

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF  
NATCHITOCHEs, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN AT A PUBLIC  
HEARING HELD, MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2013.

5:30 p.m.

The Natchitoches Parish Government of the Parish of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, met in Public Hearing in their regular meeting place, the Parish Council Board Room of the Natchitoches Parish Courthouse, on Thursday, October 17, 2013 at five-thirty (5:30) p.m.

The invocation was given by Mr. Verret, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Johnson.

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

There were absent: None.

Chairman Bedgood then read the next item on the agenda for discussion and that was to conduct a Public Hearing to hear comments from the citizens of the Parish relative to the new contract for Solid Waste Collection and Disposal.

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

Chairman Bedgood recognizes Parish President, Rick Nowlin, who ask the Council if Mr. Nick Verret can give a brief summary on the proposal that was given out for bid proposal. Mr. Verret then explained from the beginning of the process which began on August 26, 2013 and he mailed out proposals to five (5) Solid Waste Companies and they were asked to attend a pre-proposal meeting on September 11, 2013 and 4 companies did attend that meeting. The deadline for the bids were October 7, 2013 and the bids were opened on October 7, 2013 and only two (2) companies had submitted and those two companies were Progressive Waste Company and Ward's Waste Services.

Mr. Verret went on to thank both companies for their bid proposals and both companies were in attendance at the Public Hearing. Progressive bided on all 3 parts of the bid proposal Curbside from Bags, Curbside Collection from Carts, and Collection from Parish Operated Bin Sites. Ward's Waste Services only bided on Curbside Collection from Bags and Curbside Collection from Carts. If the Parish would have went with Curbside bags or carts, Ward's Waste Services would have been the lowest company for those bids proposals.

Mr. Verret then went on to explain that both company had exceeded the Parish Revenue on the Curbside Bags and Carts. and the current contractor Progressive had just bided a little under the Parish Revenue on the Collection from Parish-Operated Bin Sites.

Relative to this, a lengthy discussion was done on the Solid Waste Proposals, Mr. Paige recognizes Mr. David Dollar who sitting in the audience, and Mr. Dollar made some important comments about the condition of the parish and he hope for improvements within the Parish. Mr. Dollar, stated he was in favor of keeping the Parish Bin Cites, and that he wasn't in favor for Curbside and he knew that the Council had a tough decision to make and he wishes them well.

Chairman Bedgood then recognizes Gabe Ward, owner of Ward's Waste Services, and he talked about the curbside pick up and he wanted the Council to know if a mail truck can get through the parish roads so can he. He could accommodate the parish residents that do have bad road due to changing weather conditions. He also ask, Mr. Nick Verret and Parish President Rick Nowlin, to actually go out and do a House count on the residents that actually need services. He said some of those residents they might be counted in the House count can be deer leases or camp houses, that wouldn't need curbside services. Mr. Ward, said this would give the Parish a more accurate count than just relying on the utility company and tax assessors count.

Chairman Bedgood then recognizes Mr. of Progressive Waste Company and he just wanted to thank the Parish for allowing Progressive to service the Parish of Natchitoches over the years. He would be willing to help out in any area he could that would help the Parish.

After both Waste companies had spoken, the council then discussed matters between each other, asking questions to Mr. Nick Verret, and then Chairman Bedgood, stated, they can be there all night and nothing was going to change, that they had no choice but to remain with the Parish Bin-Operated Bin cites, with future changes to be made with those operated cites. He stated, that he was totally against curbside. With this being said he ask for a motion to close the hearing and adjourn and vote on it Monday night, October 21, 2013 at 5:30pm at the regular Council meeting.

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

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> | ___ | ___    | ___     |

ATTEST:

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

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