

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATCHITOCHE PARISH COUNCIL
PARISH OF NATCHITOCHE, STATE OF LOUISIANA
TAKEN A REGULAR MEETING HELD, Monday,
May 15, 2017
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, May 15, 2017 for a Regular of Natchitoches Parish Council meeting at five (5:30) o'clock p.m. and for the Natchitoches Parish Council Meeting.

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

The invocation was given by Councilman Rodney Bedgood and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilman Chris Paige.

After the roll call there were present Chairman Patsy Ward Hoover and Council: Rodney Bedgood, Doug de Graffenried, Chris Paige, and Russell Rachal.

Absent: None.

Chairman Hoover stated the next item was for the adoption of the agenda with the added amendment. The added agenda amendments items are:

1. Council To consider approving Resolution providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the Special Elections held in The Parish of Natchitoches, State Of Louisiana, And Road District No. 40 of The Parish of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, on Saturday, March 25, 2017, to authorize the levy of Special Taxes therein.
2. Council to consider approving the Natchitoches Times as the official Parish Journal.
3. Council to consider authorizing the Parish President to issue and RFP for mosquito surveillance and Control Program proposals.
4. Council to consider moving agenda item number 18 to be after the approving of the agenda.

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by Councilman Doug de Graffenried that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby amend the agenda.

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

Ayes:	Councilman Paige
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes:	Councilman Rachal
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

Chairman, Hoover then recognized Dr. Chris Maggio the 19th President of Northwestern State University. Parish President, Rick Nowlin, read a Proclamation that was given to Dr. Chris Maggio from the Parish of Natchitoches congratulating him from being chosen as the 19th President of Northwestern State University. Dr. Maggio accepted this award and gave a brief thank you to the Parish on giving him this award. Pictures were taken with Dr. Maggio with the Parish President and Natchitoches

Parish Council. Councilman Paige asked Dr. Maggio to wait until they make it official.

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by Councilman Russell Rachal that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby approves a Proclamation recognizing Dr. Chris Maggio as the 19th president of Northwestern State University.

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

Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

Chairman, Hoover stated the next item was for the adoption of the agenda.

On motion by Councilman Russell Rachal, duly seconded by Councilman Doug de Graffenried that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt the agenda.

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

Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover
Ayes: Councilman Paige

Motion Passed

Chairman, Hoover then asked for visitors at this time.

At this time Ms. Leslie Ramian, resident of the Miller Farm road began to update the Council on the condition of the Miller Farm road. Ms. Ramian inform the council presently there is nine homes on the Miller farm road, and the road has now been in terrible condition it should be 18 feet to pass safely but it's currently around 16 feet. If thirteen more households be developed on the Miller Farm road, the road that is currently there will not be able to handle that type of traffic and the water drainage is terrible and if there comes heavy rains with the construction of new homes this probably will flood their homes that is currently there. The current road doesn't meet the require standards and the drainage, again is terrible. Ms. Ramian and other residents wanted to know, "Can the Parish bring the road up to standards, put some pavement down, or to widen it, put a better base down, or even stop giving out permits for development until this road be fixed so we can continue to travel up and down it safely?"

There was discussion on this matter between Parish President, Rick Nowlin, Public Works Director, Nick Verret, Planning and Zoning Director, Greg Lemoine, and Parish Council along with the residents. No one seems to know the answers to the residents questions so Chairman, Hoover, made a recommendation that the residents get with Parish President, Rick Nowlin and him get with the Parish Attorney to figure out exactly what is the solution to the questions that was being asked.

Ms. Doris Singleton, alderman from Clarence, LA, wanted to know, "Why nothing is being done to fix Clark Road and for the drainage problem on that road?" Ms. Singleton expressed every time a hard rain comes the ditch behind her house rises and floods her house. Mr. Verret, stated, "We've just finished some extensive repairs to Clark Road." Ms. Singleton informed him, "No, that's the old stuff, it's just like a rub board, that road has never been overlaid. That stuff you put down is almost gone because it wasn't hot." Mr. Verret went on to tell her about the conditions of failed paved roads and there is no monies to do any type of overlays of these roads, including Clark Road.

Councilman, Rachal asked, "Is any part of that road is included in the incorporated Village of Clarence?" Ms. Singleton, replied, "I really don't know." Councilman, Rachal replied, "Part of that is you-all responsibility." Ms. Singleton, replied, "We've responsible for fixing that road?" Councilman Rachal, replied, "The part in the incorporated Village, you have too." Ms. Singleton, replied, "The mayor must not know that." They told Ms. Singleton the portion from Hwy 84 to north of Greenville Drive is in the corporate limits of Clarence, that portion only is the responsibility of the Village of Clarence. So, Ms. Singleton, stated, "So we're responsible for taking care of the road?"

Councilman Paige, replied, "No, don't let her leave with that, the biggest part of Clark road is the Parish responsibility and a small portion is within the corporate limits of Clarence." Chairman, Hoover, told Ms. Singleton, "To get with your mayor so you-all could apply for some Grants to help with road."

Alondia Jefferson, resident of Coco Bed road in Cloutierville wanted to know, "Could get a date on when work will be started on the Coco Bed road?" Mr. Verret, replied, "I cannot give you a date. I'm doing my best to get things done. A few weeks I just gave Mr. Nowlin a list of all the Special Project. There were 28 projects on it and last Friday, I updated the list, now it's 43 Special projects on the list, that I have to be involved in, it's a matter of days, if I just get some time to concentrate on that project, I can have the plans completed and submitted to Facility Planning."

Ms. Jefferson, made it known that she had spoken with the Project Manager for this project and he said there wasn't anything on his desk and he was waiting on Parish Government. Mr. Verret, replied, "That's what I was telling you." Ms. Jefferson, replied, "I just don't want this to drag on for another year." Mr. Verret, replied, "I hope not."

Ms. Jefferson kept saying we just want our road fixed and completed we keep hearing the same thing over and over again. and Mr. Verret, stated, "Other than you-all, probably there is no one else in the room would like to see this project done more than myself. I do want to remind you that we was shut down by Facility Planning for several months waiting on them to approve our design pros. I do want to remind everyone of that."

Councilman, Chris Paige wanted to ask a question. "With Coco Bed and Payne Subdivision, with money being up here in the bank, the governor is moving money left to right, they're taking money and if we don't get started on these particular two projects, common sense tells you if you don't move on it the Governor or somebody is going to come in here and take that money. I know you said you have 25 or 43 projects, but we don't have anymore State money in the bank on any other project, but those two, this have been 2, 4, 5, I don't know, maybe 6 years of the same answers we hear time to time again. The potholes in this parish have gone from pot holes to craters, these people can't get out of their driveways. We talk about scarifying, but it doesn't look like we're going in the right direction, when we talk about

scarifying of tearing an asphalt road and turning it into gravel." Councilman, Paige continued to talk about the roads and the conditions of the roads and

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that there is money in the bank from the State to fix these particular projects and we keep going back and forth every time we meet, with this. Councilman, Paige, stated, "It doesn't take a rocket scientist to know that the money is not going to sit in there forever, now come on."

Parish President, Nowlin, was recognized and stated, "The Parish has two choices, The Parish is doing the Planning, because we don't have the cash match to get the State money, the only way we can get the cash match for your road is not to maintain some of the other roads in the Parish, we tried to do the engineering work, there are two ways to do that, we can do it in house using one of our employees or we spend money hiring a consultant engineering spending three times the cost, which we don't have the money to do, so it's sort of between a rock and a hard place. If the Parish Council, says, "Rick, we're going to hire a consultant to do that Engineering", wonderful, we're going to take three times as much money out of our Highway budget to work on Clark road or Pardee road or some of these other roads." Parish President went on to discuss that later on they have an agenda item to create a part time Engineer to work on projects like this without having to do other duties, except just for Engineering and I think that will take care of the real solution."

Councilman, Bedgood, asked, "Why do the money has to come out of the Highway Department? "I've talked with several Parishes around and none of them do that, they do it on the project money, they don't take anything from the Highway Department. That Engineer does on a project basis." Parish, President stated, "We can do that, the Parish match on for Coco Bed road is approximately \$94,000 so if we're willing to put \$94,000 in and we can take the money out to do the Engineering, but we don't have the \$94,000 to put in, unless we take it out of our Road Maintenance, we certainly don't have it in the General Fund, and we can't take it from the Health Unit Fund, that's where we are."

Mr. Verret was recognized and he wanted to asked Mr. Bedgood, "When you spoke with the other folks are those programs that are funded within the Parish or Programs that requires matching money? For example, if there have been Parish funds available to make some of these improvements, then certainly the money available for the projects will be utilized for the Engineering." Councilman Bedgood replied, "I was trying to get a grip on it, so I'll know, and nobody I've talked to has even a part-time Engineer." Mr. Verret, replied, "That's correct, but they are paying three times to four times the money." Mr. Bedgood, replied, "They say they just do it out of the money that is there from the Project." Mr. Verret, replied, "That can be done, but it gives you less money to spend on the ground." Councilman, Bedgood, replied, "I understand that, I understand that."

Ms. Alondia Jefferson, stated, "So, I'm confused, so you say you-all don't have the local match for the project?" Parish President, replied, "We never have had it, matching money, we committed, the State asked for a commitment on the matching funds and we negotiated, rather than putting up cash, but we do have to put up some cash, but to save the amount of cash we have and not take away from other road projects, we were going to do the Engineering. Now, if this Council wants to adopt a policy that we're not going to this, that we're not going to do road Engineering in-house, then we will just spend that money and we'll stop doing some of the maintenance on the other roads so we can hire a consulting Engineer to do the plans for Payne Subdivision and CoCo Bed road, it's one way of the other, I'm okay with either way. I thought we were doing it the prudent way in trying to save back as much money to maintain the other roads as we could

and if we do create the position of Engineer so Mr. Verret wouldn't have been involved with the maintenance of roads, it's up to the Council what they want to do, it's Council decision."

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Councilman Paige, asked Ms. Jefferson, "So you're no where near of understanding?, because I see the frustration on your face, to where you're saying that, you still don't know if Coco Bed is going to be fixed." Mr. Verret, replied, "I think I answered her questions, but I just can't give her a date, that's the bottom line, I can't give her a date, otherwise, I think I answered her questions." Ms. Jefferson, replied, "So we don't know if it's going to be done this year?" Mr. Verret, replied, "We hopefully it would, I don't see any reasons why it won't be." the money will disappear, we don't want them to snatch it back." Ms. Jefferson went on to explain, she just wants something done and it would not go into another year, she stated, "I've been doing this since, 2009 even under the Old Police Jury." Mr. Verret, replied, "At least, now you have a project, under the old Police Jury, you didn't have a project." Ms. Jefferson, replied, "Well, I appreciate that very much, but we still want to make sure it will get done, we don't want to be forgotten about and Councilman Rachal, wanted to know for clarification purposes, "Is the hold up the money or the plans have not been completed and submitted? What is the hold up?" Mr. Verret, replied, "The plans hasn't been completed or submitted." Councilman, Rachal, replied, "Is this is one of your 43 special projects, you're working on right now?" Mr. Verret, replied, "Yes, Sir." Councilman Rachal, replied, "Are they prioritized, Can this one be moved up to higher on your list?, Because every meeting we're going round and round, and people is being told the same thing over and over again, she's in my District and I represent her, and I don't feel like we're representing our constituents as we been elected to, because it's out of our hands, if this is a problem that hasn't been turned over yet, then I'm saying, jump on and do it, because it's been going on long enough and I'm sick of it."

Mr. Verret was recognized and replied, "Mr. Rachal, it was in your hands, this body three months ago had an opportunity to put into play something that would have allowed me the time to work on this project."

Councilman Bedgood begin to express how resident felt about the creating of new a position when they can't even get their roads fixed.

and discussing continued about the salary of the position. Mr. Verret, replied, "Mr. Bedgood have you looked at what was submitted for the proposed budget amendment for the Engineering on Hampton Road?" Councilman Bedgood, replied, "No." Mr. Verret, replied, "\$69,000 is what we're estimating just for plan preparation and that's for only one project." Councilman Bedgood, replied, "I understand that." Councilman Bedgood, asked, "Who put up the money for Hampton Road?" Everyone replied, "The Red River Waterway for the construction." Councilman Paige, stated, "We talk and beat this up, we haven't done one project in this Parish, we talk about what we didn't vote on three months ago, It's just, don't make no sense it's not working, we sit here we have money and we can't get the project off the ground. If, would say under the Police Jury, we would have fixed the roads, then you say, "Well, it will be fixed under a substandard road, but the people would love a substandard road then no fixing roads at all. People can't get out of their driveway, I got a lady right here that sent me a picture that she got stuck backing out of her driveway on Johnny Dolittle Road over there in the Robeline area, just backed out on the road and dropped into a gully, where it washed out, we can't put gravel out. It doesn't take an Engineer to go out there and put some gravel and dirt down to where people can get up and down the road, we have craters, People use to say, "I drove in the ditch to keep from hitting a pothole" now they

are driving in the ditch hitting potholes, this is ridiculous and we hear all these excuses and they have an answer, they have an answer."

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Parish President, replied, "I've heard a lot of complaints, but I haven't heard any solutions." Mr. Verret, was recognized and stated, "Mr. Paige, I take exceptions to your statements that we haven't done any projects. We spent LGAP money last year that we have done patching that required Engineering, we performed a project last year with money from the Kistachie National Park that required Engineering, we completed that project, we completed and under ceiling project on Johnson Chute Road, on the bridge abutments that required engineering, we have completed some projects." Mr. Verret, then went on to list other projects that on the books that are requiring Engineering. Chairman, Hoover, thanked Ms. Jefferson for coming. Councilman Rachal, passed some pictures around and he asked, "Madame Chair, Does it take an Engineer to fix these two projects here?" Madame Chair, answered, "No." Councilman Rachal, expressed, "We're only asking for some general maintenance, that's all we're asking for." Mr. Verret, replied, "You're talking about two things here, You're talking operations of the department, which obviously this would fall under and not Engineering. Councilman Rachal said we're only asking for General Maintenance of roads." Mr. Verret, replied, "No, you're asking for two things, Operational improvements, supervision of work getting done, scheduling and planning of work and completions of Engineering work, that's two things you're asking for."

Ms. Ida Fenton, a resident of Marthaville. She wanted to ask a question because she lives on a dirt road and she has some questions about funding and match money. Ms. Fenton wanted to thank Mr. Nowlin and Mr. Verret because they have been nice to her in the past, by just listening to her complaints and constructive criticism. Ms. Fenton also wanted to inform everyone she's sorry for the sales tax not passing, because some type of tax will need to be passed to get the roads passed. Ms. Fenton, explained, "I think there is another mind- set that is hindering us, and you just have to forgive me for this, Mr. Nowlin and Mr. Verret, the mind set that is hindering us is that we're waiting to get everything just right, and that maybe be a hinder, I'm not quite sure I should have put it like that. If we wait until we get everything we need, the roads will never get fixed."

Ms. Fenton expressed her concerns and offered ways to get something done to the roads and ditches. She expressed she knows dirt roads. She expressed the Parish needs to use the equipment that they have. Use the graders you have, the graders will cut the bushes. The bushes they have now this year will be trees next year. She even talked about the utility lines that are buried in the ditches. Ms. Fenton expressed a minimum of grading is needed to keep up on the roads. Ms. Fenton, asked, "Are we waiting until we can scoop out the ditches and put on a dump truck to haul it off, if so we're never going to get our ditches done." Mr. Verret, replied, "No, ma'am, you're right about that, but in some areas we can do ditch work with the graders and in some areas if we pulled all that material back into the roadway and we wind up getting that flash thunderstorm, that pop up thunderstorm kind of thing, we'll have a real mess out there because we're not always able to come behind it and put the gravel behind it." Chairman, Hoover stated, "Ms. Fenton if you can please take this suggestion, "Who is your Council person?" Mr. Bedgood, if you make a call to Mr. Bedgood and you-all set up an appointment with Mr. Verret and you-all sit together to see what you-all can come up with." Ms. Fenton, replied, "Ma'am, this is the first time I've asked to speak before the Council, the very first time, and I don't know how long I've been up here but I can wind it up real fast." Chairman,

Hoover, stated, "You have something else that you would like to say?" Ms. Fenton continued by saying don't tear up the whole road. Fenton even offered to come down and work for free if it pertain to the dirt roads. Mr. Hodgeson asked, "Can you drive a grader?" Ms. Fenton, replied, "I can be

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taught." The last thing Ms. Fenton wanted to talk about being that someone or some bodies are throwing trash all over the road.

Mr. John Hodgeson from Pardee road came to the podium and he wanted to say a couple of words. He wanted to let Mr. Verret know they done a good job on Pardee road, and he thanked him for it. Mr. Hodgeson wanted to let him know it's a bad spot just before you get to his house that need the grader to just smooth it out, he appreciated what was already done to the road.

Chairman Hoover stated the next item to adopt the minutes of the regular meeting of the Natchitoches Parish Council held Monday, April 17, 2017.

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by, Councilman Russell Rachal 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, April 17, 2017.

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

Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood

Motion Passed

Chairman Hoover stated the next agenda item is Council to consider a Resolution to scarify King Hill Road.

On motion by Councilman Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by, Councilman Russell Rachal that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt a Resolution to scarify King Hill Road.

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

Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Paige

Motion Passed

Chairman Hoover stated the next agenda item is Council to consider a Resolution to scarify Sisson Road.

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by, Councilman Russell Rachal that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt a Resolution to scarify Sisson Road.

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

Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried

Chairman Hoover stated the next agenda item is to conduct a public hearing to hear any and all comments or objections relative to the adoption of the following items:

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1. Council to consider adopting Ordinance 009-2017 do a quitclaim deed on Lot 1 and South half of Lot 2 of Block DA of Breda Addition from the Parish of Natchitoches to Mr. Robert Jackson, Sr. and to authorize the Parish President to sign the quitclaim deed.
2. Council to consider adopting Ordinance 006-2017 to amend and reordained Section 2-8 of the Parish Code of Ordinance. Requirements for the Parish Council meetings.
3. Council to consider adopting Ordinance 13-2017 to add Solid Waste Scale House Attendant and salary range to the job description in the Natchitoches Parish Personnel Manual.
4. Council to consider adopting Ordinance 14-2017 to remove the job requirements of Engineer and Engineer duties from the Director of Public Works job description.

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by Councilman Doug de Graffenried, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby open the public hearing to hear any and all comments or objections relative to the adoption of the following items:

1. Council to consider adopting Ordinance 009-2017 do a quitclaim deed on Lot 1 and South half of Lot 2 of Block DA of Breda Addition from the Parish of Natchitoches to Mr. Robert Jackson, Sr. and to authorize the Parish President to sign the quitclaim deed.
2. Council to consider adopting Ordinance 006-2017 to amend and reordained Section 2-8 of the Parish Code of Ordinance. Requirements for the Parish Council meetings.
3. Council to consider adopting Ordinance 13-2017 to add Solid Waste Scale House Attendant and salary range to the job description in the Natchitoches Parish Personnel Manual.
4. Council to consider adopting Ordinance 14-2017 to remove the job requirements of Engineer and Engineer duties from the Director of Public Works job description.

Motion Passed

There was no discussion on item 1. On item 2 Chairman, Hoover gave her reasons for having this agenda item. "We have working people and we as the Council complains that our meetings are too long and this will give our constituents the opportunity to speak

on non agenda items before the regular meeting and we all can go home in a timely manner so what we're talking about is having a pre-meeting at 5:00pm. and our regular meeting at 5:30 the pre-meeting is only for non agenda items."

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Councilman Rachal, replied, "I thought in the propose Ordinance you had out there was moving the non agenda items to the end of the meeting." Chairman, Hoover then recognized our Assistant District Attorney to explain the Ordinance. The Assistant District Attorney begins to say "Two things, I would like to start with a Point of Order, if I may, you can take each item individual public hearing and go in each individual order as it comes if you would like to do to reduce confusion, so someone called for the vote recently that can be done, it's just a point in order and then go into a public hearing on the next one. On this one Mr. Rachal you were partially correct, there was a version where the visitors that was speaking on non agenda items was to be moved to the end the Agenda that was the drawing of Ms. Hoover at the last meeting and this one replaced it, it does have the same Ordinance number of the other, but if you look over to the small letter f a Special meeting shall convene from 5:00-5:30 to receive information from the public regarding matters not on the agenda for the regular meeting and also a time limit that limits the visitors to no more than 3 minutes and Council members to no longer than 5 minutes under this Ordinance if it's adopted." Councilman Rachal wanted to know if the 4 hours still on it, "It's entirely too long to stay here to 9:30 for a meeting." Chairman, Hoover agreed and she said "That's why the Ordinance states not to exceed four (4) hours."

Councilman Paige, replied, "If you don't have thirty agenda items on the agenda too, that also makes a big difference too. I know entertain a lot of un-necessary talk about many items that don't need to be moved on and I know we try to give everybody the opportunity to speak and do whatever in a timely manner, but sometimes common sense got to set in too with the gavel and say, listen I don't mean to be ugly and I don't mean to be tacky but it's time to move on to another agenda item and I think if we did that, that would be more than anything."

There was more discussion between the Council and others on this item, they wanted to know if a quorum required for the pre-meeting and they also discussed was this being done with the City and If it's working for them? There was discussion on how to amend this Ordinance to remove and add some things and the Assistant District Attorney advised Councilman Rachal on how to do it, if that's what he's wanting to do.

Finally Mr. Russell Rachal made a motion to amend the Ordinance by striking off little (f) out of section 2.8 the Special meeting, which begin at 5:00 and adding a number twelve with visitors with non agenda items to the end of the agenda and 13 will be your adjournment, duly seconded by Councilman Doug de Graffenried that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby amend the agenda to amend Ordinance 006-2017 by striking off little (f) out of section 2.8 the Special meeting which begin at 5:00 and adding a number twelve with visitors with non agenda items to the end of the agenda and 13

will be to adjourn.

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They begin to talk about item number 3.

Mr. Verret began to explain about this item. Waste Connection formerly known as Progressive has stopped weighing and collecting for the Parish. Waste Connection auditors reviewed their books and they expressed concerns for their employee to handle the collecting of the Parish's money. The Parish is now having to do this since April because Waste Connection sent a memo letting they would not be doing this service anymore. The Parish is wants to hire 2 part time employees because one employee the way the schedule is will be making over 40 hours. So the Parish will hire two at part-time starting salary range from \$9.25 per hour up to \$15.63 per hour. Mrs. Creamer begins to explain more in detail about the job description and the pay scale. Chairman, Hoover begins to ask questions about a Land Authorization Form and wanted to know about the process of this form. Mr. Verret began to explain how this form works and the procedure that goes along with the form. Chairman, Hoover asked more about the prevention of how to keep people from who is not paying, to pay if they are required to pay. Councilman Doug de Graffenried at this time said, "Madam Chair we are for fill and out of order." Chairman, Hoover, replied, "How is that?" Councilman de Graffenried explained, "This has nothing to do with what is on the Agenda, we're "chasing a rabbit" so let's come back." Chairman, Hoover, replied, "What rabbit?" Chairman, Hoover, replied, "You say that, but I will have to ask the Attorney that Pastor, because all of this is a part of the Solid Waste." Councilman de Graffenried, replied, "You're talking about a Job Description, now you're talking about processes." At this time the Parish Attorney stated if this has nothing to do with the Job Description then we are off, but if this is going to be part of what this person(s) will be doing thing everything is okay.

They begin to talk about item number 4.

Councilman Russell Rachal, begin to explain, "In an event that if that position would ever become vacant, as it stands in our Personnel Manual that person must have an Engineering Degree or they can't have the position. So my goal was to remove these requirements from this job description so when it does come open then we can hire someone who can go out there and do the work and don't have to be an Engineer.

Councilman Bedgood, stated he doesn't have a problem with that, but he does have a problem with the pay scale in the Personnel Manual. At this time Parish President, replied, "If he does hire another person in this position, since this would be considered a Department Head, he would have to bring this person name and salary in front of the Council for approval, because the Council would have to approve the salary." Councilman Paige had questions about the procedure of how this would happen later when a person is hired and he just wanted to make sure we didn't put the cart before the horse. There was more discussion on this item.

Relatively from the discussions:

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by Councilman Doug de Graffenried, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby close the public hearing to hear any and all comments or objections relative to the adoption of the following

items.

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

Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

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Chairman Hoover stated the next agenda item is Council to consider adopting Ordinance 009-2017 do a quitclaim deed on Lot 1 and South half of Lot 2 of Block DA of Breda Addition from the Parish of Natchitoches to Mr. Robert Jackson, Sr. and to authorize the Parish President to sign the quitclaim deed.

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by Councilman Russell Rachal, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt Ordinance 009-2017 do a quitclaim deed on Lot 1 and South half of Lot 2 of Block DA of Breda Addition from the Parish of Natchitoches to Mr. Robert Jackson, Sr. and to authorize the Parish President to sign the quitclaim deed.

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

Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

Chairman Hoover stated the next agenda item Council to consider adopting Ordinance 006-2017 to amend and reordained Section 2-8 of the Parish Code of Ordinance. Requirements for the Parish Council meetings with the approved amendments of striking out (f) of Section 2-8 and moving Public Comments of non Agenda items at the end of the Agenda.

On motion by Councilman Russell Rachal, duly seconded by Councilman Doug de Graffenried, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt Ordinance 006-2017 to amend and reordained Section 2-8 of the Parish Code of Ordinance. Requirements for the Parish Council meetings with the approved amendments of striking out (f) of Section 2-8 and moving Public Comments of non Agenda items at the end of the Agenda.

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

Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

Chairman Hoover stated the next agenda item Council to consider adopting Ordinance 13-2017 to add Solid Waste Scale House Attendant and salary range to the job description in the Natchitoches Parish Personnel Manual.

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by, Councilman Rodney Bedgood that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt Ordinance 13-2017 to add Solid

Waste Scale House Attendant and salary range to the job description in the Natchitoches Parish Personnel Manual

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

Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Rachal

Motion Passed

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Chairman Hoover stated the next agenda item Council to consider adopting Ordinance 14-2017 to remove the job requirements of Engineer and Engineer duties from the Director of Public Works job description.

On motion by Councilman Russell Rachal, duly seconded by Councilman Doug de Graffenried, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt Ordinance 14-2017 to remove the job requirements of Engineer and Engineer duties from the Director of Public Works job description.

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

Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

Chairman Hoover stated the next agenda item Council to consider Introduction of Ordinance 15-2017 to amend the 2017 Operating Budget for the Parish of Natchitoches, relative to the Hampton Road Improvement Fund.

On motion by Councilman Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by Councilman Doug de Graffenried, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby introduce Ordinance 15-2017 to amend the 2017 Operating Budget for the Parish of Natchitoches, relative to the Hampton Road Improvement Fund.

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

Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

Chairman Hoover stated the next agenda item Council to consider Introduction of Ordinance 16-2017 to adjust Revenue of Insurance Claims, to add line items for expenses for: Building and Grounds, Winn Rock Screenings and to adjust line items of gravel, Winn Rock and Bottom Ash.

On motion by Councilman Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by Councilman Chris Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby introduce Ordinance 16-2017 to adjust Revenue of Insurance Claims, to add line items for expenses for: Building and Grounds, Winn Rock Screenings and to adjust line

items of gravel, Winn Rock and Bottom Ash.

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

Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

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Chairman Hoover stated the next agenda item Council to consider Introduction of Ordinance 17-2017 for Part-time Parish Engineer for the Parish of Natchitoches.

On motion by Councilman Russell Rachal, duly seconded by Councilman Doug de Graffenried, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby introduce Ordinance 17-2017 for Part-time Parish Engineer for the Parish of Natchitoches.

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

Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

Chairman Hoover stated the next agenda item Council to consider authorizing the Parish President to advertise for bids for Winn Rock Screenings, and to award to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder.

Mr. Verret explained about trying out new products to see what works and cheaper to use to fix the roads in the Parish. Mr. Verret explained that the Bottom Ash is cheaper, but this Winn Rock Screening could be used in areas that you would not want to use the Bottom Ash for. Councilman Rachal had questions about the Bottom Ash and it's suppose to be cheaper and he was wondering was this Winn Rock Screening is going to replace it. Mr. Verret explained that he's trying this out to see which one would do better in appropriate areas. Councilman Rachal made the recommendation to not purchase any Winn Rock Screening until they tested it and make sure it holds out and support the areas that it was tested on. Mr. Verret didn't see a problem in doing that and his point was well taken.

On motion by Councilman Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by Councilman Russell Rachal, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby authorize the Parish President to advertise for bids for Winn Rock Screenings, and to award to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder after they tested the material out to see if it actually works.

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

Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Paige

Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

Chairman Hoover stated the next item on the agenda Council to consider adopting a resolution confirming re-appointment/appointments to the following boards/commissions.

- A. Confirmation of Ted Duggan for re-appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Water Works District 2 Board.

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On motion by Councilman Russell Rachal, duly seconded by Councilman Chris Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby Confirm Ted Duggan for re-appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Water Works District 2 Board.

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

Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

Chairman Hoover stated the next item on the agenda Council to consider approving Resolution providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the Special Elections held in The Parish of Natchitoches, State Of Louisiana, And Road District No. 40 of The Parish of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, on Saturday, March 25, 2017, to authorize the levy of Special Taxes therein.

On motion by Councilman Russell Rachal, duly seconded by Councilman Chris Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby approve Resolution providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the Special Elections held in The Parish of Natchitoches, State Of Louisiana, And Road District No. 40 of The Parish of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, on Saturday, March 25, 2017, to authorize the levy of Special Taxes therein.

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

Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

Chairman Hoover stated the next item on the agenda Council to consider approving the Natchitoches Times as the official Parish Journal.

On motion by Councilman Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by Councilman Chris Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby approve the Natchitoches Times as the official Parish Journal.

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

Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilman Paige

Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

Chairman Hoover stated the next item on the agenda Council to consider authorizing the Parish President to issue and RFP for mosquito surveillance and Control Program proposals.

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Kellie from Vector was there to give a summary of what they've done in the past and what their wanting to do for the Parish for this year to control mosquitoes. There was a brief discussion on this and Parish President is asking for just to get proposals and they Council might at that time might chose not to grant the award to anyone and to continue to spray with the trucks.

On motion by Councilman Russell Rachal, duly seconded by Councilwoman Patsy Ward Hoover, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby approve authorizing the Parish President to issue and RFP for mosquito surveillance and Control Program proposals.

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

Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover
Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood

Motion Passed

Chairman, Hoover, then recognized Mr. Nick Verret, Director of Public Works, Mr. Verret, stated, "I just wanted to highlight the things I've given to the Council in their packets."

The hiring of two new grader operators is in process, one to replace the operator previously assigned to the Provencal area who left Parish employment on March 6, and the other to replace the operator previously assigned to the Marthaville area, who resigned on March 27. These vacancies have not only created a backlog in the needed grading work, but they have also resulted in a shortage of available personnel to review the road conditions in these areas.

1. **Federal Bridge Replacement Program** - DOTD advised by letter dated May 1, 2017, that, due to reductions in the amount of funding available under this program, and due to the fact that Natchitoches Parish has received more FBR funding in the previous funding cycles than other parishes, we will not be able to program new bridges in the current funding cycle [State Fiscal Year 2017-2019].

For the bridges to be completed with the previously-approved funding [Clark Road, Good Hope Road, and Robeline-Provencal Road], work has begun relative to acquisition of the required rights-of-way. The title work was recently completed and sent to DOTD for review, and an RFP is being prepared for the appraisals of the property to be acquired.

Chairman Hoover then recognizes Ms. Sharon Harris, OCS/Head Start Executive Director, she gave her reports in the Council's packets and wanted to know if they had any questions concerning anything.

Ms. Harris gave a update on her report concerning the summer feeding program, for the Parish of Natchitoches. The tentative dates of operation: June 5- July 31, 2017.

Tentative Sites: MLK Recreation, First Baptist Church-North Street, Shekinah Glory COGIC, Rock Island Baptist Church, East Natchitoches/Weaver Elementary (City of Natchitoches) Natchez Town Hall, John Below Recreation Center (City of Natchitoches)

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Chairman Hoover then recognizes Parish Treasurer Debbie Miley and she stated she sent all the reports in the Council packages for Head Start, Credit Card transactions, all checked written, and In-Mate report. The Head Start Grant is ending and the new one is began March 1, 2017 and she will be finalizing the report and will be giving that report at the next meeting.

Councilman Chris Paige asked, "Are we sending money back?" Ms. Miley replied, "Yes, we're sending back less than \$15,000." Councilman Chris Paige, replied, "We should not send anything back." Ms. Miley, replied, "This just wasn't spent, it's between \$9,000 to \$15,000 I just haven't finalized all the numbers." Councilman Paige, replied, "It's not good to send Federal Money back. I think we need to research to see what's acceptable and not acceptable and we need to just help the program."

Chairman Hoover then recognizes Parish President he stated he has given out his written report, but he would like to report on Fire District No. 1:

The Parish is continuing to investigate the allegations of illegal and/or unethical practices by certain officials of the Fire District. We have communicated with the Attorney General's Office and the Louisiana Ethics Administration Program in regard to proper procedure, and will submit our information to them for their reviews as soon as we complete the local investigation.

The view of the potential legal consequences that may result from the work of the advisory commission, it is recommended that any discussion of the fire district board members or operating personnel be conducted in an executive session of the Parish Council.

Parish President gave an update of the public hearing held with GNF on the Louisiana Community Development Block Grant application for the upcoming FY 2018-FY 2019 funding cycle.

In the public hearing there was discuss projects such as sewer, water, and streets. and the projects were discussed was Payne Subdivision for sewer and streets and another project we'll look at is improvements to Bermuda road there is questionable if a project will qualify for the funding. Chairman, Hoover wanted to know the deadline, and Parish President, replied, "I don't know, but it's mid June, I'll let you know." Councilman Paige, stated, "The people needs to know about this program, if you have a home that is worth \$200,000 or \$300,000 sitting out there on a piece of property you're not going to get any federal dollars out there. You have to be in area that are low to moderate income." Municipalities are submitting their own application.

Chairman Hoover stated the next item on the agenda on the agenda is to go into an Executive Session on Legal to discuss Ongoing Litigation Morgan, Robert E. & Carol v. Natchitoches Parish Council Tenth JDC, Docket 87, 534-A.

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On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by Councilman Doug de Graffenried, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby enter into an closed Executive Session.

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

Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by Councilman Russell Rachal, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby close Executive Session and enter back into regular session.

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

Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

In the Executive Session details was discussed and now relatively to those discussion.

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by Councilman Russell Rachal, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby authorize the Parish Attorney to negotiate a settlement with the Plaintiff in the Case of Morgan, Robert E. & Carol v. Natchitoches Parish Council Tenth JDC, Docket 87, 534-A.

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

Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

On motion by Councilman Russell Rachal , duly seconded by Councilman Rodney Bedgood, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adjourn.

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

Ayes:	Councilman Rachal	
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood	
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	Motion Passed

Since there was no other business the meeting was adjourn:

Attest:

Chairman

Patsy Ward Hoover,

Sheryl Frederick,
Council Clerk