

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

July 15, 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, July 15, 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. Nick Verret and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Aaron Johnson.

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

There was absent: None.

Chairman Bedgood then asked if there were any visitors who would like to speak. He then recognized Mrs. Gayle Jones of the Children Youth Planning Board who asked the Council to appoint Ms. Tamaria Johnson to the Youth Planning Board.

Chairman Bedgood then recognized Ms. Gloria Davis who requested to remain a member of the Library board.

Relative to this, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Aaron Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in special and legal session convened, does hereby amend the agenda to add adopting a resolution appointing Ms. Tamaria Johnson to the Children Youth Planning Board.

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

On motion by Mr. Aaron Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in special and legal session convened, does hereby adopt a resolution appointing Ms. Tamaria Johnson to the Children Youth Planning Board.

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

There were no public comments.

On motion by Mr. Paige, duly seconded by Mr. 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, June 17, 2013.

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

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

Motion Passed

The presentation for Mrs. Izeola Charles was given to Ms. Sharon Harris to present to Mrs. Charles.

On motion by Mr. Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby confirmed the appointment of Ms. Gloria Davis to the Natchitoches Parish Library Board of Directors.

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 Page	<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 confirmed Parish President Rick Nowlin and City of Natchitoches Mayor Posey appointment to the El Camino East/West 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 Bedgood 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. An ordinance setting forth procedural rules for The Natchitoches Parish Council meetings; providing for definitions; rules of procedures; disorderly conduct; penalties; enforcement; individuals with disabilities; and providing for citizen participation.
- b. An ordinance repealing ordinance #08-15 of 2011, establishing a maximum load limit of five (5) tons on the last bridge (Mayou's Bayou Bridge) located on Parish Road #449, the Allen-Marthaville Road, starting at the Allen end.

On motion by Mr. Paige, duly seconded by Mr. LaCour, 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	X__	___	__-	___
Councilman LaCour	__X_	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	__X_	___	__-	___
Councilman Johnson	__X_	___	___	___
Councilman Salter	__X_	___	__-	___

Motion Passed

Ms. Precious Barber and Mr. Randy Stelly gave their views on the conduct and citizen participation at the Natchitoches Parish Council meetings and the Chairman along with the Council answered the concerns that were presented to them on this ordinance. After several comments, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Paige, duly seconded by Mr. 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	X__	___	__-	___
Councilman LaCour	__X_	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	__X_	___	__-	___
Councilman Johnson	__X_	___	___	___
Councilman Salter	__X_	___	__-	___

Motion Passed

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

On motion by Mr. Bedgood, duly seconded by Mr. LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby table the ordinance setting forth procedural rules for the Natchitoches Parish Council meetings.

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

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

Motion Passed

On motion by Mr. Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does adopt the ordinance repealing ordinance #08-15 of 2011, establishing a maximum load limit of (50 tons on the last bridge (Mayou's Bayou Bridge) located on Parish Road #449, the Allen-Marthaville Raod, starting at the Allen end.

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

On motion by Mr. Paige, duly seconded by Mr. LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby introduce an ordinance reducing the load limit on the Clark Road Bridge at Bayou Bourbeaux to 5 tons.

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 introduce an ordinance reducing the speed limit on P.R. #582, the Bethany Road to 25 mph.

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

Chairman Bedgood then stated that the next item on the agenda was to consider adopting a resolution authorizing the President to execute a contract with Mid South Construction Supply, LLC and LADOTD for state Project Nos. H.0066557 and H.009760.

After a brief discussion, Assistant District Attorney George Celles recommended that Parish Council amend the wording of this resolution to prevent any future problems with the signing of any necessary paperwork.

On motion by Mr. Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Johnson, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby amend the resolution authorizing the Parish President to execute the contract and any and all necessary documents related to LADOTD State Project Nos. H.006557 and H. 009760.

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 this, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt a resolution authorizing the Parish President to execute the contract and any and all necessary documents related to LADOTD State Project Nos. H.006557 and H. 009760.

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 Bedgood then stated that the next item on the agenda was to consider approval of the Parish Head Start Program Re-competition Application and authorize the President to make any adjustment necessary for the submission of the application. Relative to this, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Salter, duly seconded by Mr. Johnson, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby approve the Parish Head Start Program Re-competition Application and authorize the President to make any adjustment necessary for the submission of the application.

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

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

Motion Passed

Chairman Bedgood then stated that the next agenda item was to hire a Council Clerk. He stated that the Committee had recommended two persons: Ms. Natosha Johnson-Payne and Ms. Sheryl Frederick. After a brief discussion, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby hire Ms. Sheryl Frederick as the new Council Clerk.

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

Then the Council went into a brief discussion concerning salary. Mr. Salter stated that he felt the Clerk should start off at \$35,000 annually with a 90 day probationary period. Relative to this, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby add to the agenda approving the starting salary of the new Council Clerk, Ms. Sheryl Frederick at \$35,000 annually with a 90 day probationary period.

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

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

Motion Passed

On motion by Mr. Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby approve the starting salary of the new Council Clerk, Ms. Sheryl Frederick at \$35,000 annually with a 90 day probationary period.

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

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

Motion Passed

Chairman Bedgood then recognized Mr. Nick Verret Director of Public Works, Mr. Verret who presented his monthly report and updated the Council on the status of the overlay for the Plantation Point Road.

Chairman Bedgood then recognizes Ms. Sharon Harris, OCS/Head Start Executive Director, who stated that their main focus was getting the Re-competition application submitted.

Chairman Bedgood then recognizes Ms. Debbie Miley, Parish Treasurer, who stated that she would be presenting a budget revision at a later date. Ms. Miley also discussed the reports that were presented and asked if anyone had any questions.

Chairman Bedgood then recognized Parish President Rick Nowlin who reported on the Live Oak Building renovations that was going to cost about \$10,000. He also reported that there are some voltage problems in the Court House building. Parish President Rick Nowlin also stated that there is an opening on the Tourist Commission due to a resignation of a Board Member. He also told the council that he and Mr. Verret had a meeting with ADA concerning the highway.

Chairman Bedgood then recognized Mr. Mark Thomas, CPA of Johnson and Cunningham, who told the Council that he was in attendance to present the audit report for 2012. He explained to the Council there job as it relate to auditing the Council funds. After explaining the how the audit works, he told the Council had two findings, one was an internal issue and the other was a compliance issue. He stated that the internal issue was CSBG and the other was going over the bid law with hauling and tacking. He also stated that the going concern issue had been removed.

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

On motion by Mr. LaCour, duly seconded by Mr. Johnson, 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 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

Attest:

Rodney Bedgood, Chairman

Catherine Hamilton,
Interim Council Clerk