

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
NATCHITOCHE PARISH COUNCIL, PARISH OF NATCHITOCHE, STATE OF
LOUISIANA, TAKEN A REGULAR MEETING HELD, MONDAY,

June 17, 2013

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, June 17, 2013 at five-thirty (5:30) o'clock p.m.

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

The invocation was given by Mr. Charles Cloud and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilman John Salter.

There were present Chairman Rodney Bedgood and Councilmen Chris Paige, Ricky LaCour and John Salter.

There was absent: Aaron Johnson.

Chairman Bedgood then asked if there were any visitors who would like to speak. Since there were none, he then asked if anyone had any comments concerning an item on the agenda. Chairman Bedgood then recognized Mr. Randy Stelly who told the Council he was present to speak on last month meeting concerning the remarks that were made. Mr. Stelly told Mr. Bedgood he had a problem with saying the word execute and that it was a hour and seventeen minutes before he got to the first item on the agenda. Mr. Stelly also commented on the remarks that were made by Mr. Paige at the May 20th meeting in which he stated that the Natchitoches Times was the only legitimate paper in town. He also stated that some people present reminded him of the term demagogue that was applicable to both the old Police Jury and the Council. Mr. Paige stated that he was not going to comment on this stupidity or who paid Mr. Stelly. Mr. Paige left the meeting for about five minutes before returning. Mr. Bedgood stated that no one tells him what to do and he was not going to allow Mr. Stelly to slander him. Mr. Bedgood also stated that he has tried to do his best as Chairman of the Council and before he makes any decision he asked the Lord to guide him. After this lengthy discussion, Mr. Stelly left the meeting.

Chairman Bedgood then recognized Mr. Pat Todd who told the Council that 70% of the people voted for the Charter and there were several Council members who were not happy about the results. Mr. Todd stated that some of the Council members will not be returning after this term and if they were not happy should consider resigning.

Chairman Bedgood then recognized Mr. Charles Cloud who stated that he thought he was at a Police Jury Meeting. Mr. Cloud also told the Council that the residents did not want curbside pickup in the Goldonna Area.

Chairman Bedgood then recognized Mrs. Iris Harper, Tourist Commission Director, who stated that she would like to be informed when an appointment is being made to her Commission. Mrs. Harper stated that she knew things had changed and wanted to know what the process was on appointments to her Commission.

Since there were no other comments, Chairman Bedgood preceded with the agenda.

On motion by Mr. Salter, duly seconded by Mr. 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, May 20, 2013.

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 Bedgood then recognized Mr. Sherman Doolittle, Chairman of the Parish Solid Waste Advisory Commission who presented recommendations to the Council for the future of the Solid Waste disposal in the Parish of Natchitoches. Mr. Doolittle told the Council that the Commission had visited several compactor sites in the parish. In conclusion he stated that with the budget numbers from the Parish Treasurer and input from Mr. Nick Verret, Director of Public Works, the Commission came up with the recommendations presented.

Chairman Bedgood then recognized Mr. Truman Maynard, Chairman of the Parish Personnel & Policy Advisory Commission, who presented the following Job Description and Salary Range of the Personnel Manual for the Parish of Natchitoches:

On motion by Mr. Salter, duly seconded by Mr. Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt resolutions congratulating Mrs. Izeola Charles and Mr. Danny Braxton on their retirement.

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

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

Motion Passed

On motion by Mr. Salter, duly seconded by Mr. LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt a resolution confirming the appointment of Mrs. Brenda Lacour to the Natchitoches Parish Tourist Commission.

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

On motion by Mr. LaCour, duly seconded by Mr. Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt the Introduction of Ordinance #4-2013 setting forth procedural rules for the Natchitoches Parish Council; providing for definitions; rules of procedures; disorderly conduct; enforcement; individuals with disabilities and providing for citizen participation.

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

On motion by Mr. Paige, duly seconded by Mr. LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt an ordinance to amend the Parish 2013 Government Building Budget by appropriating funds not to exceed \$22,000.00 for a Summer Youth Work Program for the 2013 year only.

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. Salter, duly seconded by Mr. Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt the Introduction of an ordinance repealing the 5 tons load limit on the Mayou's Bayou Bridge

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

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

Motion Passed

Councilman Ricky LaCour was not present for the roll call vote but returned shortly thereafter.

Chairman Bedgood then recognized Mr. Salter who stated that he had asked to put on the agenda the discussion of amending the ordinance for utilities on Parish Roads rights of way. He asked to table this matter until they received further information.

Chairman Bedgood stated that the next item on the agenda was the discussion of setting up interviews for the Council Clerk's position. After a brief discussion, Chairman Bedgood appointed Mr. John Salter, Mr. Chris Paige and Mrs. Catherine Hamilton to a committee to review the application and make a recommendation to the Council.

Chairman Bedgood then recognized Parish President Rick Nowlin who told the Council that Mr. Nick Verret, Director of Public Works, was absent but had submitted his report to the Council. He told the Council that the bids had come in for the Plantation Point project with the lowest bid being around \$109,000.00. President Nowlin also stated that they had also started the project. He then told the Council that they were looking to receive about 1.1 million instead of the 1.7 million. President also stated that they had a meeting with the Forestry Association and the loggers and will be coming up with some changes for the current policy.

Chairman Bedgood then recognized Ms. Sharon Harris, who told the Council that she had passed out some flyers with the Head Start Cuts of 5.27% from the budget. She also presented an action plan of what has been submitted to the Head Start Headquarters. She also stated that she had received notice on June 4th of the funding for re-competition has been open and will closed August 19th. President Nowlin told the Council that Head Start has been extended until February 28th.

Chairman Bedgood then recognized Ms. Debbie Miley, Parish Treasurer, who asked the Council to look at the active booking and wanted to bring to their attention that the female inmates will exceed the budget amount by August and would have to make a transfer from general fund by August to take care of the cost. She also stated that the youths may be going over as well. The coroner is also on the border line and may see some increase there as well. She stated that the Coroner said he was not able to keep up with all the increase in interdiction and autopsies. Mr. LaCour asked Ms. Miley about the Kisatchie funds. She stated that they had received the Kisatchie monies and was only waiting on the Parish Transportation Fund and some more ad valorem funds. She concluded by stating that the rest of the funds was doing okay and General Fund was looking better than it was in a long time.

Chairman Bedgood then recognized Mr. Nowlin who updated the Council on the status of the Parish Sanitarium. He stated that they should have someone pretty soon. He told the Council that Senator Long had authored a bill on blighted property that would allow the parish to construct and to deal with blighted property in the Parish.

President Nowlin also stated that the Capital Outlay Bill, House Bill #2 included a line item of \$100,000.00 for the Coco Bed Road construction. He stated that it was not law yet but should become law in twenty days if it is not vetoed by the Governor.

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

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

Motion Passed

Attest:

Rodney Bedgood, Chairman

Catherine Hamilton,
Interim Council Clerk