

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATCHITOCHE PARISH COUNCIL
PARISH OF NATCHITOCHE, STATE OF LOUISIANA
TAKEN A REGULAR MEETING HELD, MONDAY,
 October 21, 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, October 21, 2013 at five o'clock p.m. (5:00) for a Public Hearing on the 2014 Budget and 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 Rodney Bedgood who stated that the Parish was ready for the transaction of business.

The invocation was given by Pastor Roland Smith and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilman 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 Dr. Brett Ferguson, Coroner for Natchitoches Parish. Mr. Ferguson, wanted to introduce himself to the Natchitoches Parish Council and let the Parish of Natchitoches know the different programs that the Coroner's office offers such as Sexual Assault Investigations, Mental Health, Death Investigations, and Educational Services, and he name more. He gave a brief review of all the programs that were offered.

There were no 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, September 16, 2013.

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

On motion by Mr. Chris Paige , duly seconded by Mr. LaCour , that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt a resolution congratulating Mrs. Catherine Hamilton on her 32 years of retirement with the Parish of Natchitoches.

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

The Parish Council along with Mrs. Hamilton took a group picture, with her receiving her plague from the Parish Council and Parish President Mr. Rick Nowlin.

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 item:

- a. An ordinance raising the posted load limit on the Clark Road Bridge over Bayou Bourbeaux to "15-25", that is 15 tons for two axle vehicles and 25 tons for multi-axle vehicles.

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> __	___	__	___

Motion Passed

Mr. Nick Verret gave his report on the status of the Clark Road Bridge over Bayou Bourbeaux after discussion with the Council members, 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. Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session convened, does hereby adopt Ordinance #_13-2013 raising the posted load limit on the Clark Road Bridge over Bayou Bourbeaux to "15-25", that is 15 tons for two axle vehicles and 25 tons for multi-axle vehicles.

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> __	___	__	___

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On motion by Mr. LaCour, duly seconded by Mr. Johnson, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does adopt Ordinance #14 adopting the 2014 Budget.

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 the next item on the agenda was to Adopt Ordinance #15-2013 authorizing the Parish President to execute the contract and any and all necessary documents related with the approved Contractor by the Council for the collecting and disposing of Solid Waste.

On motion by Mr. Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby table Ordinance #15-2013 authorizing the Parish President to execute the contract and any and all necessary documents related with the approve Contractor by the Council for the collecting and disposing of Solid Waste.

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

Parish President, Mr. Rick Nowlin, requested to amend the agenda to add Introducing the 2014 Capital Improvements Budget .

On motion by Mr. Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. Paige that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in special and legal session convened, does hereby amend the agenda to add the Introduction of the 2014 Capital Improvements Budget .

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

After a lengthy discussion on the topic of the Capital Improvements Budget, Ms. Janice Perry stood to get clarity on the status of the Coco Bed Road project. She wanted the Council to know that she was very disappointed in the Council, and she and others thought that the Council could get things taken care better than the old Police Jury could, but she doesn't see a change. She felt that the Coco Bed Road project has been going on for fifty years and still nothing has been

done. The Council assured Ms. Perry they voted to submit the application, but it was out of their hands after that. It has to be on the State Bond Commission Agenda in order to get approved for the funds. She explained that she always see Northwestern State University, Hwy 6 Projects, and others, but nothing for CoCo Bed Road. Parish President Rick Nowlin, informed Ms. Perry those are State Projects and they are going to be take priority over Parish projects.

Parish President Rick Nowlin, assured Ms. Perry that if the CoCo Bed Road didn't make it on the State Bond Commission Agenda, that the Parish will re-apply for the Grant before November 1, 2013.

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 Introducing an Ordinance for the 2014 Capital Improvements Budget.

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 stated the next item on the agenda was to adopt a resolution authorizing the Parish President to execute a 90 days extension between the Parish of Natchitoches and Progressive Waste for the Solid Waste and Disposal Contract for the Parish of Natchitoches if necessary.

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 a resolution authorizing the Parish President to execute a 90 days extension between the Parish of Natchitoches and Progressive Waste for the Solid Waste and Disposal Contract for the Parish of Natchitoches if necessary.

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 confirming the re-appointment to the following Boards/Commissions. The Natchitoches Parish Fire District 6 Board.

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 resolution confirming the re-appointment of Mr. Johnny Possoit to the Natchitoches Fire District 6 Board.

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 a resolution confirming the appointment of Mr. Van LaCour to the Natchitoches Parish Planning & Zoning Commission.

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 Mr. Van LaCour to the Natchitoches Parish Planning & Zoning 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 LaCour	<u> X </u>	___	___	___

Motion Passed

Parish President, Mr. Rick Nowlin, requested to amend the agenda to add the appointments of Mr. Emile Metoyer and Mr. John T. Batten to the Water District 2 Commission.

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 to add Mr. Emile Metoyer and Mr. John T. Batten to the Water District 2 Commission .

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. Aaron Johnson, duly seconded by Mr. Ricky LaCour, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in special and legal session convened, does hereby adopt a resolution to adopt Mr. Emile Metoyer and Mr. John T. Batten to the Water District 2 Commission.

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 Authorizing the Parish President to file an application with the Louisiana Division of Facility Planning and Control, Capital Outlay Section for the Year of 2014-2015.

Relative to this, a short discussion was done on this item. 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 adopt a resolution authorizing the Parish President to file and an application with the Louisiana Division of Facility Planning and Control, Capital Outlay Section for the year of 2014-2015.

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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 Introducing an Ordinance to purchase the Red River Mill Credit Union in order to renovate it to be the Campti Library Branch.

At this time Chairman Bedgood recognizes Mr. Bob Black, Parish Librarian to discuss the details on the purchase of this property for a Library branch for the town of Campti. Mr. Black stated that the purchase price for the Red River Credit Union was for \$66,000 and the building appraised for \$71,000. Mr. Black said it will take three employees to man the library including a branch manager and two other employees. Mr. Black also stated that the Library do have the money to purchase the building and that there will have to have some renovations done on the building. Architect George Minturn gave a report on some of the renovations that will have to be done especially the replacing the flat roof and other minor items. the estimated cost for renovations are around \$214,000.

Relative to this, a long discussion was done on this item. After this discussion, 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 and Ordinance to Introduce the purchasing of the Red River Mill Credit Union in order to renovate it to be the Campti Library Branch.

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 recognized Campti Councilman Travis Guin who expressed how badly needed of the Library. He said the money is being spent on something that is much needed. He again thank the Council for their vote to introduce an Ordinance to purchase the building.

Chairman Bedgood stated the next item on the agenda was to adopt a resolution of support for Passenger Rail Service across North Louisiana.

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 supporting a Passenger Rail Service across North Louisiana.

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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 stated the next item on the agenda was to adopt a resolution authorizing the Parish President to execute a contract with the Local Road Safety Program signing Project, LADOTD State Project No.H.009760.

On motion by Mr. John Salter, duly seconded by Mr. Chris Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt a resolution authorizing the Parish President to execute a contract with the Local Road Safety Program signing Project, LADOTD State Project No. H.009760.

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 stated the next item on the agenda was to adopt a resolution for the Parish of Natchitoches to continue participation in the Federal Bridge Replacement Program.

On motion by Mr. John Salter, duly seconded by Mr. Aaron Johnson, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt a resolution for the Parish of Natchitoches to continue participation in the Federal Bridge Replacement Program.

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 stated the next item on the agenda was to adopt a resolution making final acceptance of the Local Road Safety Program signing project, State Project No. H.006557.

On motion by Mr. John Salter, duly seconded by Mr. Aaron Johnson, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt a resolution making final acceptance of Local Road Safety Program signing project No. H.006557.

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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 stated the next item on the agenda was to adopt a resolution to accept the donation of Lot 226 in Payne Subdivision from Mr. Bernard Johnson and Mr. Ralph Ingram. This property will be used for a recreation area for the subdivision.

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 the resolution to accept the donation of Lot 226 in Payne Subdivision from Mr. Bernard Johnson and Mr. Ralph Ingram. Both parties was absent for answers to questions the Council had of them.

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>	___	__	___

Chairman Bedgood then recognized Mr. Nick Verret, Director of Public Works, who presented his monthly report and gave a status of Ongoing Projects such as Payne Subdivision. The contracts were finalized with GNF Management and with Cothren, Graff, and Smoak for the development of the CDBG application. He gave the status of the Shady Grove South Bridges over Middle Creek the only remaining repairs on Bridge #3 are the injection of epoxy material into cracks in two concrete channel sections when all the repairs are completed the bridge can be posted at "25-40."

Mr. Verret stated that Councilman Ricky LaCour submitted four roads in his district for consideration as priorities for rehabilitation utilizing funds from the DOTD "Right-Sizing" program, and these roads are currently being evaluated by the Director of Public Works.

Chairman Bedgood then recognizes Ms. Sharon Harris, OCS/Head Start Executive Director, stated that the Headstarts grant has been extended to June 14, 2014. Ms. Sharon Harris, explained that Head Start must re-submit an application for extension for December 1, 2014 and will ask for approval to do so at the November, Council meeting.

Chairman Bedgood then recognizes Ms. Debbie Miley, Parish Treasurer, Ms. Miley then went on to discuss her reports giving status updates on the 2013 Active Bookings for Inmates & Outstanding Coroners/Inmate Expenses.

Chairman Bedgood then recognized Parish President Rick Nowlin who had no report to give.

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

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On motion by Mr. Chris Paige, duly seconded by Mr. John Salter, 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 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

Attest:

Rodney Bedgood, Chairman

Sheryl Frederick,
Council Clerk