

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATCHITOCHE PARISH COUNCIL
PARISH OF NATCHITOCHE, STATE OF LOUISIANA
TAKEN A REGULAR MEETING HELD, MONDAY March 21, 2022, Council Boardroom
2nd Floor Courtroom
5:30 p.m.

The Natchitoches Parish Council met in regular and legal session in Parish Council room 211 on 2nd floor of Courthouse, on Monday, March 21, 2022, for a Regular of Natchitoches Parish Council meeting at five (5:30) o'clock p.m. for the Natchitoches Parish Council Meeting.

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

The invocation was given by Mr. Mark Megason, and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilwoman Patsy Hoover.

After the roll call there were present Council: John Salter, Chris Paige, Patsy Hoover, James Kilcoyne, and Marty Cheatwood.

Absent: 0

Invited guests, and special presentations there was None.

Chairman Salter stated the Next Agenda Item:

Reports of Department Heads:

Interim Public Works Director- Mr. Dustin Hightower

Mr. Dustin Hightower, replied, "All of you have my reports do you have any questions tonight?" There was no questions or comments.

OCS Executive Director- Ms. Sharon Harris

Ms. Sharon Harris, begins, "Good Afternoon to everyone, you all received my report in the mail, do you have any questions, comments, or concerns with my report?"

Chairman Salter asked, "I would like to know if you know off hand how many people you helped with their Energy Assistance last month?" Ms. Harris, replied, "Last month or this month?" Chairman Salter, replied, "This month." Ms. Harris, responded, "I'll do February, for low-income energy assistance for 2022 crisis we helped four households with a payment of \$1213.78 for ARP monies the American Rescue Plan monies for 2021 we helped 13 households for a total dollar of \$8671.63 for our 2020 heating our heating is going through different cooling seasons and heating seasons we're coming out the heating season today and we served through the month of February 95 households totaling \$48,050." Chairman Salter, replied, "Thank you."

Parish Treasurer- Ms. Julie Lockhart

Ms. Lockhart, begins, "Good Evening everyone, you received my reports you have the check registry and the General Ledger, miscellaneous expense if there any questions about those I'll be very happy to take those? If not, I'll give you a couple of updates CWELF Grant that we have two outstanding, right now one is for Sandy Point and the other one is for Chestnut/Reidheimer. Sandy Point has made their first application for reimbursement, and I believe in the near future Chestnut/Reidheimer will start

their first test well. Any other things you would like to talk about?"

Councilwoman Hoover, asked, "Have there been anything spent In the Natchez area at all?" Ms. Lockhart, replied, "For what?" Councilwoman Hoover, replied, "For anything." Ms. Lockhart, replied, "From any of our Grants that's currently in place, no. The city of Natchez hasn't applied for any of the CWELF's that funding."

Chairman Salter, replied, "Are you talking about the American Rescue, any of that?" Councilwoman Hoover, replied, "Yes, anything that we have from the Parish that has been put in for that." Chairman Salter, replied, "Have you ever found out what that Village got?" Councilwoman Hoover, replied, "We have somebody out in the audience, Monique would you like to come up, that's one of the Council members."

Monique Sarpy, replied, "I think with the American Rescue Act they suppose to be getting \$70 some thousands from the American Rescue Fund, I think that's what they suppose to get." Chairman Salter, replied, "Seventy?" Ms. Sarpy, replied, "Yes, Sir. I talked with Mr. Richmond in September of 2021 and we was talking about an action plan to put something together that we could submit something to you guys to receive some more funding we're trying to do renovations and remove some asbestos and some lead base paint out of our Town Hall and we did put something together, I think the communications wasn't so clear to some of the members on the board about what needed to be done to move forward I did submit something asking for a request to receive some type of funding to try to receive some fundings to remove the asbestos and the lead base paint out the building, because we are working with some people too we need to get more funding it's a hazmat, a EPA situation."

Councilwoman Hoover, replied, "He's asking about the Grant money on the \$500 hundred odd dollars that everyone is reading about in the paper." Chairman Salter, replied, "No, I asked about the American Rescue."

Parish President, replied, "Mrs. Sarpy correct if I'm wrong, maybe I misunderstood, I think \$70,000 for this year an another \$70,000 for the second part of the ARPA funds, I think yawl will wind up with around \$150,000, I think." Mrs. Sarpy, "I don't know, I haven't seen a letter, I don't know the whole details, only what is discussed in the meetings, I don't know exactly." Parish President, replied, "It comes in two." Mrs. Monique, replied, "I do know it comes in 2's but I didn't know if we were getting 30 or 35 thousand, I didn't know exactly and didn't know what the total amount was. We haven't seen the actual documentation." Parish President, replied, "I think it's around \$150,000." Councilwoman Hoover, replied, "John, is it possible that you can provide me a copy of how much they will be getting." Mrs. Sarpy, asked, "Is it listed on the State?" Parish President, replied, "I think it is, because what I'm recalling this from is what I saw on the media, maybe it was in the Times or the Journal." Ms. Lockhart, replied, "I just looked it up, it's \$220,000. You should have gotten a \$110,000 last year around May or June, you should get the other \$110,000 around the

same time this year." Mrs. Sarpy, replied, "We still need help though, that's good and dandy, but we still need help. We still need help from the Parish, because it's going to take quite a bit with involving EPA, why we're asking for money, because we can't use the building to the capacity that we need to because the gym and it has several wings in the back we would like to expand we can make our office area bigger and we are asking help from the Parish to try to be able to clean it up and then we're going to try to expand once we get a layout and design." Parish President, replied, "Do you have an estimated price on that?" Mrs. Sarpy, replied, "They are working on it, we're having a meeting Thursday coming up, so they are all working on it." Parish President, replied, "That's the most important part of this process." Mrs. Sarpy, replied, "Yes, that's correct." Councilwoman Hoover, asked, "That meeting is with who?" Mrs. Sarpy, replied, "That is going to be with TAB from Kansas City, and Brownville. We have a meeting Thursday."

Chairman Salter, replied, "Thank you for coming."

Planning and Zoning-Ms. Melonia McDaniel

Ms. McDaniel, replied, "All the reports for Planning and Zoning has been sent out, do you have any questions?"

Chairman Salter, replied, "I just want you to give us an overview of what your job is and what people needs to know, just like this one we have on the agenda for tonight, about the acreage and the footage things like that where the general public would know."

Ms. McDaniel, replied, "I do the agenda and Meetings for the Planning Commission and that's where the acreage part comes in. and I'm the Planning and Zoning Administrative Assistant for Planning and Zoning, I do zone and the permitting in that part."

Chairman Salter, replied, "Well, we might have another question for you when we get to that after a while and you can explain it so everybody would know, it's been a problem all the way through a lot of people didn't have the acreage that they thought they had, and it runs into a lot of time. Anybody has anything for Melonia?"

Parish President, John Richmond

Parish President, begins, "Thank you Mr. Chairman, You got two reports in your packets from me this month one is the normal report and the other is required by the Home Rule Charter and it's a summary of last year, there's a couple things in that yearly report that it's one of those things that we go and we're always looking for Grant monies, but I was even surprised to see the amount of Grant money we have and I've listed where that goes in there, in 2021, grants were \$7.6 million dollars most of that going for Hurricane Relief, rural water, and roads rehabilitations and of course it was the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Cane River Waterway Commission for \$2 million, that totaled up to be \$7.6 and that was to be used this year, it's 10.7 on the almost 10.8 million dollars in grants and that doesn't include any of the OCS grants that is in there; so, if you don't mind I would like to recognized Julie, and Cathy

Creamer, they do an awful a lot of work on this with Me and Jennifer, my assistant that pull these grants in, I know people all the time is saying, what can't we just go get grants, we do, and that money do get spent back into the Parish. Just wanted to make the public aware of this, any questions?"

Jim Kilcoyne, replied, "I do have a question, I see the \$2 million for the Fish Hatchery Road, I guess, I must have misunderstood, this money that is spent on Fish Hatchery Road could have been spent, this is Parish money, it could have been spent somewhere else?" Parish President, replied, "No, that was a grant that came through the Cooperative Endeavor agreement with the Cane River Waterway Commission, specifically for Fish Hatchery." Councilman Kilcoyne, replied, "Thank you for clarifying, sorry, don't we have something similar for Bermuda Road?" Parish President, replied, "Yes, in fact they should be going out, actually I thought it would be this week, but 5 to 8 inches of rain tonight, they probably would not be out there surveying this week, but the surveying will start this week."

Councilwoman Hoover, asked, "One other question, I submitted in for Patrick Road could that be spent also?" Parish President, replied, "The money that there is what we already have been voted on by things that a listed as road re-habilitation is what you guys voted on last month for Hart and Harmony road, I'm working trying to get some money for Patrick road that you and I discussed earlier this week certainly nothing is casted in stone, where we have anything granted or guaranteed, but I'm working on a project that I hope would resolve at some point Patrick road getting rehabilitated." Chairman Salter, replied, "I heard one time after Bermuda and Fish Hatchery overage they had a ceiling on the money that could be spent on roads is there anything left for the next project? Is it anything to that?" Parish President, replied, "I really don't want to speak for the Cane River Waterway Commission, but I am speaking to them about that is a possibility and I know it's high on their agenda and they would like to do it, just a matter of funds."

Councilman Paige, stated, "Mr. Richmond, this question is to you, Is there, has it been a change in the way we help the municipalities as a Parish for going in there an assisting the needs since we got that American Fund Act money, sometimes people want to think that they got money and they can handle things, but as far as I understand and I've always known that the people of the parish those that lives in the municipalities, they don't have the money, they have to ask us for help and some how or other it was a conversation had or a misunderstanding about the fact that we wasn't going into these municipalities and help them or whatever, but I think the procedure is still in place? Where they send in a request as they always did and we went out and help those municipalities, as our workload seen that we could go out an assist those people, is that correct?"

Parish President, replied, "You're exactly right and I apologize for any misunderstandings that there may have been throughout the Parish. There was some initial guidance from the Attorney General that through some shade on that whole process and we went back and asked the DA for an opinion, what do we do about our Parish roads, because we have Parish roads in Campti that are Parish roads, but they are fully inside the municipality we

have them that comes in and go out of other municipalities and we asked how we suppose to help, and we are right back where we were, which is not a bad space and that is that we as a Parish can help with our equipment and help with our labor, and we can help to a degree with our materials too. So, we're right back to where we were nothing has changed, there was a lot of confusion for two or three months, but it back to where it was, put in your request to the Municipality and then it will go to the Highway department." Councilman Paige, replied, "I just wanted to make sure people would understand that and making sure people are knowing we are here to help them." Parish President, replied, "Mr. Hightower is on track with all of that." Councilman Paige, replied, "Thanks a lot, I just wanted to make sure that we clarify that."

Chairman Salter stated the Next Agenda Item:

Adopt the minutes of the regular meeting of the Natchitoches Parish Council held Wednesday, February 23, 2022.

On motion by Councilwoman Patsy Hoover, duly seconded by, Councilman Jim Kilcoyne 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 Wednesday, January 19, 2022.

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

Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Kilcoyne	
Ayes:	Councilman Cheatwood	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	
Ayes:	Councilman Salter	Motion Passed

Chairman Salter stated the Next Agenda Item:

Appointments of Boards and Commissions.
Consider adopting a resolution confirming re-appointment/appointments to the following boards/commissions.

Council to confirm the appointment of Mr. Gregory A. Brock on the Saline Lake Game and Fish Preserve Board of Commissioners.

Councilman Paige, asked, "Where did that appointment come from?" Parish President, replied, "We had a resignation from the Board, somebody moved out of the area, changing their job." Councilman Paige, replied, "Okay, and that was an appointment from this Council?" Parish President, replied, "Yes."

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by, Councilman Jim Kilcoyne that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby appoint Mr. Gregory A. Brock on the Saline Lake Game and Fish Preserve Board of Commissioners.

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

Ayes:	Councilman Paige	
Ayes:	Councilman Kilcoyne	
Ayes:	Councilman Cheatwood	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Salter	Motion Passed

Chairman Salter stated the Next Agenda Item:

OLD Business: None

NEW BUSINESS:

11. First Introduction of proposed Ordinances:

Council to consider an Introduction of Ordinance 009-2022 to remove section 1.11 The Recording Policy from the Natchitoches Parish Personnel Manual due to being un-Constitutional and by the Revised Statute.

On motion by Councilman Jim Kilcoyne, duly seconded by, Councilwoman Patsy Hoover that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby Introduce Ordinance 009-2022 to remove section 1.11 The Recording Policy from the Natchitoches Parish Personnel Manual due to being un-Constitutional and by the Revised Statute.

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

Ayes:	Councilman Kilcoyne	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Cheatwood	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	
Ayes:	Councilman Salter	Motion Passed

Ms. Carolyn Roy, asked, "Can you tell me what the change is? I thought last month it was decided not to."

Parish Attorney, replied, "Mr. Chair, I will defer to you, it's only for Introduction tonight." Chairman Salter, replied, "Yes, this is only for Introduction tonight, it died from a lack of a motion or second last month and I'm just re-introducing it, we have to go through the process." Councilman Kilcoyne, replied, "And we were also hoping to hear back from the Attorney General Office and now we're giving them another 30 days to respond."

Parish Attorney, replied to Ms. Roy, "I'll be glad to answer your questions after the meeting."

Chairman Salter, stated the next agenda item:

Public Hearings:

On motion by Councilman Jim Kilcoyne, duly seconded by, Councilman Chris Paige that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby open Public Hearing to hear the following:

- A. Council to consider an Adoption of Ordinance 006-2022 to amend, correct and re-adopt Residential Development Permit Fees of Ordinance 8-2014.
- B. Council to consider an Adoption of Ordinance 007-2022 An Ordinance to amend the minimum acreage and requested documentation for subdividing property in Natchitoches Parish and all its participating municipalities.
- C. Council to consider an Adoption of Ordinance 008-2022 allowing the Parish President to enter into a franchise agreement with all utility providers serving locations within Natchitoches Parish as allowed by law. And furthermore, to allocate all new franchise monies to be dedicated to the Highway fund.

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

Ayes:	Councilman Kilcoyne	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Cheatwood	
Ayes:	Councilman Salter	Motion Passed

DISCUSSION A.

Chairman Salter, asked, "Is everything staying the same, do we have to do this annually?" Ms. McDaniel, replied, "No, we don't have to do it annually, the last time it was done was in 2014 and in 2014, it didn't have a clear, what we came up with we saw that the commercial had no clear definition of what it was it said \$3.00 dollars per thousand and we didn't know what that meant, so we went back to the Ordinance and it didn't have no communication or discussion on the Ordinance we couldn't figure out what that meant; so, we did this Ordinance to have more clarification." Chairman Salter, replied, "What is the commercial rate, per foot under the roof?"

Ms. McDaniel, replied, "Right now it says, \$3.00 per thousand and how I was doing it was \$.70 per square foot, which I didn't realize it that you needed an Ordinance to do that; so, I've been doing it wrong." Chairman Salter, replied, "Did you charge some people some money that you need to refund them?" Ms. Melonia, replied, "\$3.00 per thousand is more than \$.70 per square footage."

Chairman Salter, responded, "Per thousand?" Councilman Kilcoyne, replied, "Per thousand square feet." Parish President responded, "As I may, the confusion came in and it doesn't say in the Ordinance where it was per thousand square feet or per thousand

dollars of the project. Because on a commercial project you're giving an estimate on how much it's going to cost and so, we was looking at that it's no way it's going to be just \$3.00 per thousand square feet because if you go and open up a commercial 3000 square foot building for \$9.00 dollars and it's out of line with everything and you go and look as well, if it's \$3.00 dollars per thousand dollars that might be closer to being in line. You can go in there and do a \$50,000 renovation and it wouldn't be much, but if you get a million dollars renovation there will be a whole lot of permits, inspections, and things like that. That is where this clarity is put into place."

Councilman Paige, replied, "Question, have you looked at what other surrounding areas do with similar situations as this? That normally should happen." Ms. McDaniel, replied, "I looked at the city and talked to other Parishes and they do a flat fee, like 100 dollars which the Parish does .25 cents per square foot, no Parish does it the same way. We are just making sure that we put our fees are defined." Councilwoman Hoover, replied, "And your fees are \$.70 cents?" Chairman Salter, replied, "No, that per household square foot under the roof." Parish President, replied, "That is what she was charging but this clarity would allow her the charge per thousand dollars of renovation or per thousand square feet." Ms. McDaniel, replied, "For the Commercial it's per square feet and it's \$.70 cents and for residential its \$.45 for residential. Councilman Paige, replied, "So, look like you all have done your homework, what you're saying." Ms. McDaniel, "We have done our research." Councilman Paige, replied, "Fine, that's okay." Chairman Salter, "Thank you ma'am, I appreciate it."

DISCUSSION B.

Chairman Salter, replied, "That is when the Health Unit, do you want to?" Ms. McDaniel, replied, "You can tell them." Chairman Salter, replied, "The Health Unit requires 22,500 square feet for a person to put a resident and to accommodate a sewage system use to be the mechanical system don't require that much area, but they still require it; so, people would come up here and have a fourth of an acre and say we're going to put our house in here and we're going to put a sewage system and they go through all of those things and pay their fees and they find out they don't have the acreage. That is what this is to clarify it before anything ever happen to let them know up front that you have to have at least 22,500 square feet which is a little over a half an acre. I don't know, what about the easement so forth that is adjacent to the property that might belongs to a relative that would give them an easement do that come into play?" Ms. McDaniel, replied, "No, I haven't ever had that problem that has came up, the reason why I made this Ordinance is because a lot of the times when I'm at the meetings the question they ask is what the minimum square footage and they always say go by the Health Department for the square footage. I haven't heard anything about the easement or how to do it."

Parish President, replied, "Historically Mr. Salter, not that the history is right, but historically they counted those easements in the square footage of the lot. They didn't exclude them." Chairman Salter, replied, "See, just for your

information, 30 years ago, you hardly hear of a mechanical plant you had a 1000-gallon square foot for a 3 bedroom, you had to have a 1000 gallon tank you had your leak fills a hundred feet long no more than a 100 at least a hundred feet the minimum was 6 feet between them and that took up a lot more space now you only have 3 sprinklers on a mechanical plant but really require it but I guess the State is going to stay with the 22,500 all the way through. Anyway, I'm glad that you got that cleared out."

DISCUSSION C.

Chairman Salter, asked, "Is this going to be inside the city and outside?" Parish President, replied, "It's going to be outside the municipality, so it will be the rural parts in the Parish, each municipality has to go and get their own franchise." Chairman Salter, replied, "You know how to separate everything where Sweptco is at, that you know anybody inside the city limits or any municipalities?" Parish President, replied, "That is the way it's reads right now, but I've also asked some of the municipalities if they minded us negotiating on their behalf too; so, I'm working through that." Chairman Salter, replied, "Now, you talked to me and told me that you were going to do this, and I told you to go for it, here's my deal, just like Sharon Harris, a while ago spent and helped some of these people and we know this is going to trickle back down to the consumer, maybe 7 to 8 dollars maybe 10, I don't know what the figure will be, she said she spent 48,000 thousand dollars trying to get their houses and we got a notice in Provencal that our water and gas, both of them are going up. How long this process is going to take and when it's probably as far as you can tell will come into effect, because things are pretty rough right now and people are pinching every dollar, including me." Parish President, replied, "For them to be able to increase your rates they're not going to be able to increase it because of this, unless they get approval from the Public Service Commission. So, this is not part of a normal rate increase fuel goes up, your bill goes up, that is not what this is. And so, make no mistake, I anticipate that they would request that their fees be increased and so we'll be talking to the Public Service Commission and say this is money that should be coming because they travel our roads and you know during the hurricanes, there was culverts that were burst, but we was certainly glad they were out there putting power and gas, it's not about the water system, primarily the power system, we will be going to them and asking for this to help to offset some of those costs and hopefully help us to maintain some of these roads, so they can get down them better too." Chairman Salter, replied, "Since you on that the Public Service Commission, I talked to Dustin about this the other day these people that came and cleared those lines, they filled our ditches full of stuff have you talked to the Public Service Commission about trying to get us some money back?" Parish President, replied, "That is part of all these discussions." Chairman Salter, replied, "That is, your sure, because I'm going to have a talk with them myself about that because it's causing a lot of problems, I'm glad they got the trees down and all those things chip up, I told him about a road that water is running all across it."

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by, Councilman Jim Kilcoyne that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby close Public Hearing.

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

Ayes:	Councilman Paige	
Ayes:	Councilman Kilcoyne	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Cheatwood	
Ayes:	Councilman Salter	Motion Passed

Action on Proposed Ordinances:

Council to consider an Adoption of Ordinance 006-2022 to amend, correct and re-adopt Residential Development Permit Fees of Ordinance 8-2014.

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by, Councilwoman Patsy Hoover that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby Adopt Ordinance 006-2022 to amend, correct and re-adopt Residential Development Permit Fees of Ordinance 8-2014.

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

Ayes:	Councilman Paige	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Kilcoyne	
Ayes:	Councilman Cheatwood	
Ayes:	Councilman Salter	Motion Passed

Council to consider an Adoption of Ordinance 007-2022 An Ordinance to amend the minimum acreage and requested documentation for subdividing property in Natchitoches Parish and all its participating municipalities.

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by, Councilman Jim Kilcoyne that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby Adopt Ordinance 007-2022 An Ordinance to amend the minimum acreage and requested documentation for subdividing property in Natchitoches Parish and all its participating municipalities.

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

Ayes:	Councilman Paige	
Ayes:	Councilman Kilcoyne	
Nays changed to Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Cheatwood	
Ayes:	Councilman Salter	Motion Passed

Council to consider an Adoption of Ordinance 008-2022 allowing the Parish President to enter into a franchise agreement with all utility providers serving locations within Natchitoches Parish as allowed by law. And furthermore, to allocate all new franchise monies to be dedicated to the Highway fund.

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by, Councilman Marty Cheatwood that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby Adopt Ordinance 008-2022 allowing the Parish President to enter into a franchise agreement with all utility providers serving locations within Natchitoches Parish as allowed by law. And furthermore, to allocate all new franchise monies to be dedicated to the Highway fund.

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

Ayes:	Councilman Paige	
Ayes:	Councilman Cheatwood	
Ayes:	Councilman Kilcoyne	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Salter	Motion Passed

Chairman Salter, stated the next agenda item:

RESOLUTIONS: NONE

12. Other Agenda Items:

- A. Council to consider authorizing the Parish President to distribute a Request for Proposals for procuring the services of a geotechnical testing firm for borings and soil testing to assist the Parish Engineer in the pavement design for the resurfacing of Hart Road and Harmony Road, at an estimated cost not to exceed \$20,000 and, following evaluation of the proposals received, to select the proposal that is in the Parish's best interests based on the proposed cost and estimated delivery date, and to execute a contract with the selected firm.

Chairman Salter, replied, "He didn't show up, did he, Fire him?" Parish President, replied, "Who, the Engineer?" Chairman Salter, replied, "Yes, What I was going to ask Nick, he really don't have any plans about what top he wants to put on either one of these roads for it to be free shot or asphalt?" Parish President, replied, "It's going to be asphalt, this is what he has planned." Chairman Salter, replied, "Do you think that would be a great idea?"

Parish President, replied, "Sir?" Chairman Salter, replied, "Do you think it's a good idea?" Parish President, replied, "Well to get it to DOTD specs and that's regarding the whole..." At that time Chairman Salter, replied, "I don't want mine to DOTD specs, have you ridden, it's no good way to get out of Natchitoches Parish to a State Road, will tear your vehicle up. I'm serious, John." Parish President, replied, "I understand, but this is just for the Geotechnical, just for the soil borings, to see what it needs to be to hold up on those roads, that is what this is. This is not about the road toppings... at this time the Chairman stated, "I'm about to get on to these two women, talking." Parish President, replied, "I understand your point, but this is not what that is about." Chairman Salter, replied, "Ok, so we really don't know anything yet, this information on..."

and the Parish President, stated, "On the soil borings that's on the road on the road." Chairman Salter, "And that will be what determined of what kind of surface."

On motion by Councilman Marty Cheatwood, duly seconded by, Councilman Paige that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby authorize the Parish President to distribute a Request for Proposals for procuring the services of a geotechnical testing firm for borings and soil testing to assist the Parish Engineer in the pavement design for the resurfacing of Hart Road and Harmony Road, at an estimated cost not to exceed \$20,000 and, following evaluation of the proposals received, to select the proposal that is in the Parish's best interests based on the proposed cost and estimated delivery date, and to execute a contract with the selected firm.

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

Ayes:	Councilman Cheatwood	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	
Ayes:	Councilman Kilcoyne	
Ayes changed to Nay:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Salter	Motion Passed

At this time the Clerk, asked, "Mr. Salter, Mrs. Hoover, said that she voted wrong and the last one would like to change it." Chairman Salter, replied, "She can't do it, it's too late, no go ahead and change it." Councilwoman Hoover, stated, "On B, I wanted yes, and C, I wanted No." The Clerk, replied, "I got it, changed." Chairman Salter, replied, "I thought so, that's why I hesitated." Councilwoman Hoover, replied, "Yes." Chairman Salter, replied, "On C, that's why I asked him the questions about and that I had talked to you about the rates may go up on the consumer, we don't know that for sure yet. This is just giving him an opportunity to look into this, to see what he comes up with."

Parish Attorney, replied, "Mr. Salter, this doesn't affect the outcome of the vote, does it?" and everybody replied, "No." Councilman Paige, replied, "It's just her personally." Councilman Hoover, replied, "Chris, I know you just didn't say that."

Chairman Salter, stated the next agenda item:

Visitors for Non-Agenda Items. (3 minutes)

Mr. Mark Megason, "I need to ask a question on the behalf of Nell Parker. She lives on Walter Durr Road, that road has been there before I was born. When Earl K was still here, it's only a half a mile long, one part needed some work on it and Earl K just closed it down, didn't do anything to it and when Marty said about 911 and stuff like that, I told her about it, and she called Dustin about getting it done."

Mr. Megason also talked about those that lived down that road someone's daughter who has heart problems, her daughter in law has heart problems and passes out quite regularly and they have two autistic twins. She wanted them to grade all the road not

just half the road they done it, but they weren't through with it because they needed to bring more gravel, and Mrs. Parker wants to know when the gravel is going to come be put on the road it's been 2 months, the past week a Fed Ex truck made it through there, but the telephone truck didn't it, it got bogged down. Mr. Megason came to asked Dustin, when is Ms. Parker going to get her road fix.

Mr. Hightower, replied, "I don't have any rocks, but it's actually a half circle you can come in on one side that has been maintained, I don't know how long, but one side is good, it's been maintained to where they live, like he said the other side was let go, what we had to do was go in and remove the brush and the trees, crown the road and had to rebuild the road and let it set, because it was muddy then, now it's really muddy. I do plan on coming back, but what this is, actually off of Union Grove Road, it makes a half circle and like you said it may be a mile, maybe half a mile, it not that very long."

Parish President replied, "You can get in one way, but the other end was closed. That's where it gets steep going down that hill." Mr. Megason, replied, "There is 3 911 addresses." Parish President, replied, "They can still get in the other way." Chairman Salter, replied, "Is that a school bus turn around?" Mr. Megason, replied, "When an ambulance comes out there and they don't know, not to go up that road, they are going to get stuck, they can't get in there. That's the deal, Mrs. Parker, been trying to get down for ages, so when someone comes, they go up the wrong road and gets stuck. At one time Earl, came up and put some signs up but all that has been removed." Mr. Hightower, replied, "I didn't know it was officially closed. Like you said, the lady called me, and I went to check into it, and to me, what I saw it was just let go." Parish President, replied, "That's right because of that steep edge right there and they couldn't keep it maintained in such a way that you could get out that way, so we put barricades up there, I guess someone has taken the barricades up." There was more discussion concerning this road because it's a mail route and have 911 addresses on it and it supposed to be opened. And after all the discussions, Mr. Hightower, replied, "It will be opened, all I have to say is that this road has been closed down, and I had to take all the brush out and get rid of all that, and at the time it was still wet, my motor grader was sinking on it. And now every time, I turn around it rains, but I am coming back, I know where you're talking about and we'll going to open it up so it can start airing out."

Mr. Ronnie Mallard, stated, "I'm talking about the Shady Grove Road, what do we have to do to get that road on the list?"

Chairman Salter, replied, "Shady Grove the black top part?" Mr. Mallard, replied, "Yes, I'm Ronnie Mallard, we talked about this, maybe we can meet, and you can go look at the road or something." Chairman Salter, replied, "I go through there all the time." Mr. Mallard, continues, "My son rides the school bus in the morning and their rear end is leaving the seats, when they hit those bumps, their rear end is coming off the seats and you got the buses going around on curves to avoid these bumps."

Chairman Salter, replied, "I see the State is working on the other end." Mr. Mallard, replied, "Yes, that's state, that's not Shady Grove, Shady Grove is a Parish Road. You, are the Council person, I suppose talk to." Chairman Salter, replied, "Yes, that's what they told me, I didn't know you was in my District, I thought you was in 4, but yeah, that's fine, I use to come up with your daddy and your mama and all of them, I know them. Ok, what do it need patching right now?"

Mr. Mallard, replied, "It needs something on them hillsides and those blind curves. Everybody is all over the road trying to avoid it, my personal thing, I've just rebuilt my car for the second time in 2 years." Chairman Salter, replied, "Let, Mr. Hightower, see what he can do." Mr. Hightower, replied, "I send the patcher through there a lot, John, we keep it patched, but realistic John, what's wrong with that road is going to take for more than patching, you have a lot of major problems, same thing that happened to 1221 the State, you have the same thing going on through Shady Grove, it a bad dip base failure."

Chairman Salter, replied, "Do we have any money for grinding this year?" Mr. Mallard, replied, "We don't want to go back in the cowboy days we don't want to go backwards, they talked to us about that at one time, Johnny, what's Johnny's last name?" Everyone said, "Salard". Mr. Mallard, continues, "We don't want that, we don't want no grind up Blacktop, we don't want to go back, that's going the wrong direction. I moved out there in 94 and I didn't move out there for that, in 88 the road in 87 the road got re-topped." Chairman Salter, replied, "Well, when we started grinding year before last we talked about it, just around the same time as the Pandemic, we was one year late putting the first grinder in the ground because of the Pandemic, we had the money, so now we're still running a year behind and our thoughts were to go out there and grind those roads, put the material back into the road, that was grind and let the traffic have it until we got the money to put a three shot back on those roads, that road started off being a three shot road back in the 60's but then they went out there and put a mile of asphalt and a mile over yonder, they didn't prepare the road for what they did and that's why it's in the shape it's in." Mr. Mallard, asked, "What do we have to do to get some help from the State a Petition?" Chairman Salter, replied, "You might can call Louie Bernard on the phone." Mr. Mallard, "You the man, I suppose to talk to too, I need to call him?" Chairman Salter, replied, "Yes, tell him you need some money out there." Chairman Salter, asked, "Do we have them on Capital Outlay?" Parish President, replied, "I don't know if Shady Grove is on Capital Outlay, I don't think it is." Chairman Salter, replied, "Call the Sheriff, call them all, I'm serious call anybody." Mr. Mallard, replied, "I did, I called you, I believe you are my District man." Chairman Salter, replied, "Yes, you want me to call them for you?" Mr. Mallard, replied, "Well, I suppose to start with you, right? That's what I was told." Chairman Salter, replied, "No, not really, this is not the Police Jury anymore, we are the Council."

Mr. Mallard, continues, "You need to come out there to look at it with me to see firsthand to see with your two eyes to see how bad it is. Ride through there and you see how bad it is hitting

those bumps." Chairman Salter, replied, "I drive a one ton, I feel every one of them. Do you know where Louie lives, Louie Bernard? We'll just run out there and go by his house." Mr. Mallard, replied, "I'm afraid someone is going to get in a wreck out there in a head on." Chairman Salter, replied, "Who's your State Representative out there, Is that Kenny Cox?" Everyone was trying to see who was the State Representative for that area is it Schamerhorn or Firment? Chairman Salter, replied, "Him and Gabe sleeps together a good bit." Mr. Mallard continues to talk about the blind curves and hills.

Mr. Robert Wilson, replied, "We had a video to show you rated R for roads, but yawl didn't want to see it." Chairman Salter, replied, "I don't know what happen we got a projector and screen, I told her the other day, I came in Wednesday, and I was going to show it, me and Sheryl and Mr. Kilcoyne, Mr. Kilcoyne, said he didn't want to or didn't have time." Mr. Wilson, replied, "Yawl busy. I'm just worried about 449 are we going to keep that up with the 911 address we have sunk a lot of money into it, and we can't let good money go to bad." Chairman Salter, replied, "What was that question?" Mr. Wilson, replied, "I was wondering if we going to keep up 449, the Dead Horse Road, we have a lot of money on the dead horse road." Chairman Salter, replied, "Well, I talked with Mr. Richmond, here, Wednesday, and they was talking about taking about 6 miles out of that road and I told him it was no use in that, what we're going to do and really it's not my place to do it, it's really John to do it, he's in charge of the maintenance on that road, but we're going to get in touch with, I'm I right we're going to get in touch with all the landowners and we're going to see how many wants that road out." Mr. Robert Wilson, replied, "You should have done that before you start, you could have done all of Walter Durr Road with all that money."

Mr. Hightower replied, "I can tell you one thing, until it's taken out the system, it will be grader on that road." Mr. Wilson replied, "It will or not?" Mr. Hightower, replied, "I will maintain that road, as long as it's in the system." Mr. Wilson, replied, "You better get you some floatation toppers." Dustin, replied, "I can take care of all that with a track hoe, I've been all out there."

Chairman Salter, asked to the Parish Attorney, "Work Sessions, for this Parish Council to get together any time we have a quorum and in order to minimize all this and to give the people of Natchitoches Parish more time to come and talk and let us hear their concerns. I want to start having work sessions, if I can get a quorum to come there will have to be a notice for the meeting there will not be any voting meeting, it will just be a talk, show pictures of roads and so forth. Do we have a problem in doing this?"

Parish Attorney, replied, "Let me look into it, just to be sure, I'm going to check, the AG's opinion on it, I don't want a violation of the Open Meeting Law." Chairman Salter, replied, "It will be in the paper and all this, but the main question, if I put a screen up here and I start and Robert brings his pictures and everybody brings pictures of their roads, there's no law against that." Parish Attorney, response, "What we have

to be careful of is what they call a "Walking Quorum" If there's a meeting and there's not a majority of the members present, but that meeting you formulate an opinion and then you call another Council member and say, Hey I was at this Council meeting and I did this and you start sharing information and how you're going to vote, and that could be a violation of what we call a "Walking Quorum, and that's what I'm wanting to make sure of, but I will look into it." Chairman Salter, replied, "Yes, and that's another point, you brought up there, if Kilcoyne decides he wants to leave and it's only four of us here then it's three and someone else walks off we don't have a quorum, can we still keep talking to our constituents in using the Parish facility?" Parish Attorney, replied, "Probably, but let me double check."

Chairman Salter, continues, "You have a quorum and then you got, you lose your quorum." Councilman Paige, replied, "You just can't vote on anything." Parish Attorney, replied, "You can't vote anyway at a Work Session, you're not talking about voting." Chairman Salter, replied, "Yes, just a to minimize all this that we are going through right now." Councilman Paige, replied, "Two of us can meet at any time." Parish Attorney, replied, "Yes, two people can come together and then talk on the phone with the others, and that can possibly be a violation."

The Parish attorney also stated you can't have discussions that is not in front of the public about how you're going to vote.

Chairman Salter, replied, "Yes, see what you can find out and let Sheryl know and we can discuss what we're going to do among us five Councilmen, to see if we can give these people more time and show some videos or whatever."

Adjourn

Chairman Salter, stated the next agenda item To Adjourn:

On motion by Councilwoman Patsy Hoover, duly seconded by Councilman Marty Cheatwood, 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:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Cheatwood	
Ayes:	Councilman Kilcoyne	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	
Ayes:	Councilman Salter	Motion Passed

Since there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned:

Attest:


Sheryl Frederick,
Parish Clerk


John Salter, Chairman