3,543 volunteer hours - \$9,388.95
- 6,289 miles
- 47 clients

Application has been approved for funding consideration at state level.

CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM (CACFP):

Number of days meals served-18

Average Daily Participation (ADA)

Meals: Breakfast - 4,549 - ADA=253; Lunch - 4,549- ADA=253;

Snack - 4,551 - ADA=253; Total Reimbursement = \$24,657.22

Chairman Salter then recognizes Ms. Debbie Miley, Parish Treasurer, Ms. Miley then went on to discuss her reports giving status updates on the 2015 Active Bookings for Inmates & Outstanding Coroners/Inmate Expenses. We now have a balance on Arrears of \$819,223.17 This have gone down a little. Women Inmates has risen.

Ms. Miley earlier had given out a Budget Revision for Youth and she gave out a 2015 Budget with a forecast of the Highway Department or the years of: 2016, 2017, and 2018. Ms. Miley also gave out a Coroner Fund 903 report to the Council.

She asked the Council did they have any questions for her and there was none.

Chairman Salter then recognizes Parish President, Rick Nowlin who gave his report:

CAPITAL OUTLAY UPDATE:

CoCo Bed Road Improvements: \$280,000

The amendment to the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement executed by facility Planning and Control has been received by the Parish.

COURT HOUSE SECURITY IMPROVEMENTS:

2014 Capital Outlay:

\$30,000 P2 Cash and \$380,000 P5 Non-Cash

Status: Approved by the State Bond Commission

The Cooperative Endeavor Agreement has been received for the \$410,000. If additional funds are authorize, a CEA amendment would be prepared.

The 2015 Capital Outlay bill includes \$70,000 in additional funds.

FIRE DISTRICTS:

Fire Districts 10 have requested for a letter to be drafted to be sent to district residents to solicit their support by volunteering to serve the District. At its meeting on May 13th, the board approved the letter. The Parish has received a list of the property owners in the district from the assessor's office and will be mailing the letters soon.

Councilman Chris Paige wanted to know who was responsible for the printing of the Journal, and that this Journal only is out for campaign purposes and that the whole journal is based on lies. They are reporting lies on people salaries and stating things that are not true that were stated by the Parish Treasurer, Ms. Debbie Miley. Mr. Paige stated it was stated that the previous jurors was transferring money illegally. Mr. Paige wanted this investigated by the Parish District Attorney's Office. Mr. Pat Todd stood and said Mr. Paige

was taking it personal and that he didn't see anything wrong with what was published in the Journal and that it was all Public Record and that Mr. Paige should not asked for the others to get involved and waste time in pursuing it. Councilman Aaron Johnson wanted to know if it was published with Parish money and it was answered no, then he said nothing anyone can do if a private citizen is publishing it and funding it. Councilman Chris Paige, said others were listed by titles and positions his was listed by name, so it was taken personal against him.

No one would tell who was the publisher of this journal and where the information is coming from it was asked several times and no direct answer was given. Parish President, Rick Nowlin, stated he did approve his insert that was inserted in this journal.

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

On motion by Mr. Aaron Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. 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 Johnson	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Paige	<u> X </u>	___	___	___
Councilman Salter	<u> X </u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

Attest:

John Salter, Chairman

Sheryl Frederick,
Council Clerk