

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATCHITOCHE PARISH COUNCIL
PARISH OF NATCHITOCHE, STATE OF LOUISIANA
TAKEN A SPECIAL MEETING HELD, TUESDAY,
JUNE 25, 2019
5:30 p.m.

The Natchitoches Parish Council met in special and legal session in the Parish Council Board Room of the Natchitoches Parish Courthouse, on Tuesday June 25, 2019 for a special Natchitoches Parish Council meeting at five (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 Chairman Rodney Bedgood and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilman Russell Rachal.

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

Absent: Doug de Graffenried.

There wasn't any special guests or presentations.

Chairman, Bedgood stated, "I was asked by some Council members to call a Special Call Meeting for to put it on the ballot for going back to the Police Jury and this is what I've done. I found out something when I got over here and I'm going to let the Parish Attorney to go ahead and tell the Council and public out here what we're up against up here."

Parish Attorney begins to speak, "Mr. Bedgood, what I had pointed out on the notice of the meeting which is provided at the bottom it made a comment of a Public Hearing to be held on July 1st of 2019 for 5:30p.m this really doesn't have anything to do with the actions that's on the Agenda, for the Council tonight, you-all can perceive on with your agenda and act on the proposed Ordinance, but I just wanted you to know the provision that advise for a public hearing here is too quick, the Home Rule Charter section 2-11B provides No ordinance shall be considered for final message until at least four weeks from date of introduction has elapsed and after a public hearing has been held on the Ordinance but this shall not apply to emergency ordinances, and I don't believe this is an emergency Ordinance and I was just pointing out this is not part of the meeting but it said public hearing for July 1st, under the Ordinance you have to wait 4 weeks in order to apply this section 2-11 of the Home Rule Charter; so other than that you can perceive on with your meeting and take what ever actions the Council would choose to take, I just didn't want anybody to say we took actions on this Ordinance and we going to have the Public hearing, I think that's premature as far as the time restraints provided by the Home Rule Charter."

Chairman, Bedgood, replied, "We can go ahead and vote, but it won't be on this election ballot." Councilman Chris Paige, replied, "I think they should know how we got to this point and the reason why she put it on here." The Council clerk, begins to speak, "The reason why I put it on here, for July 1st, when they said they wanted to have the election for this October, when I talked to the Secretary of State they informed me the material had to be down there for July 9th, 2019 in order for it to be on the October ballot. So that's why I told the Council it had to be down there for July 9th, that's why we put July 1st to have enough time to get it down there for July 9th, so now we won't have time to make the July 9 deadline, it's up to the Council they can go on and vote on it tonight, but have a Public Hearing in August, and it will be on the March or April ballot for the run-off." Councilman Paige, so far the July meeting we still can't take action?" Council Clerk, replied, "No, because it will still be too earlier to take action."

The Parish Attorney also, replied, "There is also another provision, that must be done, I don't know I haven't talked to the Secretary of State, but Sheryl has, but as far as to get things on the ballot, I also wanted to point out under Article 7 Section 7-01 Paragraph C it provides that proposals to amend or repeal this Charter should be presented to the Parish electors at a parish wide election that has been scheduled for other purposes or election of officials. The election must have been scheduled at least ninety days after publication of the proposed amendment or repeal. Please keep in mind

you have two provisions of the Home Rule Charter that you must take into account in turn of the timing of your actions, the jest of what I understand is that is this measure will be to put to the voters to effectively repeal the Home Rule Charter and that's why I'm reading those two provisions."

The Council Clerk, replied, "I think, if they do it in August, and I don't have a Calendar in front of me, and the elections is in the next year in March or April, they would have their ninety days."

Chairman, Bedgood, wanted to ask, "Do you all want to go ahead to vote tonight? That's up to the Council, they asked me to call this meeting. If I knew this all before time, I wouldn't have called this meeting, but nobody knew."

"This is only for Introduction only with no discussion tonight." Stated Councilman, Russell Rachal.

On motion by Councilman Russell Rachal, duly seconded by Councilman, Chris Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in a special and legal session, does hereby Introduce Ordinance 010-2019 Allowing the residents of Natchitoches Parish to vote and make their own decisions on whether they want to remain with the current form of government the Home Rule Charter or go back to the Police Jury form of Government.

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

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

Chairman, Bedgood stated next agenda item was to adjourn.

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

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

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

Since there was no other business the meeting was adjourn:

Attest:

Rodney Bedgood, Chairman

Sheryl Frederick,
Council Clerk