

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

August 19, 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, August 19, 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 Councilman Chris Paige.

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 Dr. Sue Weaver, Chairman, Economic Development Advisory Commission.

Dr. Sue Weaver briefly introduced her committee and discussed the committee recommendations for the Economic Development within our Parish. This committee has come up with ideas and recommendation on how we can attract new businesses to our Parish. She handed out a detailed binder to each Councilman to read. The committee recommended that the 7 entities come together to appoint a committee, not the present board, but new members of the Parish to move forward so this project can begin in 2014.

Chairman Bedgood then recognized Mr. Randy Stelly who wanted to express how he enjoyed working with professional people on this Board. Mr. Stelly wanted to make it known that it was a pleasure for him to be given the opportunity to work with a group of professional people on this Commission. This shows a great example with Parish Government, the way they can come together and work together to create a solid foundation to help the Parish, Mr. Stelly expressed.

There were no public comments.

On motion by Mr. Chris Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Aaron Johnson, 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, July 15, 2013.

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. John Salter, duly seconded by Mr. Ricky LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt the resolution confirming the appointment of Ms. Mary Jones to the Natchitoches Parish 911 Communication District.

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 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 reducing the load limit on the Clark Road Bridge at Bayou Bourbeaux to 5 tons.
- b. An ordinance reducing the speed limit on P.R. #582, the Bethany Road, to 25 mph.

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	<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

Mr. Nick Verret gave his reports on the status on the two Ordinances with discussion with Mr. Paige and other Council members about later recommending changing the tonnage due to the businesses in the area to accommodate the 18 wheelers with a carriage of 80,000 pounds. After a lengthy discussion, the following action was taken:

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. Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Johnson, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby adopt Ordinance #8 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 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. Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. Salter, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does adopt Ordinance #9 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 Johnson	<u>X</u>	___	___	___
Councilman Salter	<u>X</u>	___	___	___
Councilman Bedgood	<u>X</u>	___	___	___
Councilman LaCour	<u>X</u>	___	___	___
Councilman Paige	<u>X</u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

On motion by Mr. Ricky LaCour, duly seconded by Mr. Aaron Johnson, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby introduce Ordinance #10 reducing the speed limit on Emmanuel Road to 25 mph.

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

On motion by Mr. Aaron Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. Ricky LaCour, that they Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt resolution congratulating Ms. Corrine Young on her 38 years of retirement with the Parish of Natchitoches.

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. Chris Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Ricky LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt a resolution confirming the appointment of Mr. Greg Burke to the Natchitoches Parish Tourist Commission 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 Bedgood then stated that the next item on the agenda was to consider authorizing the advertisement for sealed bid proposals for the collection of Solid Waste in Natchitoches Parish.

Relative to this, a lengthy discussion was done on the requirements and type of services that will be needed or that will be suitable for the residents. After this discussion, 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, does hereby authorize the advertisement for sealed bids proposals for the collection of Solid Waste in Natchitoches Parish.

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 adopting a resolution declaring the old law books as surplus and authorizing the disposal of the said books.

After a brief discussion on this the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Chris Paige, duly seconded by Mr. Aaron Johnson, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt a resolution declaring the old law books as surplus and authorize the disposal of the said books.

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 Bedgood then stated that the next item on the agenda was to consider adopting an Ordinance to amend the Parish 2013 Consolidated Budget.

The Council went into a brief discussion concerning the budget. Relative to this, the following action was taken:

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 amend the agenda to change the wording of adopt an Ordinance to amend the Parish 2013 Consolidated Budget to Introduce an Ordinance to amend the Parish 2013 Consolidated Budget.

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. Ricky LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt the introduction of **Ordinance #12-2013** amending the Parish 2013 Consolidated Budget.

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 authorizing the advertisement of seeking sealed bid proposals for all insurance of the Parish of Natchitoches. Relative to this, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Ricky LaCour, duly seconded by Mr. Aaron Johnson, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby authorize the advertisement seeking sealed bid proposals for all the insurance of the Parish of Natchitoches.

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 Bedgood then stated that the next agenda item was to consider adopting a resolution authorizing the President to sign the necessary forms to submit a grant to the Louisiana Government Assistance Program for the Kisatchie Community Center in the amount of \$10,000 for repairs to the building. After a brief discussion on this item, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Chris Paige, duly seconded by Mr. John Salter, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt a resolution authorizing the President to sign the necessary forms to submit the grant to the Louisiana Government Assistance Program for the Kisatchie Community Center in the amount of \$10,000.

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

Chairman Bedgood then stated that the next agenda item was to consider adopting a resolution authorizing the President to sign the necessary forms to submit a grant to the Louisiana Government Assistance Program for the Clear Lake Recreation and Community Center in the amount of \$20,000 to upgrade and repair the facility. After a brief discussion on this item the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. Chris Paige, duly seconded by Mr. John Salter, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt a resolution authorizing the President to sign the necessary forms to submit the grant to the Louisiana Government Assistance Program for the Clear Lake Recreation and Community Center in the amount of \$20,000.

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

Chairman Bedgood then stated the next agenda item was to discuss opening a Compactor Station at Readhimer. After a brief discussion on the item the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. John Salter duly seconded by Mr. Ricky LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby table this until a later date.

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 stated the next agenda item was to consider adopting a resolution confirming the re-appointment of Mr. Eddie Harrington to the Natchitoches Parish Tourist Commission. Relative to this, the following action was taken:

On motion by Mr. John Salter, duly seconded by Mr. Ricky LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt a resolution confirming the re-appointment of Mr. Eddie Harrington 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

Chairman Bedgood then recognized Mr. Nick Verret, Director of Public Works, who presented his monthly report and requested the Council to choose five (5) highest-priority roads in his district based on his personal observations and input from his constituents that needs improvement. Each of the twenty five (25) roads thus identified will be evaluated in the same manner as will be utilized in the development of the Parish-wide Road Priority System. Thus, this effort will serve as the starting of the Road Priority Program. These road names need to be given in the next 30 days. Also he stated that the funds had been received from the Plantation Point Homeowners Association. The Cedar Grove Street Improvements has begun and is scheduled to be completed by August 20th. After this extra work is completed, final

acceptance will be made and the project will be closed out. The Payne Subdivision process has been initiated for securing consultant services for grant administration and engineering for submittal of the LCDBG application by the November deadline.

Chairman Bedgood then recognizes Ms. Sharon Harris, OCS/Head Start Executive Director, who stated that her and Ms. Miley finally completed and submitted re-application for Head Start Friday night. In Conclusion, she expressed that she didn't know when they were going to hear from it, but it has been submitted. The Summer Feeding Program last day was August 2, 2013.

Chairman Bedgood then recognizes Ms. Debbie Miley, Parish Treasurer, who stated that the 2014 Budget has to be done for next month meeting. She also discussed the reports informing the Council that the prices of Ware's Correctional Center had gone up. They are asking the Parish to pay \$7,000 monthly for our inmates and \$7,000 for the City's. So the total will be \$14,000 monthly. The budget was already amended for \$12,000 to take care of this year, so this will stay the same. The \$12,000 will take care of the current month and September, due to the increase. They are asking for a deadline of September 1st, 2013 for the parishes to respond to their request. Ms. Miley also stated that we do not have the funds to continue to pay this amount that Ware is asking the Parish to pay each month for our inmates and the City's. Ms. Miley asked if anyone had any questions.

Mr. Nowlin stated that he would like to have a face to face meeting with the other Parishes to see exactly how they stand on this issue. He will be setting up a meeting after Labor Day with the other parishes, but until then we'll take one step at a time on this matter.

Chairman Bedgood then recognized Parish President Rick Nowlin who reported on the Children and Youth Planning Board. He asked if any of the Council members would like to attend those meetings as his representative. He stated that being on all these different boards are beginning to be overwhelming.

Mr. Nowlin also announced that this year's Step & Strut trail ride will be held on November 1-3, 2013 in Natchitoches Parish. He was notified by the Mayor of St. Landry Parish on this big event. This trail ride usually bring in around 12,000 to 15,000 people. The Sheriffs office will be security for this event.

Mr. Nowlin also reported that he will be in a meeting in Baton Rouge on Wednesday, August 21, 2013. He will be meeting with DHH on the Water standards for our state and he will also let DHH know we still do not have any sanitarians at our Health Unit and maybe by the end of the month one will be hired.

Mr. Nowlin, in conclusion, stated since Mrs. Corrine Young has retired he will be moving Ms. Jameica Bernestine into her old office. This move is recommended, since Ms. Bernestine works with HR functions and discussing medical, leave, and other private issues she needs a private area.

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

On motion by Mr. Ricky Lacour, duly seconded by Mr. Rodney Bedgood, 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 Bedgood	<u>X</u>	—	—	—
Councilman Johnson	<u>X</u>	—	—	—
Councilman Paige	<u>X</u>	—	—	—
Councilman Salter	<u>X</u>	—	—	—

Motion Passed

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rodney Bedgood, Chairman

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