OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
TERREBONNE PARISH COUNCIL
IN REGULAR SESSION
DECEMBER 7, 2005

The Chairman, Mr. P. Rhodes, called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. in the Terrebonne Parish Council Meeting Room. Following the Invocation, offered by Council Minute Clerk V. Whitney, Councilman C. Voisin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Upon roll call, Council Members recorded as present were: P. Rhodes, A. Tillman, W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, and C. Voisin. Councilman P. Lambert was recorded as joining the proceedings at 6:23 p.m. A quorum was declared present.

Chairman P. Rhodes read a memo from Councilman P. Lambert explaining why he will arrive late at tonight’s meeting.

Ms. C. Duplantis moved, seconded by Ms. K. Elfert, “THAT, the Council approve the minutes of the Regular Council Session held on 11/2/05.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Ms. C. Duplantis.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS: W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, and A. Tillman

NAYS: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: P. Lambert

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Mr. A. Tillman moved, seconded by Ms. K. Elfert, “THAT, the Council approve the minutes of the Special Council Session held on 11/14/05.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Mr. A. Tillman.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS: W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, and A. Tillman

NAYS: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: P. Lambert

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Mr. H. Lapeyre moved, seconded by Ms. K. Elfert, “THAT, the Council approve the Parish Bill List dated 11/21/05.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Mr. H. Lapeyre.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:
YEAS: W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, and A. Tillman

NAYS: None

ABSTAINING: W. Thibodeaux

ABSENT: P. Lambert

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Mr. A. Tillman moved, seconded by Mr. H. Lapeyre, "THAT, the Council approve the Parish Manual Check List for October 2005."

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Mr. A. Tillman.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS: W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, and A. Tillman

NAYS: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: P. Lambert

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

OFFERED BY: Mr. W. Thibodeaux.
SECONDED: Unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 05-407

WHEREAS, the dangers of smoking tobacco-related products has been proven to be detrimental to the health of both the inhaler and individuals in the immediate vicinity of the smoker; and

WHEREAS, statistics have proven that smoking does lead to diseases that annually claim the lives of thousands of citizens of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the addiction to using tobacco products in an undeniably strong obsession and one that is not easily broken; and

WHEREAS, while hundreds of thousands of people were successful in breaking the smoking habit, many others have failed, despite numerous and valiant attempts to remain smoke free; and

WHEREAS, although the choice to stop smoking must be an individual commitment, the Terrebonne Parish Council would like to challenge all smokers to attempt to remain “smoke-free” for one day in an attempt to begin leading a permanent smoke-free life style.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Terrebonne Parish Council, on behalf of the Parish President and the entire Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government, does hereby recognize Wednesday, December 14, 2005 as SMOKE FREE DAY IN HOUMA-TERREBONNE and that all citizens of this parish make earnest attempts to remain “smoke-free” on this special day.

THERE WAS RECORDED:

The Chairman declared the resolution adopted on this, the 7th day of December, 2005.

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The Chairman recognized Ms. Jane Aitkens – American Cancer Society and Mr. Chris DeHart – volunteer with Tobacco-Free Living of La, who accepted the proclamation and thanked the Council and Parish President for support of their efforts.

OFFERED BY: Ms. T. Cavalier.
SECONDED: Unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 05-408

WHEREAS, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) records show that there were 16,694 alcohol-related fatalities in 2004 (an average of one death every 31 minutes), and

WHEREAS, an estimated 248,000 people were inured in 2004 in crashes where police reported that alcohol was present (an average of one injury every 2 minutes), and

WHEREAS, approximately 1.4 million drivers were arrested in 2003 for driving under the influence of alcohol or other drugs (one arrest for every 135 licensed drivers), and

WHEREAS, over 60% of youth alcohol-related crash deaths occurred in rural areas – on road where traffic isn’t very heavy, and

WHEREAS, due to the ongoing enforcement efforts of police agencies and the lowering of the legal Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) limit to .08%, traffic fatalities fell from 17,105 in 2003 to 16,694 in 2004, and

WHEREAS, the Bayou Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse, a United Way agency, and the Lafourche Prevention Partnership believe that protection of citizens from impaired drivers should be a priority of law enforcement agencies.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Terrebonne Parish Council, on behalf of the Parish President and the entire Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government, that December 2005 is hereby proclaimed National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month in Houma-Terrebonne, and that all citizens be urged and encouraged to join with law enforcement agencies to demonstrate that impaired driving is unacceptable and unlawful.

THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: None.

ABSENT: P. Lambert.

The Chairman declared the resolution adopted on this, the 7th day of December, 2005.

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Mr. C. Voisin moved, seconded by Ms. K. Elfert, “THAT, the Council allow an add-on to tonight’s agenda to address a proclamation celebrating survival day in Houma-Terrebonne.”
The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Mr. C. Voisin.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS: W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, and A. Tillman

NAYS: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: P. Lambert

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

OFFERED BY: Mr. C. Voisin.
SECONDED: Unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 05-409

WHEREAS, although much of the southern portion of the State of Louisiana was devastated by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the spirit of its people has not diminished, and

WHEREAS, the people from the bayou communities of Terrebonne Parish, the most affected by Hurricane Rita, have not allowed the terrible forces of nature to diminish their joy of life nor to allow the catastrophes to dampen their pioneer spirit that have allowed them to flourish in an often harsh environment, and

WHEREAS, despite great losses to many individuals, families and friends, the residents of Terrebonne have followed a generations-old practice of coming together in the face of adversity and overcoming all challenges put before them, and

WHEREAS, in an effort to come together and to face the upcoming Christmas Holidays with optimism, love and hope, the Grand Caillou Recreation Board has planned a Celebration of Survival on Saturday, December 10, 2005, in the Recreation Center, and

WHEREAS, this family oriented event will encourage the people of Terrebonne Parish to face all challenges put before them and to always remember that their God and Savior will always be watching over them.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE TERREBONNE PARISH COUNCIL, on behalf of the Parish President and the entire Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government, that December 10, 2005 be hereby declared CELEBRATING SURVIVAL DAY IN HOUMA-TERREBONNE and that all citizens of this parish be urged to support this event, which rejoices in the many positive influences in our community.

THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: None.

ABSENT: P. Lambert.

The Chairman declared the resolution adopted on this, the 7th day of December, 2005.

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Chairman P. Rhodes stated in regards to agenda item 2A – Mr. Joe Pinero wishing to address the Council relative to the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government – Mr. Pinero had called to remove his name from the agenda.
The Chairman recognized Mr. Floyd Bergeron, Houma resident, who expressed his concerns relative to the Parish Government calling two elections approximately six years ago for a Port tax, the voters rejecting the proposed tax three-to-one, and the Parish Government still expending millions of dollars on the Port. He also expressed his concerns relative to the Parish supposedly having a significant amount of money in the Houma Power Plant Account.

Ms. K. Elfert moved, seconded by Ms. C. Duplantis, “THAT, the Council extend Mr. Floyd Bergeron’s time an additional five minutes.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Ms. K. Elfert.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS: W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, and A. Tillman

NAYS: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: P. Lambert

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Mr. Floyd Bergeron continued his presentation regarding his concerns relative to the financial condition of the Terrebonne Parish Government.

Some of the Council Members expressed their concerns relative to Mr. Floyd Bergeron not stating all the correct facts regarding the finances of Terrebonne Parish Government.

At this time, 6:23 p.m., Councilman P. Lambert was recorded as joining the proceedings.

Ms. K. Elfert moved, seconded by Ms. C. Duplantis, “THAT, it now being 6:30 p.m., the Council open public hearings.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Ms. K. Elfert.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS: W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: None

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

The Chairman recognized Council Clerk P. Labat who canvassed the following results of the election held on November 12, 2005:

Parishwide Road Lighting District:
1,435 votes cast in favor
3,545 votes case against
with a majority of 2,110 votes cast against, causing it to fail

Home Rule Charter Propositions:

Proposition No. 1 (approving technical changes to the Charter)
987 votes cast in favor
4,004 votes cast against
with a majority of 3,017 votes cast against, causing it to fail
Proposition No. 2 (approving a change to the Council compensation section to the Charter)
463 votes cast in favor
4,532 votes cast against
with a majority of 4,069 votes cast against, causing it to fail

Proposition No. 3 (authorizing the Council to retain its own legal advisor)
525 votes cast in favor
4,459 votes cast against
with a majority of 3,934 votes cast against, causing it to fail

Proposition No. 4 (approving a change to the Parish President’s compensation)
597 votes cast in favor
4,388 votes cast against
with a majority of 3,791 votes cast against, causing it to fail

There were no comments from the public on the aforementioned election results.

Mr. H. Lapeyre moved, seconded by Ms. K. Elfert, “THAT, the Council confirm the aforementioned election results as canvassed by Council Clerk P. Labat.” *(MOTION VOTED ON AFTER DISCUSSION.)*

Some of the Council Members expressed their concerns relative to a very low percentage (approximately 8%) of voter participation in this last election and stressed the need for voter participation in helping to make decisions on issues that will affect their community and Parish.

*The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Mr. H. Lapeyre.*

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS: W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: None

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

The Chairman recognized the public for comments on the following:

B. The proposed 2006 Operations and Maintenance Budget of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government and the Five-Year Capital Outlay Budget

There were no comments from the public on the proposed ordinance.

Ms. K. Elfert moved, seconded by Mr. H. Lapeyre, “THAT, the Council close the aforementioned public hearing.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Ms. K. Elfert.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS: W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: None
The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

(NO ACTION WAS NECESSARY ON THIS ITEM.)

The Chairman recognized the public for comments on the following:

C. A proposed ordinance to adopt the 2006 Operations and Maintenance Budget and the Five-Year Capital Outlay Improvements Budget of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government as presented by the Parish President and further amended by the Terrebonne Parish Council, and to set the salaries of the Council Staff

There were no comments from the public on the proposed ordinance.

Ms. K. Elfert moved, seconded by Ms. C. Duplantis, “THAT, the Council close the aforementioned public hearing.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Ms. K. Elfert.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS:  W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS:  None

ABSTAINING:  None

ABSENT:  None

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

OFFERED BY:  Ms. K. Elfert.
SECONDED BY:  Mr. H. Lapeyre.

ORDINANCE NO. 7061

AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT THE 2006 OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE BUDGET AND THE FIVE YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS BUDGET OF THE TERREBONNE PARISH CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT AS PRESENTED BY THE PARISH PRESIDENT AND FURTHER AMENDED BY THE TERREBONNE PARISH COUNCIL; TO SET THE SALARIES OF THE COUNCIL STAFF; AND TO ADDRESS OTHER MATTERS RELATIVE THERETO.

SECTION I

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Terrebonne Parish Council, on behalf of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government, that the 2006 Operations and Maintenance Budget and the Five Year Capital Improvements Budget of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government be hereby adopted, as presented by the Parish President and further amended by the Terrebonne Parish Council as contained in Exhibit I.

SECTION II

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that, effective January 1, 2006, the salaries of the Council Staff members be amended so as to reflect the additional 3% cost-of-living increase granted to all Parish Government employees.

SECTION III

This ordinance shall become effective upon approval by the Parish President or as otherwise provided in Section 2-13(b) of the Home Rule Charter for a Consolidated Government for Terrebonne Parish, whichever occurs sooner.
This ordinance, having been introduced and laid on the table for at least two weeks, was voted upon as follows:

THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: C. Voisin.

ABSTAINING: None.

ABSENT: None.

The Chairman declared the ordinance adopted on this, the 7th day of December, 2005.

Councilman C. Voisin explained his opposition to adopting the Parish’s 2006 Budget when there are people in South Terrebonne who are without their basic needs because of the recent hurricanes and, in his opinion, not enough has been done to help them out.

The Chairman recognized the public for comments on the following:

D. A proposed ordinance to declare certain items from the Roads and Bridges Division as surplus property and provide for the disposal of same

There were no comments from the public on the proposed ordinance.

Mr. A. Tillman moved, seconded by Ms. K. Elfert, “THAT, the Council close the aforementioned public hearing.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Mr. A. Tillman.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS: W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: C. Voisin

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

OFFERED BY: Mr. A. Tillman.
SECONDED BY: Ms. C. Duplantis.

ORDINANCE NO. 7062

An ordinance to declare items from Roads & Bridges as surplus as described in the attached Exhibit “A” and authorizing said items to be disposed of by public bid, negotiated sale, junked or by any other legally approved method

SECTION I

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, THAT THE TERREBONNE PARISH COUNCIL, ON BEHALF OF THE TERREBONNE PARISH CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT, DOES HEREBY DECLARE THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT “A” SURPLUS AND AUTHORIZES THE PARISH PRESIDENT TO DISPOSE OF SAID ITEMS BY PUBLIC BID, NEGOTIATED SALE, JUNKED OR BY ANY OTHER LEGALLY APPROVED METHOD.
SECTION II

If any word, clause, phrase, section or other portion of this ordinance shall be declared null, void, invalid, illegal, or unconstitutional, the remaining words, clauses, phrases, sections and other portions of this ordinance shall remain in force and effect, the provisions of this ordinance hereby being declared to be severable.

SECTION III

This ordinance shall become effective upon approval by the Parish President or as otherwise provided in Section 2-13(b) of the Home Rule Charter for a Consolidated Government for Terrebonne Parish, whichever occurs sooner.

This ordinance, having been introduced and laid on the table for at least two weeks, was voted upon as follows:

THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS:  None.

ABSTAINING:  None.

ABSENT:  None.

The Chairman declared the ordinance adopted on this, the 7th day of December, 2005.

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The Chairman recognized the public for comments on the following:

E. A proposed ordinance to amend the 2005 Budget to provide funds for the loss of revenue experienced at the Civic Center due to operating as a hurricane shelter, and due to the expiration of the contract with Bayou Bucks

There were no comments from the public on the proposed ordinance.

Mr. H. Lapeyre moved, seconded by Ms. K. Elfert, “THAT, the Council close the aforementioned public hearing.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Mr. H. Lapeyre.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS:  W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS:  None

ABSTAINING:  None

ABSENT:  None

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

OFFERED BY:  Mr. H. Lapeyre.
SECONDED BY:  Ms. K. Elfert.

ORDINANCE NO. 7063
An ordinance to amend the 2005 Adopted Budget for the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government so as to provide funds for loss of revenue experienced at the Civic Center due to operating as a hurricane shelter

WHEREAS, the Civic Center operated as a hurricane evacuation center as well as housing evacuees from Terrebonne Parish and the New Orleans area during and as a result of Hurricane Katrina and Rita, and

WHEREAS, the Civic Center remained a shelter until October 15, 2005, and

WHEREAS, it is projected that the Civic Center had a loss of revenue in the amount of $110,000, and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of Administration to transfer the $110,000 from the General Fund to the Civic Center Fund to fund the estimated losses from the hurricanes.

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Terrebonne Parish Council, on behalf of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government, that the 2005 Adopted Budget of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government be amended as follows:

FUND 151 – GENERAL FUND
151-999-9103-85 Civic Center Fund 110,000
151-000-5111-00 Fund Balance (Decrease) (110,000)

FUND 385 – CIVIC CENTER FUND
385-000-6476-01 Facility Rentals 34,000
385-000-6476-04 Facility Maintenance Fees 3,200
385-000-6476-10 Ticket Handling Fees 4,600
385-000-6476-14 F & B Concessions 28,600
385-000-6476-15 F & B Catering 39,600
385-000-7101-51 General Fund (110,000)

This ordinance, having been introduced and laid on the table for at least two weeks, was voted upon as follows:

THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: C. Voisin.

ABSENT: None.

The Chairman declared the ordinance adopted on this, the 7th day of December, 2005.

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Upon questioning, Comptroller J. Elfert explained that funding for the Civic Center comes from the General Fund. She stated that the funds for the loss of revenue experienced at the Civic Center due to operating as a hurricane shelter and the Bayou Bucks contract expiring is also coming from the General Fund. She explained that the proposed budget amendment is for an additional supplement from the General Fund in excess of what was previously asked for due to the loss of revenue from two sources. She explained that reimbursement from FEMA would not be received for loss revenues or for the lost income for the rental of the facility; however, reimbursement for janitorial, excess utilities, extra staff hired, medical portion, and other supplies is anticipated.

Some Council Members expressed their support of utilizing the Civic Center for a shelter for hurricanes even though it causes loss of revenue.
Upon questioning, Civic Center David Ohlmeyer explained that some of the dates that were previously held by the Bayou Bucks were filled. He stated that gross loss from Bayou Bucks game cancellations was approximately $90,000. He stated that approximately $30,000 was offset, leaving a net loss of $57,000.

Upon further questioning, Comptroller J. Elfert stated the lost revenue includes part of the funds derived from concession sales lost during the period of time the facility was used for a shelter and a loss of the contract with the Bayou Bucks.

The Chairman recognized the public for comments on the following:

F. A proposed ordinance to amend the Parish Code to define the Terms of Franchise for Cable Television Services

The Chairman recognized Mr. Reggie Bourg, Dulac resident, who inquired if this item pertained to the Parish Government Access Channel, and was informed that it did not; therefore he had no comments.

There were no further comments from the public on the proposed ordinance.

Ms. K. Elfert moved, seconded by Ms. C. Duplantis, “THAT, the Council close the aforementioned public hearing.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Ms. K. Elfert.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS: W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, and A. Tillman

NAYS: None

ABSTAINING: P. Lambert

ABSENT: None

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

OFFERED BY: Mr. W. Thibodeaux.
SECONDED BY: Ms. C. Duplantis.

ORDINANCE NO. 7064

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE PARISH CODE OF TERREBONNE PARISH, STATE OF LOUISIANA, CHAPTER 10. FRANCHISES AND AGREEMENTS, ARTICLE II. CABLE TELEVISION FRANCHISE ENABLING ORDINANCE, DIVISION 1. GENERALLY, SECTION 10-28. TERM OF FRANCHISE, AND TO PROVIDE FOR RELATED MATTERS.

SECTION I

WHEREAS, Sec. 1-06 of the Home Rule Charter for the Parish of Terrebonne provides that parish government shall have the right, power and authority to pass all ordinances requisite or necessary to promote, protect and preserve the general welfare, safety, health, peace and good order of the parish, including, but not by way of limitation, the right, power and authority to pass ordinances on all subject matters necessary, requisite or proper for the management of parish affairs, and all other subject matter without exception, subject only to the limitation that the same shall not be inconsistent with the constitution or expressly denied by general law applicable to the parish; and

WHEREAS, Parish Administration (Utilities Department) wishes to amend Chapter 10. Franchises and Agreements, Article II. Cable Television Franchise Enabling Ordinance, Division 1. Generally, Section 10-28. Term of Franchise, in an effort to react to the changing
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Terrebonne Parish Council, on behalf of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government, that:

SECTION II

Chapter 10, Article II, Division 1, Section 10-28, of the Terrebonne Parish Code be amended as follows:

Sec. 10-28. Term of Franchise.

Any franchise granted by the parish shall be for a term not to exceed twenty (20) years.

SECTION III

If any word, clause, phrase, section or other portion of this ordinance shall be declared null, void, invalid, illegal, or unconstitutional, the remaining words, clauses, phrases, sections and other portions of this ordinance shall remain in full force and effect, the provisions of this ordinance hereby being declared to be severable.

SECTION IV

This ordinance shall become effective upon approval by the Parish President.

This ordinance, having been introduced and laid on the table for at least two weeks, was voted upon as follows:

THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: P. Lambert.

ABSENT: None.

The Chairman declared the ordinance adopted on this, the 7th day of December, 2005.

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The Chairman recognized the public for comments on the following:

G. A proposed ordinance to declare that the taking of a portion of property is necessary/useful for the Gibson/Jarvis Community Improvements, Phase II Project, to authorize the acquisition of sites and/or servitudes required, and to provide for other matters relative thereto.

There were no comments from the public on the proposed ordinance.

Mr. W. Thibodeaux moved, seconded by Mr. H. Lapeyre, “THAT, the Council close the aforementioned public hearing.

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Mr. W. Thibodeaux.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS: W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS: None
WHEREAS, Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government ("TPCG") has determined that it is in the best interest of the Parish of Terrebonne and will serve a public purpose to upgrade the sewerage system in Gibson as described in Parish Project No. 03-CDBG-27, the Gibson/Jarvis Community Improvements Phase II; and

WHEREAS, a taking of a portion of property described on Exhibit “A” is necessary and useful for purposes of LA-R.S. 19:271, et seq., which authorizes TPCG to acquire immovable property for a sewerage project prior to judgment in a trial court fixing the amount of compensation due to the owner of the property; and

WHEREAS, a servitude and/or right of way over the property described on Exhibit “A” must be obtained by expropriation to install a new 100 gpm sewer lift station, 1,875± linear feet of gravity sewer line, and 1,970± linear feet of sewer force main to provide sewer hookups for approximately 23 homes due to the inability of TPCG and the landowner to amicably agree on a price to acquire the property needed for said sewerage project; and

SECTION I

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Terrebonne Parish Council, on behalf of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government that because a taking of a portion of the property described on Exhibit “A” is necessary and useful for purposes of LA-R.S. 19:271, et seq, the Parish Attorney is hereby authorized to commence expropriation proceedings against the owner(s) of record and any lessee of the property described on Exhibit “A” should TPCG and the landowner(s) and any lessee be unable to agree on a price, all in accordance with law and with just compensation as determined by a court of competent jurisdiction.

SECTION II

If any word, clause, phrase, section or other portion of this ordinance shall be declared null, void, invalid, illegal, or unconstitutional, the remaining words, clauses, phrases, sections and other portions of this ordinance shall remain in full force and effect, the provisions of this ordinance hereby being declared to be severable.

SECTION III

This ordinance shall become effective upon approval by the Parish President.

This ordinance, having been introduced and laid on the table for at least two weeks, was voted upon as follows:
THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: None.

ABSENT: None.

The Chairman declared the ordinance adopted on this, the 7th day of December, 2005.

Councilman W. Thibodeaux explained that the government is attempting to secure, by virtue of this ordinance, a 20 X 25 piece of property on the compounds of Beulah Baptist Church for the expansion of wastewater in the Gibson community, along North Bayou Black Drive.

The Chairman recognized the public for comments on the following:

H. A proposed ordinance to create a “No Parking Zone” along both sides of Catherine Street from Cypress Village Drive to the Bayou Black Recreation Property

There were no comments from the public on the proposed ordinance.

Mr. C. Voisin moved, seconded by Mr. H. Lapeyre, “THAT, the Council close the aforementioned public hearing.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Mr. C. Voisin.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS: W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: None

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

OFFERED BY: Mr. C. Voisin.
SECONDED BY: Mr. H. Lapeyre.

ORDINANCE NO. 7066

THE PARISH CODE OF TERREBONNE PARISH, CHAPTER 18, ARTICLE V (STOPPING, STANDING & PARKING), DIVISION 2 (PARISH), SECTION 18-223 (NO PARKING ZONES): TO AUTHORIZE THE DESIGNATION OF A “NO PARKING ZONE” ON BOTH SIDES OF CATHERINE STREET FROM CYPRESS VILLAGE DRIVE TO THE BAYOU BLACK RECREATION PROPERTY; TO AUTHORIZE THE INSTALLATION OF APPROPRIATE SIGNS; AND TO ADDRESS OTHER MATTERS RELATIVE THERETO.

SECTION I

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Terrebonne Parish Council, in regular session convened, acting pursuant to the authority invested in it by the Constitution and laws of the State of Louisiana, the Home Rule Charter for a Consolidated Government for Terrebonne Parish, and including, but not limited to, LSA R.S. 33:1368 and other statutes of the State of Louisiana, and to amend the Codes of Terrebonne Parish, Chapter 18, Article V, Division 2, Parish Section 18-
223 to authorize the designation of a “No Parking Zone” on both sides of Catherine Drive from Cypress Village Drive to the Bayou Black Recreation Property, and to authorize the installation of the appropriate signs as required in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

SECTION II

If any word, clause, phrase, section or other portion of this ordinance shall be declared null, void, invalid, illegal, or unconstitutional, the remaining words, clauses, phrases, sections and other portions of this ordinance shall remain in full force and effect, the provisions of this ordinance hereby being declared to be severable.

SECTION III

Any ordinance or part thereof in conflict herewith is hereby repealed.

SECTION IV

This ordinance shall become effective upon approval by the Parish President or as otherwise provided in Section 2-13(b) of the Home Rule Charter for a Consolidated Government for Terrebonne Parish, whichever occurs sooner.

This ordinance, having been introduced and laid on the table for at least two weeks, was voted upon as follows:

THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: None.

ABSENT: None.

The Chairman declared the ordinance adopted on this, the 7th day of December, 2005.

* * * * * * * * *

The Chairman recognized the public for comments on the following:

I. A proposed ordinance to amend applicable sections of the Houma Zoning Ordinance so as to prohibit the placement of mobile homes/trailers for commercial and/or residential use in the C-2 (General Commercial District), C-3 (Neighborhood Commercial District), C-4 (Transition-Commercial District), C-5 (Commercial Business Park District), and MS (Medical Services District) Zoning Districts

There were no comments from the public on the proposed ordinance.

Ms. C. Duplantis moved, seconded by Mr. W. Thibodeaux, “THAT, the Council close the aforementioned public hearing.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Ms. C. Duplantis.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS: W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: None
The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

OFFERED BY:    Mr. W. Thibodeaux.
SECONDED BY:   Mr. H. Lapeyre.

ORDINANCE NO. 7067

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING APPLICABLE SECTIONS OF THE HOUMA ZONING ORDINANCE SO AS TO PROHIBIT THE PLACEMENT OF MOBILE HOMES/TRAILERS FOR COMMERCIAL AND/OR RESIDENTIAL USE IN THE C-2 (GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT), C-3 (NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL DISTRICT), C-4 (TRANSITION-COMMERCIAL DISTRICT), C-5 (COMMERCIAL BUSINESS PARK DISTRICT), AND MS (MEDICAL SERVICES DISTRICT) ZONING DISTRICTS, AND TO ADDRESS OTHER MATTERS RELATIVE THERETO.

SECTION I

BE IT ORDAINED that the Terrebonne Parish Council, on behalf of Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government, amends applicable sections of the Houma Zoning Ordinance so as to prohibit the placement of mobile homes/trailers for commercial and/or residential use in the C-2 (General Commercial District), C-3 (Neighborhood Commercial District), C-4 (Transition-Commercial District), C-5 (Commercial Business Park District), and MS (Medical Services District) zoning districts,

SECTION II

If any word, clause, phrase, section or other portion of this ordinance shall be declared null, void, invalid, illegal, or unconstitutional, the remaining words, clauses, phrases, sections or other portions of this ordinance shall remain in full force and effect, the provisions of this section hereby being declared to be severable.

SECTION III

Any ordinance or part thereof in conflict herewith is hereby repealed.

SECTION IV

This ordinance shall become effective upon approval by the Parish President or as otherwise provided in Section 2-13 (b) of the Home Rule Charter for a Consolidated Government for Terrebonne Parish, whichever occurs sooner.

This ordinance, having been introduced and laid on the table for at least two weeks, was voted upon as follows:

THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: None.

ABSENT: K. Elfert.

The Chairman declared the ordinance adopted on this, the 7th day of December, 2005.

* * * * * * * * *

Councilman W. Thibodeaux explained that the proposed ordinance is an effort to keep mobile homes out of the City of Houma in residential neighborhoods.
The Chairman recognized the public for comments on the following:

J. A proposed ordinance to amend Article III, “City Generally” of Chapter 8, “Fire Prevention and Protection” of the Parish Code to enact new fire codes within the Urban Services District

There were no comments from the public on the proposed ordinance.

Mr. H. Lapeyre moved, seconded by Ms. C. Duplantis, “THAT, the Council close the aforementioned public hearing.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Mr. H. Lapeyre.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS:  W. Thibodeaux, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS:  None

ABSTAINING:  None

ABSENT:  K. Elfert

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

OFFERED BY:  Mr. H. Lapeyre.
SECONDED BY:  Ms. C. Duplantis.

ORDINANCE NO. 7068

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE III, “CITY GENERALLY”, OF CHAPTER 8, “FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION”, OF THE TERREBONNE PARISH CODE OF ORDINANCES SO AS TO ENACT NEW FIRE CODES IN THE URBAN SERVICES DISTRICT OF HOUMA.

SECTION I

BE IT ORDAINED by the Terrebonne Parish Council, in regular session convened, and on behalf of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government, that the Terrebonne Parish Code of Ordinances be amended as follows:

ARTICLE III. CITY GENERALLY

Sec. 8-41. Definitions. (REMAINS THE SAME)

Sec. 8-42. Violations, penalties. (REMAINS THE SAME)

Sec. 8-43. Codes adopted. (REPLACE WITH)

There is hereby adopted, for the purpose of establishing rules and regulations for handling explosives, flammable liquids and hazardous materials and processes and other combustibles, including permits and penalties, the provisions of the Louisiana State Uniform Fire Prevention Code. Said code shall apply to matters affecting or relating to structures, processes and premises from the hazard of fire and explosion arising from the storage, handling or use of structures, materials, or devices; from conditions hazardous to life, property, or public welfare in the occupancy of structures or premises; and from the construction, extension, repair, alteration, or removal of fire suppression and alarm systems or fire hazards in the structure or on the premises form occupancy or operation within the Urban Services District of Houma.

Sec. 8-44. Bureau of fire prevention – Established; membership, duties. (REMAINS THE SAME)
Sec. 8-45. Same – Authority. (REMAINS THE SAME)

Sec. 8-46. Same – Reports. (REMAINS THE SAME)

Sec. 8-47. Cooperation with state in investigating fires. (REMAINS THE SAME)

Sec. 8-48 – 8-65. Reserved.

SECTION II

If any word, clause, phrase, section or other portion of this ordinance shall be declared null, void, invalid, illegal, or unconstitutional, the remaining words, clauses, phrases, sections and other portions of this ordinance shall remain in full force and effect, the provisions of this ordinance hereby being declared to be severable.

SECTION III

This ordinance shall become effective upon approval by the Parish President or as otherwise provided in Section 2-13(b) of the Home Rule Charter for a Consolidated Government for Terrebonne Parish, whichever occurs sooner.

This ordinance, having been introduced and laid on the table for at least two weeks, was voted upon as follows:

THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: None.

ABSENT: K. Elfert.

The Chairman declared the ordinance adopted on this, the 7th day of December, 2005.

* * * * * * * * *

The Chairman recognized the public for comments on the following:

K. A proposed ordinance to provide for up to an additional 3-month exemption from permit fees following parish disasters (hurricanes, flooding, etc.)

There were no comments from the public on the proposed ordinance.

Mr. A. Tillman moved, seconded by Mr. P. Lambert, “THAT, the Council close the aforementioned public hearing.”

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS: W. Thibodeaux, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: K. Elfert

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

OFFERED BY: Mr. C. Voisin.
SECONDED BY: Mr. P. Lambert.
ORDINANCE NO. 7069

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE PARISH CODE OF TERREBONNE PARISH, CHAPTER 9, FLOOD DAMAGE AND PREVENTION, ARTICLE 2. ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT, SECTION 9-33: FEES; AND TO ADDRESS OTHER MATTERS RELATIVE THERETO.

SECTION I

BE IT ORDAINED by the Terrebonne Parish Council, in regular session convened, acting pursuant to the authority invested in it by the Constitution and laws of the State of Louisiana, the Home Rule Charter for a Consolidated Government for Terrebonne Parish, and to amend the parish Codes of Terrebonne Parish, Chapter 9. Flood Damage and Enforcement, Article 2. Administration and Enforcement, Section 9-33. Fees, as follows:

CHAPTER 9. FLOOD DAMAGE AND PREVENTION

ARTICLE II. ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT

SECTION 9-33. FEES

(ALL SECTIONS REMAIN THE SAME EXCEPT #9)

9. Fee exemption: Immediately following any disaster in the parish (hurricanes, flooding, etc.), residential structures affected by such disaster shall be exempt from permit fees for a three-month period. Upon majority vote of the authorized membership of the governing body, the exemption period may be extended for a period not to exceed three additional months.

SECTION II

If any word, clause, phrase, section or other portion of this ordinance shall be declared null, void, invalid, illegal, or unconstitutional, the remaining words, clauses, phrases, sections or other portions of this ordinance shall remain in full force and effect, the provisions of this section hereby being declared to be severable.

SECTION III

Any ordinance or part thereof in conflict herewith is hereby repealed.

SECTION IV

This ordinance shall become effective upon approval by the Parish President or as otherwise provided in Section 2-13 (b) of the Home Rule Charter for Consolidated Government for Terrebonne Parish, whichever occurs sooner.

This ordinance, having been introduced and laid on the table for at least two weeks, was voted upon as follows:

THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: None.

ABSENT: K. Elfert.

The Chairman declared the ordinance adopted on this, the 7th day of December, 2005.

* * * * * * *
Ms. C. Duplantis moved, seconded by Mr. A. Tillman, “THAT, the Council continue with the regular order of business at this time.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Ms. C. Duplantis.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS: W. Thibodeaux, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: K. Elfert

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

*Mr. C. Voisin moved, seconded by Mr. W. Thibodeaux, “THAT, the Council revisit the add-on to the agenda regarding the proclamation for ‘Celebrating Survival Day in Houma-Terrebonne’.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Mr. C. Voisin.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS: W. Thibodeaux, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: K. Elfert

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

The Chairman recognized Kathy and Peter Verdin, who accepted the proclamation, thanked the Council and Parish President and invited everyone to attend a Celebration of Survival on Saturday, December 10, 2005, in the Grand Caillou Recreation Center from 6:30 p.m. until 11:30 p.m. She stated there would be a band and it is alcohol free.

The Chairman recognized Mr. Thomas Raga, Houma resident, who expressed his concerns relative to pollution, bad odors, and green slime on St. Louis Canal Road and requested help with this situation. He inquired as to whether this is hazardous to the residents who live in the area.

Councilwoman K. Elfert stated that Administration is taking this situation very seriously, has recently had a meeting, and a solution is being worked on, approved, and budgeted for the purchase of two aerator systems and a misting system for the Pollution Control Center.

The Chairman recognized Utilities Director T. Bourg, who stated that he, as well as the Pollution Control Director, spoke with Mr. Raga yesterday and informed him of actions being taken to address the situation. He stated, in regards to the ditches, there had been some recent excavation by the Public Works Department. He stated that Mr. Raga was informed there is no association between Pollution Control activities and apparent algae bloom that has occurred in the ditches. He stated he did commit to perform some water testing from the ditches to find out if there is some sort of septic condition in those ditches.

The Chairman called for Mr. Isaac Alvis, Dularge resident, who was listed on the agenda to address the Council relative to “abandoned property in Bayou Dularge”, but Mr. Alvis was not present.
Councilman A. Tillman explained that he has spoken with the residents regarding the aforementioned property in question and referred the matter to the Planning Department for review and resolution.

The Chairman recognized Mr. Reggie Bourg, Dulac resident, who expressed his concerns relative him being told by Parish representatives that they are working with the Corps of Engineers regarding his concerns about the unauthorized drainage project on Shrimper’s Row. He expressed his concerns relative to nothing being done and waiting on the Corps to do something.

Councilman H. Lapeyre stated that until Mr. Bourg can document some positive solutions to some of the complicated problems the Parish experience he has nothing to say to him.

Chairman P. Rhodes recommended that if someone feels the Council is doing something incorrectly, they have an option to refer their concerns to the District Attorney’s Office.

The Chairman recognized Mr. Thaddeus Pellegrin, Chauvin resident, who expressed his support in the Parish President’s Schwab effort to organize a more efficient approach to improve flood protection for the citizens of Terrebonne Parish. He stated all available resources should be going to flood protection. He stated he believes there has to be some way to provide flood protection to all the people in Terrebonne Parish.

The Chairman recognized Mr. Carl Chauvin, former Council Member and Chauvin resident, who expressed the great need to find funding to repair the levees in Ward 7 in Chauvin to provide flood protection to the residents. He stated that the project the Parish President is proposing needs to commence as soon as possible.

The Chairman recognized Ms. Yvonne LeBouef, Chauvin resident, who stated she purchased her property thirty-six years ago on Little Caillou, at an elevation of eight feet. She stated as a result of Hurricane Rita, her yard was flooded, but they were one of the very few fortunate residents whose homes did not flood. She stated that many residents have left because they have flooded three years out of four. She stated she believes there are funds available to make the desperately needed repairs to the Ward 7 Levee. She stated that if the repairs are not done, Houma would feel the affects of flooding that the people in Chauvin have recently experienced. She pleaded with the Council and Parish Parish President to support supplying the necessary funding to make the necessary repairs to the levee system.

Ms. C. Duplantis moved, seconded by Mr. A. Tillman, “THAT, the Council extend Ms. Yvonne LeBouef’s time to finish her presentation.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Ms. C. Duplantis.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS:  W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS:  None

ABSTAINING:  None

ABSENT:  None

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Ms. Yvonne LeBouef continued her plea to the Council and Parish President to support funding necessary repairs to the Ward 7 Levee System in Chauvin.

The Chairman recognized Ms. Phyllis Henry, Chauvin resident, who pleaded with the Council and Parish President to make the Ward 7 Levee improvements the number one priority. She stated that this levee protects the largest community south of the Intracoastal Waterway. She also stated that protecting the levees in Chauvin would ultimately protect the residents of Houma also.
Mr. A. Tillman moved, seconded by Mr. P. Lambert, “THAT, the Council extend Ms. Phyllis Henry’s time to finish her presentation.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Mr. A. Tillman.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS:  W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS:  None

ABSTAINING:  None

ABSENT:  None

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Ms. Phyllis Henry continued her plea to the Council and Parish President to allocate funding to make desperately needed repairs to the Ward 7 Levee in Chauvin.

The Chairman recognized Ms. Debbie Thibodeux, Chauvin resident, who encouraged allocating funding for much needed repairs to the Ward 7 Levee system in Chauvin.

The Chairman recognized Ms. Judy Theriot, Chauvin resident and social worker at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Chauvin, who described the many hardships Chauvin residents are faced with and her job to find help for them to rebuild their lives. She pleaded with the Council and Parish President to fix the levees in Chauvin.

Several Council Members expressed their compassion to the victims of the recent Hurricanes and expressed the need to address having adequate levees to protect residents in Terrebonne Parish. During the discussion, it was suggested to contact their State Legislators to request funding from the Energy Bill that recently passed to be spent on adequate levee systems in Terrebonne Parish. It was also noted that there would be a sub-committee meeting on Friday, 12/9/05, to discuss a proposal by the Parish President to address the levee systems in the Parish.

The Chairman recognized Mr. Pat Briglio, Wilson Ave. resident, who stated that he and several neighbors in the vicinity of the proposed trailer park on Gouaux Ave. were present to show their strong opposition to the proposed trailer park. He stated that the Council was presented with a petition with over two hundred fifty signatures opposing this trailer park. He further stated that the proposal was reviewed and denied by the Planning Commission ten to one.

The Chairman called for a report on the Budget & Finance Committee meeting held on 11/28/05, whereupon the Committee Chairman, noting that ratification of the minutes calls a public hearing on 1/11/06, rendered the following:

BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 28, 2005

The Chairman, Wayne Thibodeaux, called the Budget & Finance Committee meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the Terrebonne Parish Council Meeting Room with the Invocation offered by Minute Clerk Suzette Thomas and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Council Clerk Paul Labat. Upon roll call, Committee Members recorded as present were: C. Duplantis, P. Rhodes, W. Thibodeaux, A. Tillman, and C. Voisin. Committee Members T. Cavalier and K. Elfert were recorded as absent, and Committee Members H. Lapeyre and P. Lambert were recorded as entering the proceedings at 5:38 p.m. and 6:19 p.m., respectively. A quorum was declared present.

Mr. A. Tillman moved, seconded by Mr. P. Rhodes, “THAT, the Budget & Finance Committee introduce an ordinance to amend the Parish Code with respect to the role and
function of the Finance Department and call a public hearing on said matter on January 11, 2006 at 6:30 p. m.” (**MOTION ADOPTED AFTER DISCUSSION)

The Chairman announced that Committee Members T. Cavalier and K. Elfert were unable to attend this evening’s meeting due to health-related matters, and acknowledged a letter from Committee Member P. Lambert indicating that he would be late due to work.

Parish President Don Schwab read a prepared statement relative to amending the Parish’s organizational chart to provide for the position of the Chief Financial Officer and requesting support of appointing Mrs. Jamie Elfert to said position.

In response to questioning, Comptroller Jamie Elfert stated that she has held the Comptroller’s position since 1990, and noted that the proposed salary only includes a 3% cost-of-living adjustment.

Committee Member H. Lapeyre entered the proceedings at this time.

Mrs. Elfert continued that, as the Chief Financial Officer, she would continue to perform the duties of both the Chief Financial Officer and the Comptroller. She added that Mr. Doug Maier served as the last Chief Financial Officer in 2000. Mrs. Elfert stated that everything would remain the same with respect to the current job responsibilities of the Comptroller and the location of the Chief Financial Officer’s office.

President Schwab interjected that the aforementioned action is being taken based upon the recommendation of the Revenue Review Committee, and noted that the Chief Financial Officer’s responsibilities would also encompass those of the Comptroller.

Parish Attorney Courtney Alcock stated that the Legal Department has not reviewed the aforementioned action, but does not foresee any conflict with the requested organizational change, or the dual position-holding of the Chief Financial Officer/Comptroller.

In response to questioning, Parish Manager Barry Blackwell stated that the Comptroller’s position would remain in the Parish’s budget, but the position would not be filled. He added that the Chief Financial Officer’s position is included in the Waters Groups Salary and Compensation Plan.

Upon questioning, Ms. Alcock stated that the position of the Chief Financial Officer could be further clarified by stating that “the Director of the Finance Department shall be the Chief Financial Officer”.

Discussion transpired relative to the Assistant Comptroller assuming the responsibilities of the Comptroller and the proper documentation for such.

Mrs. Elfert interjected that the Chief Financial Officer is not in the current organizational chart, and added that Administration has submitted an amendment to the Parish’s organizational chart for that purpose.

**The Chairman called for the vote on the motion offered by Mr. A. Tillman.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING:  W. Thibodeaux.

ABSENT:  T. Cavalier, K. Elfert, and P. Lambert.

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

A review of the proposed 2006 Budget began on the following departmental budgets:
a) Morganza to the Gulf of Mexico Hurricane Protection Project - Terrebonne Levee & Conservation District Executive Director Jerome Zeringue presented the 2006 Budget projections and the projected 5-Year Financial Plan for the Morganza to the Gulf of Mexico Hurricane Protection sales tax collection. Mr. Zeringue presented an update on other projects that are being constructed in conjunction with the Parish Government, and explained that the north shore of Lake Boudreaux would be re-established in addition to armoring the levee.

Discussion transpired relative to the installation of a lock on the Houma Navigation Canal, protection from tidal flooding, and armoring.

Committee Member P. Lambert was recorded as entering the proceedings at this time.

Continued discussion transpired relative to placing a lock in the Houma Navigation Canal and the omission of additional levees in the Dulac area from the Morganza to the Gulf of Mexico Hurricane Protection Project.

The Chairman recognized Mr. Reggie Bourg of Shrimpers Row who expressed the “state of emergency” facing Terrebonne Parish without adequate hurricane protection and added that, in his opinion, the Morganza to the Gulf of Mexico is a bad project.

Committee Member A. Tillman moved, seconded by Ms. C. Duplantis, “THAT, the Budget & Finance Committee grant Mr. Bourg three minutes to conclude his comments.”

The Chairman called for the vote on the motion offered by Mr. A. Tillman.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: None.

ABSENT: T. Cavalier, and K. Elfert.

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Mr. Bourg concluded his comments regarding funding the Morganza Project.

The Chairman recognized Mr. Thaddeus Pellegrin of Blanche Street who inquired about the Parish’s plan of action to repair the Ward 7 Levee, whereupon Committee Member P. Rhodes explained that a proposal is being considered for the Ward 7 Levee improvement project.

The Chairman recognized Ms. Evelyn Lirette of Oleander Street who expressed her dissatisfaction regarding the condition of Parish levees.

In response to questioning, Public Works Director Al Levron stated that Administration is still evaluating what action to take regarding the use of dredged material from Bayou Terrebonne.

b) Health & Welfare (Mosquito Control) – Public Works Director Al Levron requested continued funding for mosquito abatement in Terrebonne Parish and added that the Parish is in the fifth year of an eight-year contract with Mosquito Control, Inc. He noted that Administration does not have a recommendation at this time regarding other sources of funding for said abatement.

The Chairman recognized Mosquito Control, Inc. Assistant General Manager/Entomologist Steve Pavlovich who stated that there were a few cases of encephalitis in the animal population in Terrebonne Parish, but there was no loss of human life. He continued that there are ongoing efforts to educate the general public through public announcements and educational brochures. (NO ACTION TAKEN)
c) Council on Aging – Council on Aging Executive Director Diana Edmonson presented accomplishments of the Terrebonne Council on Aging and noted an ongoing discussion to provide disaster recovery assistance after an emergency situation.

Discussion transpired relative to the Council on Aging’s employee/employment appeal process. (NO ACTION TAKEN)

d) Auditoriums – Main Street Manager Anne Picou stated that trees which were removed at the Municipal Auditorium would be replaced in 2006 by the Parish’s Vegetation Department, and added that there are no rental fee increases proposed for 2006.

Comptroller Jamie Elfert explained that the two laborer/janitorial positions formerly included in the Auditorium’s budget have been moved to the departments within which the employees actual work. (NO ACTION TAKEN)

e) Bayou Terrebonne Waterlife Museum – Main Street Manager Anne Picou presented the Waterlife Museum’s hours of operation and clientele. She noted that some events were canceled as a result of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, but added that the rental revenue was recouped by patronage of OSHA employees. In response to questioning, Mrs. Picou stated that continued efforts are being made to bring more exhibits to the museum, in addition to advertising the availability of the facility for events, and reminded everyone of the Christmas Parade scheduled for December 9, 2005. (NO ACTION TAKEN)

f) State of Louisiana Division of Art Grant Program and g) Camps & Workshops (Parish Arts Program) – Arts & Humanities representative Linda Toups presented highlights of the aforementioned programs and thanked the Council and Administration for its continued support. (NO ACTION TAKEN)

h) Recreation Fund – Recreation Director Sterling Washington stated that the proposed 2006 Budget is the same as proposed in 2005. In response to questioning, Mr. Washington noted an increase in the number of participants in the Parish’s recreational programs, and added that new procedures have been established for purchasing uniforms for the participants. (NO ACTION TAKEN)

i) Parks & Ground – Recreation Director Sterling Washington explained that maintenance of the Parish’s parks and grounds has been privatized and the maintenance program is on schedule.

The Chairman requested that Administration complete an inspection of City Park and the Charlton Rozands Memorial Park, specifically the equipment at said parks. (NO ACTION TAKEN)

j) Darsey Park – Committee Member C. Duplantis stated that meetings with the Darsey Family are ongoing with respect to the specifics of the park. (NO ACTION TAKEN)

k) Grand Bois Park – Comptroller Jamie Elfert noted a correction to the Grand Bois Park Fund in that the account should reflect $15,000.00 in funding as opposed to $30,000.00.

In response to questioning, Mr. Washington stated that funding has been allocated for equipment at various City parks. (NO ACTION TAKEN)

Committee Member C. Voisin exited the proceedings at 8:00 p.m.

l) Boys & Girls Club – In response to questioning, Assistant Comptroller Donald Picou stated that Mr. William Torres and Mr. John Navy were notified of this evening’s budget hearing.
Parish President Don Schwab stated that the proposed 2006 Budget is the same as proposed in 2005.

Discussion ensued relative to locating a permanent site for the Boys & Girls Club. (NO ACTION TAKEN)

m) Economic Development - Terrebonne Economic Development Authority President Henry Richard presented an update on TEDA with respect to setting up office space, insurance requirements, and hiring a Chief Executive Officer. In response to questioning, Mr. Richard noted that TEDA has agreed to provide up to $1,500.00 in reimbursement of expenditures for the finalist to visit Houma and complete the interview process.

Discussion transpired relative to prohibitive use of public funds as it relates to the aforementioned reimbursement.

Upon additional questioning, Mr. Richard explained that an accountant or attorney would be hired on an as-needed basis to handle TEDA’s financial accounting.

The Chairman requested that a job description of the Chief Executive Officer and other staff members be submitted for review.

In response to questioning, Comptroller Jamie Elfert explained what types of expenses may be covered under the “Miscellaneous” account. (NO ACTION TAKEN)

n) Finance Department – Comptroller Jamie Elfert stated that the proposed 2006 Budget for the Finance Department was previously addressed under Item No.1 on this evening’s agenda. (NO ACTION TAKEN)

Mr. P. Rhodes moved, seconded by Mr. A. Tillman, “THAT, there being no further business to come before the Budget & Finance Committee, the meeting be adjourned.”

The Chairman called for the vote on the motion offered by Mr. P. Rhodes.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS:  None.

ABSTAINING:  None.

ABSENT:  T. Cavalier and K. Elfert.

The Chairman declared the motion adopted and the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Wayne Thibodeaux, Chairman

Suzette Thomas, Minute Clerk

Mr. W. Thibodeaux moved, seconded by Mr. A. Tillman, “THAT, the Council accept and ratify the minutes of the Budget & Finance Committee meeting held on 11/28/05.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Mr. W. Thibodeaux.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS: W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS: None
ABSTAINING: None
ABSENT: C. Duplantis

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

The Chairman called for a report on the Policy, Procedure, & Legal Committee meeting held on 12/5/05, whereupon the Committee Chairwoman, noting that ratification of the minutes rendered the following:

POLICY, PROCEDURE, & LEGAL COMMITTEE
DECEMBER 5, 2005

The Chairwoman, Kim Elfert, called the Policy, Procedure, & Legal Committee meeting to order at 5:34 p. m. in the Terrebonne Parish Council Meeting Room with the Invocation led by Mr. A. Tillman and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. C. Voisin. Upon roll call, Committee Members recorded as present were: T. Cavalier, K. Elfert, H. Lapeyre, P. Rhodes, W. Thibodeaux, A. Tillman, and C. Voisin. Committee Members C. Duplantis and P. Lambert were recorded as absent. A quorum was declared present.

The Chairwoman announced that Committee Member P. Lambert may arrive later in the proceedings and Committee Member C. Duplantis was unable to attend this evening’s meeting to due to the recurrence of an eye problem.

Risk Management Manager Janell Brierly stated that Administration recommends the same Employee Benefit Coverage as previously submitted and proposed. She continued that Administration prefers to increase employee insurance contributions in small future increments through 2010 as noted in the additional backup. Mrs. Brierly added that the Property Casualty Insurance proposal would be submitted at the next committee meeting, and noted a probable increase of 50 to 100% on the property side. She stated that, should the proposals not be received in time, Administration would request that they be given the authority to bind the policies and pay the premiums prior to the presentation in January 2006.

Parish Manager Barry Blackwell stated that it is still Administration’s position to request that Parish Government continue to pay the majority of the anticipated 2006 Health Insurance Benefit increase. He noted that the actual increase for said benefits is $650,000.00. Mr. Blackwell requested that the Council consider adopting an ordinance that would require Administration to pay 85% of the total Health Insurance Benefit Cost unless amended by ordinance.

Committee Member P. Rhodes requested that Administration review employee salary increases; previous employee participation rates, and the impact of additional entities participating in the Parish’s Health Insurance Benefits.

The Chairwoman recognized Mr. Patrick Burns of Sigma Consulting who explained that the previous large increase in employment and the subsequent large decrease in employment in 2005 has attributed to an increase in insurance premiums. He continued that the number of employees leaving for higher paying jobs also impacts the annual insurance premium.

Upon questioning relative to the insurance cost ratio, Mr. Blackwell stated that the cost would be determined by the premium, claims, and Administrative costs for insurance coverage.

In response to questioning, Mr. Burns stated that the cost projections for medical claims are based upon claims made during the last claim period.

Mrs. Brierly stated that the vision coverage is optional and is the same rate as 2004. She then presented the proposed insurance premium increase rates.

OFFERED BY: Mr. H. Lapeyre.
SECONDED BY: Mr. C. Voisin.

RESOLUTION NO. 05-410
WHEREAS, Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government (TPCG) is authorized to provide Employee Benefits insurance coverage through its Department of Risk Management; and

WHEREAS, (1) for the policy year 2006 (1/1/06-1/1/07) Clement Insurance Agency will continue to provide broker services to TPCG at a cost of $20,000.00 for medical, dental and prescription coverages and Alford, Staples, LaPeyre and Robichaux will continue to provide broker services to TPCG at a cost of $22,000.00 for short term disability, long term disability, basic life, voluntary vision, voluntary life, and voluntary AD&D coverages; and

WHEREAS, (2) due to the Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, requests for proposals for marketing insurance have been delayed and Administration and the Risk Management Department is requesting authorization to pay consulting fees to the current consulting firm Sigma for the period 1/2006-1/2007 at a cost of $45,000 (original service period was 7/2005-1/2006 and original cost was reduced to a total of $16,500 for work already done and renewals secured through year end) thereby amending the original contract amount, service period and scope of services, and

WHEREAS, Administration and the Risk Management Department have carefully reviewed options brought forth in order to minimize increases to both TPCG and its employees including but not limited to other third party administrators and insurance carriers; and

WHEREAS, (3) Administration and the Risk Management Department recommends accepting the attached 2006 rates and administrative costs for the entire employee benefits package (see attachment).

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Terrebonne Parish Council (Policy, Procedure & Legal Committee), on behalf of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government that the recommendation of Administration is to accept the aforementioned broker fees, consulting fees, premium rates and administrative costs defined above and attached for the plan year 2006.

THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: None.

ABSENT: C. Duplantis and P. Lambert.

The Chairwoman declared the resolution adopted on this, the 5th day of December, 2005.

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Mrs. Brierly further explained that the original contract amount with Sigma was $45,000.00 up to the renewal period in 2006 and commenced in July of 2005. She noted that due to the renewal dates being revised as a result of recent hurricanes, Sigma was paid $16,500.00 and to continue the services until January 2007 the additional cost would be $45,000.00. In response to questioning, she stated that Alford, Staples, LaPeyre, & Robichaux would provide broker services at a cost $22,000.00 for short and long term disability, basic life, voluntary vision, life, and Accidental Death & Dismemberment coverage; and, Clement Insurance Agency would provide broker services at a cost of $20,000.00 for medical, dental, and prescription coverage.

Council Clerk Paul Labat stated that an Attorney General’s opinion has determined that the Council does not have the authority to initiate the placement of banning smoking in public places on an election ballot, but must do so if a public referendum is submitted.
Committee Member H. Lapeyre suggested that proponents of banning smoking in public places secure the necessary signatures and present a petition to the Council to place this matter on the ballot.

In response to questioning, Parish Attorney Courtney Alcock stated that the Council has the authority to promulgate an ordinance to ban smoking in certain public places.

Committee Member W. Thibodeaux requested that the appropriate action with respect to prohibiting smoking in public places be considered, and that the Council move forward with drafting an ordinance regarding said matter based upon risk and health issues linked to smoking.

Upon questioning, Council Clerk Paul Labat stated that the previous ordinance regarding banning smoking is in committee and can be distributed by tomorrow.

Mr. W. Thibodeaux moved, seconded by Ms. T. Cavalier, “THAT, the Policy, Procedure, & Legal Committee place the matter relative to prohibiting smoking in certain public places in the appropriate committee for consideration and possible introduction of an ordinance.” (**MOTION ADOPTED AFTER DISCUSSION)

Committee Member H. Lapeyre cautioned the Committee regarding the construction of the ordinance to prohibit smoking in certain public places in order to assure balance of the rights of non-smokers and smokers.

**The Chairwoman called for the vote on the motion offered by Mr. W. Thibodeaux.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: None.

ABSENT: C. Duplantis and P. Lambert.

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Committee Member W. Thibodeaux explained that discussion has transpired with the family of the late Charles Duet, Sr. with respect to renaming the Schriever Senior Citizens’ Center, which is located along LA Highway 311, in honor of his memory.

OFFERED BY: Mr. W. Thibodeaux.

SECONDED BY: Mr. C. Voisin.

RESOLUTION NO. 05-411

WHEREAS, in 1956, Mr. Charles Duet, Sr. was first elected to the Terrebonne Parish Police Jury, representing the northern portion of Terrebonne Parish, and was continuously returned to office by the electorate until he chose not to seek office in 1988; and

WHEREAS, for thirty-two years, Mr. Duet served in a leadership capacity with the governing body of this parish and was a strong advocate of providing a variety of services to the people of this parish; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Duet was a dominant force on the governing body of this parish and served as the chairman of many committees, as well as President of the Police Jury, and

WHEREAS, following his decision to retire from elected office, Mr. Duet continued his work for the people of this parish and began to champion the need for a senior citizens’ facility in the Schriever area; and
WHEREAS, due to his fierce dedication to this cause and his many personal contacts with local and state officials, the Terrebonne Parish Council on Aging decided to actively pursue the construction of a senior citizens’ facility in Schriever, and

WHEREAS, the members of the Terrebonne Parish Council are fully aware of the former Police Juror and Councilman’s numerous contributions to Terrebonne Parish and wholly support the naming of the Schriever Senior Citizens’ Facility in honor of the memory of Mr. Charles Duet, Sr.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Terrebonne Parish Council (Policy, Procedure & Legal Committee), on behalf of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government, that the Terrebonne Parish Council on Aging Board of Directors be respectfully requested to strongly consider naming the Schriever Senior Citizens’ Facility in honor of the memory of Mr. Charles Duet, Sr.

THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: None.

ABSENT: C. Duplantis and P. Lambert.

The Chairwoman declared the resolution adopted on this, the 5th day of December, 2005.

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Mr. P. Rhodes moved, seconded by Mr. A. Tillman, “THAT, there being no further business to come before the Policy, Procedure, & Legal Committee, the meeting be adjourned.”

The Chairwoman called for the vote on the motion offered by Mr. P. Rhodes.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: None.

ABSENT: None.

The Chairwoman declared the motion adopted and the meeting was adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

Kim Elfert, Chairwoman

Suzette Thomas, Minute Clerk

Ms. K. Elfert moved, seconded by Mr. C. Voisin, “THAT, the Council accept and ratify the minutes of the Policy, Procedure, & Legal Committee meeting held on 12/5/05.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Ms. K. Elfert.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS: W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman
The Chairman called for a report on the Budget & Finance Committee meeting held on 12/5/05, whereupon the Committee Chairman, noting that ratification of the minutes calls a public hearing on 1/11/06, rendered the following:

BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE
DECEMBER 5, 2005

The Chairman, Wayne Thibodeaux, called the Budget & Finance Committee meeting to order at 6:17 p.m. in the Terrebonne Parish Council Meeting Room with the Invocation led by Minute Clerk Suzette Thomas and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Council Clerk Paul Labat. Upon roll call, Committee Members recorded as present were: T. Cavalier, K. Elfert, H. Lapeyre, P. Rhodes, W. Thibodeaux, A. Tillman, and C. Voisin. Committee Member C. Duplantis was recorded as absent, and Committee Member P. Lambert was recorded as entering the proceedings at 6:19 p.m. A quorum was declared present.

The Chairman announced that Committee Member C. Duplantis was unable to attend this evening’s meeting due to a recurrent eye problem, and that Committee Member P. Lambert would arrive later in the proceedings.

Committee Member P. Lambert entered the proceedings at this time.

Mr. P. Rhodes moved, seconded by Ms. K. Elfert, “THAT, the Budget & Finance Committee introduce an ordinance to amend the 2005 Budget to increase the transfer of funds into the Terrebonne Association for Retarded Citizens’ Investments and call a public hearing on January 11, 2006 at 6:30 p.m.”

The Chairman called for the vote on the motion offered by Mr. P. Rhodes.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: None.

ABSENT: C. Duplantis.

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

A final review of the proposed 2006 Operations and Maintenance Budget and the 5-Year Capital Outlay Budget, including any changes proposed during the budget review, began at this time.

The Chairman recognized Mr. Reggie Bourg of Shrimpers Row who presented allegations with respect to the Forced Drainage 3-1-C Project maintenance, that the Parish Government should not have paid $10,000.00 for a survey of the aforementioned project prior to the survey being completed. Mr. Bourg continued that, in his opinion, the landowner should pay for the survey of the aforementioned project, and that two 12-inch pumps were placed on said property after Hurricane Katrina to provide drainage for the landowner. He added that he has received a letter from the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers stating that the project area has not been permitted or authorized.
Parish Attorney Courtney Alcock stated that the Parish Government has been awaiting a determination from the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers regarding the aforementioned matter, but that she does not foresee any problem with taking action on the proposed 2006 Budget inclusive of the Forced Drainage 3-1-C Project.

Parish President Don Schwab stated that Public Works Director Al Levron was not present this evening due to his not being required to attend.

Mr. Bourg requested that Administration direct that Mr. Levron be present at Wednesday’s Council meeting.

Comptroller Jamie Elfert presented the recommended change by the Council to reinstate the position of the Parish Engineer in the proposed 2006 Budget and Administration’s request to remove the proposed transfer of the Right-of-Way from the Drainage Division to the Engineering Division.

Parish Manager Barry Blackwell stated that Administration does not have any problems with the request to re-budget the position of the Parish Engineer in the proposed 2006 Budget; however, he requested clarification of the specific information with respect to the duties of said position. He continued that consideration should be given to requesting the Houma-Terrebonne Regional Planning Commission to hire its own engineer and have the associated fees covered in the services provided by the Planning Commission. Mr. Blackwell stated that Administration is aware the current fees charged by the Planning Commission for engineering services do not cover the actual cost of said services.

In response to additional questioning, Mrs. Elfert stated that the Parish Engineer’s salary would be in the $60,000.00 range and continued that the Right-of-Way Agent’s position would be removed, which presents a net effect of $41,019.00.

Discussion transpired relative to the engineering services provided by the late Robert Jones, Parish Engineer.

Mr. Blackwell interjected that the Parish Engineer’s position would be re-instituted in the proposed 2006 Budget and added that everything does not need to be finalized at the present time. He suggested that additional meetings regarding said position be held to discuss the matter further.

Engineering Analyst Jeanne Bray stated that initially, the Right-of-Way Agent’s position was under the Drainage Division and was transferred to the Engineering Division in the last four months.

Mrs. Elfert explained that the transfer of the Right-of-Way Agent to the Engineering Division has been reconsidered for the proposed 2006 Budget, and would now remain in the Drainage Division as a combined function of the GIS Planner’s position. In response to questioning, Mrs. Elfert stated that the Right-of-Way Agent’s position would no longer exist in the budget.

Ms. Bray stated that since the Right-of-Way Agent position would no longer exist, the GIS Planner would be capable of inputting data into the GIS System.

Lengthy discussion transpired relative to allocating the appropriate funds commensurate with the responsibilities of the Parish Engineer and allowing existing staff members to apply for said position.

Council Clerk Paul Labat stated that the salary for the Parish Engineer could be placed in the final version of the ordinance adopting the proposed 2006 Budget.

Ms. K. Elfert moved, seconded by Mr. H. Lapeyre, “THAT, the Budget & Finance Committee request that Administration ensure that the salary for the Parish Engineer is commensurate with the current market salary ranges.” (**AMENDED MOTION OFFERED LATER IN DISCUSSION)

Mrs. Elfert suggested that the Human Resources Department be requested to follow-up at a later date on current market salary ranges for engineers and make an adjustment at that time.
Ms. K. Elfert offered an amendment, seconded by Mr. H. Lapeyre, “THAT, the Budget & Finance Committee approve the reinstatement of the Parish Engineer’s position and the elimination of the Right-of-Way Agent’s position and request, contingent upon review by the Human Resources Department, that Administration ensure that the salary for the Parish Engineer is commensurate with current market salary ranges.”

**The Chairman called for the vote on the amended motion offered by Ms. K. Elfert.**

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: None.

ABSENT: C. Duplantis.

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Comptroller Jamie Elfert presented the recommendation of the Council to resurface Rose Marie Lane.

Parish Manager Barry Blackwell stated that Administration has spoken with the Department of Housing and Human Resources with respect to determining funds for improving Rose Marie Lane. He noted that Rose Marie Lane is listed on the Parish’s Road Priority List, but funding has not been determined at this time.

The Chairman noted that the cost for re-surfacing the aforementioned lane is $30,000.00 and includes some drainage improvements. He expressed his dissatisfaction with the Parish not devising a plan to strategically resurface the roadway, and requested that Administration obtain cost estimates for concrete, asphalt, and drainage improvements for Rose Marie Lane prior to Wednesday’s Council meeting. (NO ACTION TAKEN)

Comptroller Jamie Elfert presented a request from the Council to install a traffic light at the intersection of Hollywood Road and Ninth Street.

Parish Manager Barry Blackwell stated that Administration has allocated $5,000.00 for a traffic light at the aforementioned location contingent upon the results of an additional traffic study. He noted that $2,500.00 has been allocated for the independent traffic consultant.

Parish Attorney Courtney Alcock stated that problems arise when traffic lights are removed at locations where studies have indicated that the traffic lights are warranted.

Mr. P. Rhodes moved, seconded by Mr. A. Tillman, “THAT, the Budget & Finance Committee approve the allocation of funding for a traffic study and traffic light at the intersection of Hollywood Road and Ninth Street in the proposed 2006 Budget.”

The Chairman called for the vote on the motion offered by Mr. P. Rhodes.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: None.

ABSENT: C. Duplantis.

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.
Comptroller Jaime Elfert presented a request to approve the allocation of an additional $20,000.00 in funding for The Haven, and noted that Administration has recommended the allocation of only an additional $10,000.00.

Parish Manager Blackwell stated that during 2005, the Parish Government increased its subsidy to The Haven by 33% compared to the 2004 allocation. He continued that Administration has agreed to increase the subsidy for 2006 by an additional 50% to a level of $30,000.00 in funding. Mr. Blackwell added that the additional assistance would allow The Haven time to plan its next year’s budget by filling in shortfall with additional private donations, grants, and/or fundraisers.

Committee Member T. Cavalier expressed the need to provide additional funding for The Haven.

Ms. K. Elfert moved, seconded by Ms. T. Cavalier, “THAT, the Budget & Finance Committee reject Administration’s allocation of an additional $10,000.00 for The Haven, and approve the allocation of an additional $20,000.00 in funding for said agency, for a total allocation of $40,000.00.” (**MOTION ADOPTED AFTER DISCUSSION)

Committee Member P. Rhodes requested that The Haven consider the additional funding as a one-time allocation in hopes that other funding sources may be determined.

**The Chairman called for the vote on the motion offered by Ms. K. Elfert.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: None.

ABSENT: C. Duplantis.

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Comptroller Jamie Elfert presented a request by the Council to retain the secretarial position in the Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness.

Parish Manager Barry Blackwell stated that Administration is working, in conjunction with the 911 Communications District Board and South Central Planning & Development Commission, on locating another command center for utilization during storm events. He noted that Administration believes that the current staffing in said office is sufficient during non-emergency situations and additional support staffing is made available from numerous agencies during an emergency.

Mrs. Elfert noted that the secretarial position would be upgraded in the proposed 2006 Budget to an Office Manager.

Discussion transpired relative to locating a command center during an emergency and possibly ensuring that said site is elevated to an appropriate height.

Ms. K. Elfert moved, seconded by Mr. P. Rhodes, “THAT, the Budget & Finance Committee concur with the recommendation of Administration with respect to the proposed 2006 Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness Budget.”

The Chairman called for the vote on the motion offered by Ms. K. Elfert.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

NAYS: W. Thibodeaux.

ABSTAINING: None.

ABSENT: C. Duplantis.

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Comptroller Jamie Elfert presented a recommendation to increase funding for the Health Unit to provide for additional contract labor. She noted that the additional funding would be derived from money remaining in their Fund Balance.

Parish Manager Barry Blackwell stated that Administration has met with a representative from the Health Unit with respect to current Fund Balance revenue in the amount of approximately $90,000.00 for contract labor in 2006.

Terrebonne Parish Health Unit Office of Public Health Administrator Al Russell concurred with Administration’s recommendation of utilizing the remaining funding in the Health Unit’s Fund Balance, and noted that a meeting to discuss the matter further would be held at a later date.

Mr. P. Lambert moved, seconded by Mr. H. Lapeyre, “THAT, the Budget & Finance Committee concur with the recommendation of Administration to increase the proposed 2006 Health Unit Budget to provide funding for additional contract labor.” (**MOTION ADOPTED AFTER DISCUSSION)

In response to questioning regarding use of a facility at Terrebonne General Medical Center, Mr. Russell stated that additional discussion is transpiring regarding said facility and possible expansion of the existing Health Unit.

**The Chairman called for the vote on the motion offered by Mr. P. Lambert.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: None.

ABSENT: C. Duplantis.

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Comptroller Jamie Elfert presented a request by the Council to provide additional funds for an additional counselor for the Mental Health Unit. She noted that Administration recommends reinstating $21,000.00 for the General Fund to cover the contracted services which would be the same amount allocated in 2005. Mrs. Elfert noted that, in addition to the aforementioned funding, the Mental Health Unit would be able to utilize some funding from its Fund Balance.

Parish Manager Barry Blackwell stated that Administration has expressed concern regarding the shortfall in funding for the Mental Health Unit and is considering placing the issue on an election ballot to increase the millage.

Mr. H. Lapeyre moved, seconded by Ms. T. Cavalier, “THAT, the Budget & Finance Committee concur with Administration’s recommendation to reinstate $21,000.00 from the General Fund to the Mental Health Unit to cover the costs associated with additional contracted services.”

The Chairman called for the vote on the motion offered by Mr. H. Lapeyre.
UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: None.

ABSENT: C. Duplantis.

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Comptroller Jamie Elfert presented Administration’s recommendation to change the Sewerage Fund/Treatment Division’s budgeted positions as follows: Eliminate one Engineering Technician I and include one Electrician IV.

Pollution Control Administrator Michael Ordogne explained that the Engineering Technician I would be replaced by the Electrician IV position which is a lower grade. He continued that the former employee had additional skills, which warranted the upgrade in the position.

Mr. P. Rhodes moved, seconded by Ms. K. Elfert, “THAT, the Budget & Finance Committee concur with the recommendation of Administration to change the Sewerage Fund/Treatment Division budgeted position to eliminate one Engineering Technician I position and include one Electrician IV.” (**MOTION ADOPTED AFTER DISCUSSION)**

Discussion transpired relative to adjusting the salaries for various positions to attract skilled employees.

The Chairman called for the vote on the motion offered by Mr. P. Rhodes.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: None.

ABSENT: C. Duplantis.

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Comptroller Jamie Elfert presented a request from the Coroner’s Office to provide additional funding to cover increased activity after the original budget was submitted and noted that the Coroner’s Office is requesting an additional $97,033.00 in funding to cover 2006 expenses.

Committee Member A. Tillman requested a line item detail of the Coroner’s budget.

Upon questioning, Parish Manager Barry Blackwell stated that the Coroner’s Office is a separate entity from the Parish Government and the Coroner has the sole discretion with respect to employee matters.

Mr. H. Lapeyre moved, seconded by Mr. C. Voisin, “THAT, the Budget & Finance Committee concur with the recommendation of Administration to increase funding for the Coroner’s Office.”

The Chairman called for the vote on the motion offered by Mr. H. Lapeyre.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

NAYS: W. Thibodeaux.

ABSTAINING: None.

ABSENT: C. Duplantis.

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Comptroller Jamie Elfert explained that Administration is requesting changing the proposed 2006 Council Budget to remove the 3% cost-of-living adjustment, which was inadvertently included in the budget.

Ms. K. Elfert moved, seconded unanimously, “THAT, the Budget & Finance Committee concur with Administration’s request to remove the 3% Cost-of-Living Adjustment in the proposed 2006 Council Budget.”

The Chairman called for the vote on the motion offered by Ms. K. Elfert.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: None.

ABSENT: C. Duplantis.

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Comptroller Jamie Elfert requested that the proposed 2006 Registrar of Voters Budget be increased to provide $9,242.00 in funding to cover the costs associated in an employee changing from single to family health insurance coverage.

Mr. H. Lapeyre moved, seconded by Ms. K. Elfert, “THAT, the Budget & Finance Committee concur with the recommendation of Administration to adjust the proposed 2006 Registrar of Voters Group Insurance Budget to provide for additional family coverage for an employee.”

In response to questioning, Mrs. Elfert stated that employees of other entities who participate in the Parish’s insurance benefits absorb the same premium increases as Parish employees.

Committee Member A. Tillman requested that Administration provide documentation relative to entities requiring their employees to absorb the same insurance increases as Parish employees.

Parish Manager Barry Blackwell interjected that Administration has been informed that some entities do not require its employees to pay the same contribution as Parish employees.

Parish Attorney Courtney Alcock stated that the Council has previously required other entities to comply with Parish Government requisites and requested additional time to investigate the matter.

**The Chairman called for the vote on the motion offered by Mr. H. Lapeyre.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: None.

ABSENT: C. Duplantis.

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Comptroller Jamie Elfert presented a request from Administration to correct the 3% Cost-of-Living Adjustment for the Criminal Court Fund, and noted that a schedule of said changes has been submitted for review. In response to questioning, Mrs. Elfert explained that these employees, hired by the District Attorney’s Office, were informed that they would not receive benefits; however, when an opening became available in the Criminal Court Fund, the employees were transferred to said fund.

Parish Manager Barry Blackwell stated that costs associated with payroll for the aforementioned allocation of funding in the Criminal Court Fund is based on the prior year’s trend. He continued that Workmen’s Compensation is allocated based upon past experience.

Mrs. Elfert stated that the aforementioned matter could be revisited at a later time.

Mr. C. Voisin moved, Mr. H. Lapeyre, “THAT, the Budget & Finance Committee concur with the recommendation of Administration to correct the proposed 2006 Criminal Court Fund salaries & wages and related accounts for the 3% Cost-of-Living Adjustment.” (**MOTION ADOPTED AFTER DISCUSSION)

Mrs. Elfert further explained that the District Attorney’s Office has a discretionary fund, which is not taken care of by the Parish Government, and added that they receive fines and forfeitures, which is used to hire additional support staff.

Mr. Blackwell further explained that Drug Court was started with a declining Federal Grant and the Parish Government’s responsibility to fund the Court increased.

**The Chairman called for the vote on the motion offered by Mr. C. Voisin.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: K. Elfert.

ABSENT: C. Duplantis.

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Comptroller Jamie Elfert presented Administration’s request to correct the Fire Department’s Cost-of-Living Adjustment allocation from 4% to 3%.

Mr. H. Lapeyre moved, seconded by Ms. K. Elfert, “THAT, the Budget & Finance Committee concur with the recommendation of Administration to correct the 2006 Fire Department Budget to adjust the Cost-of-Living Adjustment.”

The Chairman called for the vote on the motion offered by Mr. H. Lapeyre.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.
The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Comptroller Jamie Elfert presented Administration’s request to increase the engineering fees for the feasibility/impact study of the Parish’s utility system in the amount of $100,000.00 as recommended by the Revenue Review Committee.

Parish Manager Barry Blackwell noted that the aforementioned allocation was previously discussed and noted that the Revenue Review Committee recommend the evaluation of the Parish’s remaining in the electric utility business.

Utilities Director Tom Bourg further explained the Parish’s options with respect to selling the Parish’s utility system.

Ms. K. Elfert moved, seconded by Mr. H. Lapeyre, “THAT, the Budget & Finance Committee concur with Administration’s request to increase the engineering fees for the feasibility/impact study of the Parish’s utility system in the proposed 2006 Budget.”

The Chairman called for the vote on the motion offered by Ms. K. Elfert.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: None.

ABSENT: C. Duplantis.

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Comptroller Jamie Elfert presented Administration’s request to adjust the Civic Center’s Budget to provide for additional costs associated with electricity costs and reducing the landscaping/irrigation services.

Mr. H. Lapeyre moved, seconded by Ms. K. Elfert, “THAT, the Budget & Finance Committee concur with Administration’s request to adjust the Civic Center Budget to provide for additional costs associated with electricity costs and reducing the landscaping/irrigation services funds.”

The Chairman called for the vote on the motion offered by Mr. H. Lapeyre.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: None.

ABSENT: C. Duplantis.

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Comptroller Jamie Elfert presented Administration’s request to change the job title of the Finance Department Head.
Mr. H. Lapeyre moved, seconded by Ms. K. Elfert, “THAT, the Budget & Finance Committee concur with the recommendation of Administration to change the job title of the Finance Department Head.” (**MOTION ADOPTED AFTER DISCUSSION)

Mrs. Elfert explained that the Comptroller’s position is being removed from the proposed 2006 Finance Department Budget’s budgeted positions, but would remain in the Waters Group Salary and Compensation Plan.

**The Chairman called for the vote on the motion offered by Mr. H. Lapeyre.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: None.

ABSENT: C. Duplantis.

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Parish Manager Barry Blackwell stated that Administration continues to support the allowance of an overall 4% Cost-of-Living Adjustment; however, it recommends a 3% Cost-of-Living Adjustment and an additional 1% to be allocated for merit based upon outstanding performance. He added that it is Administration’s goal to provide an annual increase when possible.

Discussion ensued relative to addressing those areas where the “turn over” rate of employees is high, providing sufficient salaries to attract and retain employees, adjusting some entry level positions, and addressing concerns within the Human Resources Department. (NO ACTION TAKEN)

Mr. P. Rhodes moved, seconded by Ms. K. Elfert, “THAT, the Budget & Finance Committee add on to the agenda the matter relative to funding the Parish’s levee system.”

The Chairman called for the vote on the motion offered by Mr. P. Rhodes.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: None.

ABSENT: C. Duplantis.

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Parish President Don Schwab read a prepared statement regarding Administration’s intent to determine funding sources for repair and maintenance of various Parish levee systems, particularly the Ward 7 Levee.

Lengthy discussion ensued relative to addressing the Parish’s levee systems and ensuring that all areas in Terrebonne Parish are considered with respect to providing adequate levee systems for storm protection purposes.

Committee Member K. Elfert exited the proceedings at 8:23 p.m. and Committee Member T. Cavalier exited the proceedings at 8:38 p.m.

Discussion continued regarding funding the Parish’s effort to address its levee systems.
Committee Member H. Lapeyre requested that consideration be given to including members from Terrebonne Parish’s Legislative Delegation to serve on the recommended Levee Priority Committee.

President Schwab noted his intention to appoint one member from the Parish’s Legislative Delegation as a member of the Levee Priority Committee, and suggested that the Council consider doing the same. (NO ACTION TAKEN)

Mr. P. Rhodes moved, seconded by Mr. A. Tillman, “THAT, there being no further business to come before the Budget & Finance Committee, the meeting be adjourned.”

The Chairman called for the vote on the motion offered by Mr. P. Rhodes.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: None.

ABSENT: T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, and K. Elfert.

The Chairman declared the motion adopted and the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Wayne Thibodeaux, Chairman
Suzette Thomas, Minute Clerk

Mr. W. Thibodeaux moved, seconded by Mr. H. Lapeyre, “THAT, the Council accept and ratify the minutes of the Budget & Finance Committee meeting held on 12/5/05.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Mr. W. Thibodeaux.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS: W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: C. Duplantis

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

The Chairman called for a report on the Public Services Committee meeting held on 12/6/05, whereupon the Committee Chairman, noting that ratification of the minutes calls a public hearing on 1/11/06, rendered the following:

PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE
DECEMBER 6, 2005

The Chairman, Alvin Tillman, Sr., called the Public Services Committee meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. in the Terrebonne Parish Council Meeting Room with the Invocation led by Ms. C. Duplantis and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Ms. K. Elfert. Upon roll call, Committee Members recorded as present were: T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, K. Elfert, H. Lapeyre, P. Rhodes, W. Thibodeaux, A. Tillman, and C. Voisin. Committee Member P. Lambert was recorded as entering the proceedings at 6:22 p.m. A quorum was declared present.
The Chairman announced that Committee Member P. Lambert may arrive later in the proceedings.

OFFERED BY: Mr. W. Thibodeaux.
SECONDED BY: Mr. H. Lapeyre.

RESOLUTION NO. 05-412

A resolution authorizing Change Order No. 3 to the Agreement between Owner and Contractor for Parish Project No. 03-BLG-17, Courthouse Annex Waterproofing.

WHEREAS, the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government did enter into a contract with Morgan Roofing Co., Inc. for Parish Project No. 03-BLG-17, Courthouse Annex Waterproofing, and

WHEREAS, this change order is necessary due to adverse weather and changes in scope, and

WHEREAS, this change order is necessary to increase the contract time by ninety-four (94) days.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Terrebonne Parish Council (Public Services Committee), on behalf of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government, does hereby authorize the Parish President, Don Schwab, to execute Change Order No. 3 to the Agreement between Owner and Contractor for the Courthouse Annex Waterproofing, Parish Project No. 03-BLG-17, which increases the contract time due to adverse weather and changes in scope, for an increase to the contract time of ninety-four (94) days; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of the resolution be forwarded to the Architect, Houston J. Lirette, Jr.

THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: None.


The Chairman declared the resolution adopted on this, the 6th day of December, 2005.

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Project Architect Houston Lirette explained that approval of the Substantial Completion was submitted at the previous meeting, and the aforementioned change order was postponed due to the contractor needing to submit additional information in addition to various other delays. He noted that no additional Administrative cost is being requested, and explained the costs incurred for maintaining a flat roof. Mr. Lirette added that the warranty on the aforementioned improvement is for twenty years.

OFFERED BY: Mr. H. Lapeyre.
SECONDED BY: Mr. C. Voisin.

RESOLUTION NO. 05-413

A resolution providing approval of Amendment No. 2 to the Engineering Agreement for Parish Project No. 03-DRA-15, Concord Road Drainage Improvements, Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana.

WHEREAS, the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government did enter into an original engineering agreement with GSE Associates, Inc. dated April 7, 2003, and amended on October
WHEREAS, the Engineering Agreement between Owner and Engineer provides for certain limitations for Basic Services and specific Additional Services, and

WHEREAS, the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government is desirous of increasing the scope of services to include Phase III, construction of a pump station, and

WHEREAS, the Statewide Flood Control Program is funding a portion of this phase of the project, and

WHEREAS, this increase in the upset limits for Basic Services and Additional Services are necessary to proceed with this phase of the project, and

WHEREAS, the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government is desirous of increasing the scope of services to include Phase III, construction of a pump station, and

WHEREAS, the Statewide Flood Control Program is funding a portion of this phase of the project, and

WHEREAS, the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government is desirous of having these services continued so that there is a need for additional funds to be added to the contract, and

WHEREAS, this above work will increase the basic services section of the contract by an additional $51,500.00, and

WHEREAS, this above work will increase overall contract by an amount of $101,500.00.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Terrebonne Parish Council (Public Services Committee), on behalf of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government, does hereby approve this Amendment No. 2 to the Engineering Agreement for an increase of $50,000.00 in Basic Services and $51,500.00 in Additional Services and authorizes Parish President Don Schwab to execute this Amendment No. 2 to the Engineering Agreement for the Concord Road Drainage Improvements, Parish Project No. 03-DRA-15, with GSE Associates, Inc.; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of the resolution be forwarded to the Engineer, GSE Associates, Inc.

THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS:  None.

ABSTAINING:  None.


The Chairman declared the resolution adopted on this, the 6th day of December, 2005.

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OFFERED BY: Mr. C. Voisin.
SECONDED BY: Ms. C. Duplantis.

RESOLUTION NO. 05-414

A resolution approving Amendment No. 12 to the Engineering Agreement with Shaw Coastal, Inc. for the Ashland Landfill Closure identified as Parish Project No. 99-SAN-09, Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana.

WHEREAS, the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government did enter into an Engineering Agreement with Shaw Coastal, Inc. dated May 5, 1999 for the Ashland Landfill Closure identified as Parish Project No. 99-SAN-09, and

WHEREAS, the Engineering Agreement between Owner and Engineer provide for certain considerations for specific Basic, Additional and Reimbursable Expense Services based on a certain project, and
WHEREAS, the Owner has requested that additional work performed as part of this contract and that development of documentation of existing facilities has been required to perform the work called for by this contract and that this will require additional engineering work under Basic Services and Additional Services.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Terrebonne Parish Council (Public Services Committee), on behalf of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government, does hereby approve this Amendment for an increase of $39,078.60 in Basic Services and an increase in the limitation of cost for Additional Services and Reimbursable Expenses in an amount of $39,078.60.

THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: None.


The Chairman declared the resolution adopted on this, the 6th day of December, 2005.

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OFFERED BY: Ms. C. Duplantis.
SECONDED BY: Mr. H. Lapeyre and Mr. C. Voisin.

RESOLUTION NO. 05-415

A resolution ratifying the Parish President’s appointment of David A. Waitz Engineering and Surveying, Inc. to provide professional engineering services relative to the replacement of existing cast iron gas lines, project known as Cast Iron Gas Line Improvements, Mahler Street Area, Phase II.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Terrebonne Parish Council (Public Services Committee), on behalf of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government, that the Parish President’s appointment of David A. Waitz Engineering and Surveying, Inc. to provide professional engineering and land survey services relative to the replacement of existing cast iron gas lines, project known as Cast Iron Gas Line Improvements, Mahler Street Area, Phase II be, and is hereby approved; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Parish President, Don Schwab, and all other appropriate parties be, and they are hereby authorized to execute any and all contract documents associated therewith.

THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: None.


The Chairman declared the resolution adopted on this, the 6th day of December, 2005.

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OFFERED BY: Mr. H. Lapeyre.
SECONDED BY: Ms. C. Duplantis.
RESOLUTION NO. 05-416

A resolution ratifying the Parish President’s appointment of Milford and Associates to provide professional engineering services relative to the replacement of existing gas lines project known as Broussard Gas Line Improvement.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Terrebonne Parish Council (Public Services Committee), on behalf of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government, that the Parish President’s appointment of Milford and Associates to provide professional engineering and land survey services relative to cast iron gas line replacement for project known as Broussard Gas Line Improvement be, and is hereby approved; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Parish President, Don Schwab, and all other appropriate parties be, and they are hereby authorized to execute any and all contract documents associated therewith.

THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS:  None.

ABSTAINING:  None.


The Chairman declared the resolution adopted on this, the 6th day of December, 2005.

RESOLUTION NO. 05-417

A resolution authorizing the Utilities Department to contract with SWDI, LLC to provide, transport and empty large refuse containers.

WHEREAS, prices were obtained by the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government, Department of Utilities, Solid Waste Division for the purpose of transportation of large refuse containers, and

WHEREAS, after careful review by the department, it has been determined that the lowest quotation received was that of SWDI, LLC and that it should be accepted as per the attached forms, and

WHEREAS, the Parish Finance Department has verified that funds are budgeted and available, and

WHEREAS, the Parish Administration has recommended the acceptance of the quotation of SWDI, LLC in the amount of One Hundred Eighty Dollars ($180.00) per haul, as per attached forms.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Terrebonne Parish Council (Public Services Committee), on behalf of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government, that a contract with SWDI, LLC to provide, transport and empty large refuse containers be, and is hereby authorized; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Parish President and all other appropriate parties be, and they are hereby authorized to execute any and all contract documents associated therewith.
OFFERED BY: Mr. P. Rhodes.
SECONDED BY: Mr. C. Voisin and Mr. H. Lapeyre.

RESOLUTION NO. 05-418

A resolution authorizing the Utilities Department to contract with Turbo Parts, LLC to purchase parts needed for Houma Generating Station Unit 16.

WHEREAS, the department has obtained a quote for parts from Turbo Parts, LLC and desires authorization to proceed with said purchase.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Terrebonne Parish Council (Public Services Committee), on behalf of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government, that the Utilities Department be, and they are hereby authorized to contract with Turbo Parts, LLC to purchase parts for Houma Generating Station Unit 16 as detailed on the attached purchase requisition; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Parish President and all other appropriate parties be, and they are hereby authorized to execute any and all contract documents associated therewith.

OFFERED BY: Mr. H. Lapeyre.
SECONDED BY: Mr. P. Rhodes.

RESOLUTION NO. 05-419

Utilities Director Tom Bourg stated that Comcast has agreed to extend the time period FOR consideration of Time Warner’s franchise renewal until January 10, 2006 due to no franchise being in place at this time. He added that a draft franchise renewal has been included in the agenda backup information for review.

Parish Attorney Courtney Alcock stated that because Comcast has agreed to extend the franchise renewal time period, no action is needed on this matter. (NO ACTION TAKEN)
A resolution to rescind Resolution No. 05-307 due to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita and awarding and authorizing the signing of the Construction Contract for Parish Project No. 02-LANE-31, LA 24 at LA 56 & LA 24 at LA 659 Traffic Signalization, Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana and authorizing the issuance of the Notice to Proceed to commence construction of said Project.

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 05-307 awarded the bid for Parish Project No. 02-LANE-31, LA 24 at LA 56 & LA 24 at LA 659 Traffic Signalization to Toomer Electrical Company, Inc., and

WHEREAS, Toomer Electrical Company, Inc., refuses to sign the construction contract due to the escalation in prices since Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and

WHEREAS, the next lowest bidder Jack B. Harper Contractor, Inc. will honor their original bid of $130,149.45, and

WHEREAS, the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government has provided sufficient funds to complete the project, and

WHEREAS, the Parish Administration now wishes to rescind Resolution No. 05-307 and accept the next lowest bid of Jack B. Harper Contractor, Inc., in the amount of One Hundred Thirty Thousand One Hundred Forty Nine Dollars and Forty Five Cents ($130,149.45).

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Terrebonne Parish Council (Public Services Committee), on behalf of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government, that the recommendation of the Parish Administration be approved, that Resolution No. 05-307 be hereby rescinded; and that the quote of Jack B. Harper Contractor, Inc., in the amount of $130,149.45 be accepted, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Parish President be authorized to execute all necessary Contract Documents to authorize Jack B. Harper Contractor, Inc., to proceed with all necessary services for the completion of the project.

THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS:  None.

ABSTAINING:  None.

ABSENT:  P. Lambert.

The Chairman declared the resolution adopted on this, the 6th day of December, 2005.

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Engineering Analyst Joan Schexnayder explained that Toomer Electric Company, Inc. is unwilling to complete the aforementioned work at the original bid proposal price, and continued that Jack B. Harper, the second lowest bidder, has agreed to perform the work at its originally submitted bid proposal. She noted that the aforementioned work would cost an additional $12,000.00. In response to questioning, Ms. Schexnayder stated that, due to bid laws, the Parish Government was unable to approve Toomer’s request for a change order for an additional $7,000.00 to complete said project.

Public Works Director Al Levron explained that the aforementioned contract required that Toomer be provided and requested to sign a contract within 30-days; however, the Parish’s consultant did not provide Toomer with the contract in a timely manner. He noted that due to a technicality in the contract, Toomer was released from the bid bond requirements. Mr. Levron further explained that the Parish’s options were to reject all bids and start over or award the project to the second lowest bidder. He noted the second option allowed the Parish to expedite the project.
Discussion transpired relative to placing a traffic light at the intersection of Hollywood Road and Ninth Street to alleviate the potential of a fatality occurring at said intersection versus awaiting the results of an independent traffic analysis, as recommended by Administration.

In response to questioning, Planning & Zoning Director Patrick Gordon stated that the independent study could commence within the next 30-days. Mr. Gordon cautioned the committee in creating more liability exposure to the Parish than currently exists, and recommended that a professional traffic planner evaluate the intersection.

Committee Member C. Duplantis noted the concerns of several local law enforcement agencies who have recommended that a traffic light needs to be placed at said intersection.

Upon questioning, Mr. Gordon stated that most traffic analyses at intersections have ranged between $1,500.00 and $2,000.00. He continued that Hollywood Road is a Parish roadway, and added that South Central Planning & Development Commission has completed part of the traffic analysis and traffic counts in addition to reviewing accidents at said location.

Committee Member W. Thibodeaux requested a copy of the traffic accident data for said intersection.

Ms. C. Duplantis moved, seconded by Mr. H. Lapeyre, “THAT, the Public Services Committee introduce an ordinance to install a traffic light at the intersection of Hollywood Road and Ninth Street, and call a public hearing on January 11, 2006 at 6:30 p.m.” (**MOTION ADOPTED AFTER DISCUSSION)

In response to continued questioning, Mr. Gordon stated that the Planning & Zoning Department compiled an analysis in conjunction with South Central Planning & Development Commission of which the data, at that time, indicated that a traffic light is not warranted at said location; however, it is possible that new information may determine a different analysis.

Parish Manager Barry Blackwell stated that the cost of installing a traffic light at said intersection is $5,000.00 and the cost of the study is $2,500.00.

Mr. Gordon interjected that the cost of the traffic light installation may increase if actuators are placed at said location. He stated that previous data did not indicate any serious injury or fatality. Mr. Gordon added that the light at Alma Street is approximately ¼ mile away and another light is located at St. Louis Canal Road.

Discussion transpired relative to analyzing locations where traffic control devices have been installed after the improvements have been made at the sites.

**The Chairman called for the vote on the motion offered by Ms. C. Duplantis.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: None.

ABSENT: P. Lambert and P. Rhodes.

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Mr. C. Voisin moved, seconded by Ms. C. Duplantis, “THAT, the Public Services Committee retain the matter relative to resurfacing the shoulders along both sides of Bayouside Drive at its intersection with LA Highway 58 beginning at 5000 Bayouside Drive to its terminus in committee for further evaluation.” (**MOTION ADOPTED AFTER DISCUSSION)

Public Services Director Al Levron stated that Administration has received approval of the project worksheet from FEMA for resurfacing the shoulders along Bayouside Drive. He
continued that there have been some problems with obtaining a contractor to provide said services in addition to questions regarding the contractor’s price for said work. Mr. Levron further explained that Administration is attempting to “piggy back” onto the contract that the State has with said contractor, but the price may be different due to the scope of work being different. He added that should Administration be unable to “piggy back” onto the contract with the State, it would obtain competitive pricing for said project.

**The Chairman called for the vote on the motion offered by Mr. C. Voisin.**

**UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:**


**NAYS:** None.

**ABSTAINING:** None.

**ABSENT:** P. Lambert.

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

OFFERED BY: Mr. C. Voisin.
SECONDED BY: Mr. P. Rhodes.

**RESOLUTION NO. 05-420**

A resolution requesting the members of Terrebonne Parish’s Congressional Delegation to securing funding for the Forced Drainage 4-8 Levee Armoring Project.

WHEREAS, the residents and businesses in the Montegut community have suffered flooding problems on four separate occasions - during Hurricanes Juan, Andrew, Lili and Rita, and

WHEREAS, in each instance, the flooding was caused by breaches in the drainage levees system in the area, and

WHEREAS, consulting engineers have proposed a method of strengthening the levee system to avoid breaches in the future, especially during times of natural emergencies, and

WHEREAS, the Terrebonne Parish Council is most supportive of the proposed Forced Drainage 4-8 Levee Armoring Project and realizes that state and federal funds will be needed to complete the desperately needed project.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Terrebonne Parish Council (Public Services Committee), on behalf of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government, that Senators Mary Landrieu and David Vitter and Congressman Charles Melancon be respectfully requested to review the options for the Forced Drainage 4-8 Levee Armoring Project and to do everything possible to secure federal funding for this most needed project, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to all members of Terrebonne Parish’s Legislative Delegation so that they may support the position of the Council on this issue.

**THERE WAS RECORDED:**


**NAYS:** None.

**ABSTAINING:** None.

**ABSENT:** P. Lambert.
The Chairman declared the resolution adopted on this, the 6th day of December, 2005.

OFFERED BY: Mr. C. Voisin.
SECONDED BY: Ms. K. Elfert and Mr. H. Lapeyre.

RESOLUTION NO. 05-421

A resolution declaring an emergency for the repair of Forced Drainage Levees.

WHEREAS, Hurricanes Juan, Andrew, Lily and Rita have caused considerable flooding in lower Terrebonne Parish as a result of levee overtopping and/or levee breaching, and

WHEREAS, the results of Hurricane Rita levee reconnaissance in lower Terrebonne Parish indicated that certain sections needed emergency repairs, and

WHEREAS, funds are currently available in the Parish’s emergency fund.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Terrebonne Parish Council (Public Services Committee), on behalf of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government, declares an emergency for the following work:

(1) Clean and remove debris from lower Pointe aux Chenes Levee and bring all sections to +8.0 elevation (LA 665 to Point Farm Ridge)
(2) Elevate the lower 1200-foot section of Forced Drainage 4-8 Levee in back of Montegut to +10.0 and elevate the flood side and protected side berm of the lower 1300-foot section of steel sheetpile wall located on the 4-8 Levee.
(3) North of Lashbrook, clear and elevate certain sections of this levee that were overtopped during Hurricane Rita and provide a minimum elevation of +8.0.
(4) Elevate the Susie Canal Levee to +8.0 from Bobtown South to Bayou Butler.
(5) Elevate the Upper Forced Drainage 3-1B Levee System to +8.0 min. (Bayou Butler to Orange St.)
(6) Elevate the Forced Drainage 3-1C Levee to +8.0 min.
(7) Elevate portions of the Bayou Dularge Levee System to +8.0 min.

THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: None.

ABSENT: None.

The Chairman declared the resolution adopted on this, the 6th day of December, 2005.

Parish Manager Barry Blackwell stated that Administration has met and discussed the aforementioned resolution. He suggested that the aforementioned matter be submitted to the Levee Priority Committee for consideration.

Committee Member P. Lambert entered the proceedings at this time.

**Mr. P. Rhodes offered a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. W. Thibodeaux, “THAT, the Public Services Committee retain the matter relative to declaring the repair of certain levees in Terrebonne Parish as an emergency situation in committee for further evaluation.” (***SUBSTITUTE MOTION LATER WITHDRAWN)**
Parish Attorney Courtney Alcock explained that the Parish President has the authority to declare an emergency, which is outlined, in State law. In response to questioning, Ms. Alcock stated that the resolution is not clear as to what type of emergency is being declared.

Committee Member P. Lambert explained that the aforementioned resolution has been submitted in an effort to alleviate future problems during the 2006 Hurricane season. He noted that the Parish is currently unprepared for the next hurricane season.

In response to questioning, Parish President Don Schwab stated that Administration would be “hard pressed” to repair the Parish’s levees in time for the 2006 Hurricane season. He requested additional time to review the resolution in order to obtain some direction on said matter.

Lengthy discussion transpired relative to the condition of Parish levees and proactively addressing issues with the levees.

In response to questioning, Public Works Director Al Levron stated that, excluding Ward 7, most of the Parish levees failed due to water overtopping the levees and a failure in the sheet pilings at the Montegut Levee. He added that Parish levees range from a height of 5 feet to 10 feet. He noted that the Levee Priority Committee could consider a target height elevation.

Upon questioning, Committee Member P. Lambert stated that the proposed list of levee projects were drafted by himself, Councilman Clayton Voisin, and Mr. Marc Rogers of T. Baker Smith & Son, Inc. He added that he has no problem with submitting the proposed project list to the Levee Priority Committee for evaluation.

Committee Member T. Cavalier requested that the proposed levee project list be included in Parish President Don Schwab’s letter to address levee concerns in Terrebonne Parish inclusive of Ward 7.

Parish Manager Barry Blackwell stated that the first meeting of the Levee Priority Committee would be held on Friday, December 9, 2005 at 10:00 a.m. He added that the Committee has been given a deadline of January 15, 2006 to complete its evaluation.

Continued discussion occurred relative to the necessity of repairing/constructing the Parish’s levee system and allocating funding for said levee projects.

Council Clerk Paul Labat stated that the proposed resolution does not allocate funding for the proposed levee projects and simply identifies potential sites.

Committee Member P. Rhodes withdrew the substitute motion.

Ms. Alcock noted some concerns relative to some of the proposed levee projects due to the projects being “improvement” projects which cannot be declared an emergency. She suggested that the projects be individually considered for emergency declaration.

Planning & Zoning Director Patrick Gordon stated that Administration has determined that multi-way “Stop” signs are not warranted at the intersections of Duval Street and its intersection with Hache, and Birch Streets. (NO ACTION TAKEN)

The Chairman relinquished the chair to the Vice Chairwoman.

The Chairwoman recognized Mr. David Waitz of Waitz Engineering who stated that preliminary plans for the Crozier Drainage Project should be submitted by the first week of January 2006 and added that final plans should be submitted 3 days following the preliminary plan submission. (NO ACTION TAKEN)

Mr. H. Lapeyre moved, seconded by Mr. P. Lambert, “THAT, the Public Services Committee add on to the agenda the matter relative to requesting a response from Terrebonne Parish’s Legislative Delegation regarding installing turning lanes and widening LA Highway 311.”

The Vice Chairwoman called for the vote on the motion offered by Mr. H. Lapeyre.
UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS:  None.

ABSTAINING:  None.

ABSENT:  None.

The Vice Chairwoman declared the motion adopted.

OFFERED BY:  Mr. H. Lapeyre.
SECONDED BY:  Mr. C. Voisin.

RESOLUTION NO. 05-422

WHEREAS, for many years, the number of residential subdivisions has continued to increase along Highway 311 between Houma and Thibodaux, and

WHEREAS, although the increase in traffic along this corridor has been steadily increasing over the years, the post-Katrina population in Terrebonne Parish has definitely been documented by the boost in the number of vehicles on Highway 311, and

WHEREAS, there are certain locations on Highway 311 at which traffic is routinely blocked due to motorists wanting to turn into a particular subdivision or business located off of Highway 311, and

WHEREAS, during the last few years, the Terrebonne Parish Council has sent several resolutions to the State Government requesting that Highway 311 be widened and that turning lanes be installed at certain locations to allow a more even flow of traffic, and

WHEREAS, in response to numerous requests, the Council is still pleading with State Government to review the situation on Highway 311 and to make every effort to widen the state highway and to install turning lanes at the proper locations.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Terrebonne Parish Council (Public Services Committee), on behalf of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government, that the Terrebonne Parish Legislative Delegation be respectfully requested to address the widening/turning lanes for Highway 311 and to determine in the very near future if this project is in the foreseeable future of the Department of Transportation and Development, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the members of the Legislative Delegation be requested to advise the Council of their determination on this project in January of 2006.

THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS:  None.

ABSTAINING:  None.


The Vice Chairwoman declared the resolution adopted on this, the 6th day of December, 2005.

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Mr. A. Tillman moved, seconded by Mr. W. Thibodeaux, “THAT, there being no further business to come before the Public Services Committee, the meeting be adjourned.”
The Vice Chairwoman called for the vote on the motion offered by Mr. A. Tillman.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: None.

ABSENT: None.

The Vice Chairwoman declared the motion adopted and the meeting was adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Alvin Tillman, Chairman

Suzette Thomas, Minute Clerk

Mr. A. Tillman moved, seconded by Mr. H. Lapeyre, “THAT, the Council accept and ratify the minutes of the Public Services Committee meeting held on 12/6/05.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Mr. A. Tillman.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS:  W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: C. Duplantis

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

The Chairman called for a report on the Community Development & Planning Committee meeting held on 12/6/05, whereupon the Committee Chairwoman, noting that ratification of the minutes calls a public hearing on 1/11/06, rendered the following:

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING COMMITTEE

DECEMBER 6, 2005

The Chairwoman, Teri Cavalier, called the Community Development & Planning Committee meeting to order at 7:39 p.m. in the Terrebonne Parish Council Meeting Room with the Invocation offered by Ms. K. Elfert and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Council Clerk Paul Labat. Upon roll call, Committee Members recorded as present were: T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, K. Elfert, P. Lambert, H. Lapeyre, P. Rhodes, W. Thibodeaux, A. Tillman, and C. Voisin. A quorum was declared present.

Ms. K. Elfert moved, seconded by Mr. H. Lapeyre and Mr. P. Rhodes, “THAT, the Community Development & Planning Committee address Item No. 3 (Mr. Rodney Bollinger wishes to address the committee relative to traffic concerns in the Parish) first on the agenda.”

The Chairwoman called for the vote on the motion offered by Ms. K. Elfert.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

NAYS:  None.

ABSTAINING:  None.

ABSENT:  None.

The Chairwoman declared the motion adopted.

The Chairwoman recognized Mr. Rodney Bollinger, Houma resident, who requested that consideration be given to the following: 1) Removing several stop signs along various roadways in order to allow adequate traffic flow along roadways with only two homes between each block; 2) Adjusting the time sequence and installing an actuator on the traffic light at St. Louis Canal Road; 3) Installing a turning lane and left turn signal at the intersection St. Louis Canal Road and Bayou Gardens Drive; and 4) Installing an actuator on the traffic light at the intersection of Alma Street and Vicari Drive.

Planning & Zoning Director Patrick Gordon stated that, in response to prior discussions with Mr. Bollinger, his office requested the replacement of road reflectors along Bayou Gardens Drive in the curve, which have since been replaced. Mr. Gordon continued that the traffic light at St. Louis Canal Road and Bayou Gardens Drive has an actuator and work was being conducted at the aforementioned location today. He added that the Road & Bridge Division intends to follow-up on the work tomorrow, and continued that the other requests Mr. Bollinger made must be submitted to the Louisiana Department of Transportation & Development for evaluation. In response to questioning, Mr. Gordon stated that recent weather conditions may have affected various traffic signalization mechanisms. (NO ACTION TAKEN)

OFFERED BY:  Mr. A. Tillman.
SECONDED BY:  Ms. K. Elfert and Mr. W. Thibodeaux.

RESOLUTION NO. 05-423

A resolution authorizing the Parish President to sign and submit the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) Contract with Louisiana Housing Finance Agency (LHFA) for FY 2006

WHEREAS, the allocated amount of $199,202.68 is available to the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government for the period of October 1, 2005 through September 30, 2006, of which $182,616.53 is for services and will be paid directly to vendors by LHFA and $16,586.15 will be reimbursed to Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government for administrative cost.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Terrebonne Parish Council (Community Development and Planning Committee), on behalf of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government, does hereby authorize the Parish President, Don Schwab, to sign and submit the LIHEAP Contract and to sign and submit any other documents necessary between Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government and the Louisiana Housing Finance Agency for the enactment of this contract.

THERE WAS RECORDED:


NAYS:  None.

ABSTAINING:  None.

ABSENT:  None.

The Chairwoman declared the resolution adopted on this, the 6th day of December, 2005.
OFFERED BY: Mr. H. Lapeyre.
SECONDED BY: Mr. W. Thibodeaux.

RESOLUTION NO. 05-424

A RESOLUTION GIVING NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE ACQUISITION OF SITES AND/OR SERVITUDES REQUIRED FOR THE VALHI EXTENSION PROJECT, PARISH PROJECT NO. 05-EXT-36; AUTHORIZE THE PARISH PRESIDENT TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO ACQUIRE SITES AND/OR SERVITUDES FOR THE SAID PURPOSES; TO AUTHORIZE THE PARISH LEGAL STAFF TO COMMENCE EXPROPRIATION PROCEEDINGS IN THE EVENT THE SITES AND/OR SERVITUDES CANNOT BE OBTAINED CONVENTIONALLY.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Terrebonne Parish Council (Community Development and Planning Committee), on behalf of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government, that Notice of Intent is given for adopting an Ordinance to authorize the acquisition of sites and/or servitudes required for the Valhi Extension Project, Parish Project No. 05-ext-36; authorize the Parish President to execute any and all documents necessary to acquire sites and/or servitudes for the said purposes; to authorize the Parish Legal Staff to commence expropriation proceedings in the event the sites and/or servitudes cannot be obtained conventionally; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a public hearing on said ordinance be called for Wednesday, January 11, 2006.

THERE WAS RECORDED:

NAYS: None.
ABSTAINING: None.
ABSENT: None.

The Chairwoman declared the resolution adopted on this, the 6th day of December, 2005.

Ms. C. Duplantis moved, seconded by Ms. K. Elfert, “THAT, there being no further business to come before the Community Development & Planning Committee, the meeting be adjourned.”

The Chairwoman called for the vote on the motion offered by Ms. C. Duplantis.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

NAYS: None.
ABSTAINING: None.
ABSENT: None.

The Chairwoman declared the motion adopted and the meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.
Ms. T. Cavalier moved, seconded by Ms. K. Elfert, “THAT, the Council accept and ratify the minutes of the Community Development & Planning Committee meeting held on 12/6/05.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Ms. T. Cavalier.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS:  W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS:  None

ABSTAINING:  None

ABSENT:  C. Duplantis

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Mr. A. Tillman moved, seconded by Mr. W. Thibodeaux, “THAT, the Council approve the following street light list:

INSTALL FOUR (4) 400-WATT HIGH PRESSURE SODIUM STREET LIGHTS ON EXISTING POLES AT 1860 GRAND CAILLOU ROAD {PARISH BARN}(PERRY BLANCHARD OR JOHN DAIGLE 985-873-6735); ROAD LIGHTING DISTRICT NO. 4; ENTERGY; CLAYTON VOISIN

INSTALL ONE (1) 250-WATT STREET LIGHT ON EXISTING POLE AT 504 BAYOU DULARGE ROAD; ROAD LIGHTING DISTRICT NO. 10; SLECA; ALVIN TILLMAN

INSTALL 175-WATT MERCURY VAPOR LIGHT ON EXISTING POLE AT 5483 BAYOU BLACK DRIVE; ROAD LIGHTING DISTRICT NO. 8; SLECA; WAYNE THIBODEAUX

INSTALL 175-WATT STREET LIGHTS AT 317, 321 AND 325 BLAKEFIELD DRIVE IN SCHRIEVER; ROAD LIGHTING DISTRICT NO. 1; ENTERGY; HAROLD LAPEYRE

INSTALL SEVEN (7) LIGHTS AND POLES ALONG THE 1800 BLOCK OF MARTIN LUTHER KING BLVD. (CALL KIM ELFERT, 873-6419, OR HENRY RICHARD, 868-9240, FOR EXACT LOCATIONS); ROAD LIGHTING DISTRICT NO. 3; ENTERGY; KIM ELFERT

INSTALL ONE (1) 400-WATT HIGH PRESSURE SODIUM STREET LIGHT ON EXISTING POLE AT 4710 HIGHWAY 56; ROAD LIGHTING DISTRICT NO. 7; ENTERGY; PETER RHODES.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Mr. A. Tillman.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS:  W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS:  None

ABSTAINING:  None

ABSENT:  None

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.
Mr. A. Tillman moved, seconded by Mr. C. Voisin, “THAT, the Council approve attendance at the following meetings as per the current Council Travel Policy:

A) NACo Legislative Conference; March 4-8, 2006; Washington, D.C.
B) National Conference on Beach Preservation Technology; January 30-February 3, 2006; Sarasota, Florida.
C) Police Jury Association Conference; March 17 & 18; Alexandria, La.
D) Environmental Regulatory Compliance Conference; February 16 & 17, 2006; Alexandria, La.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Mr. A. Tillman.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS:  W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS:  None

ABSTAINING:  None

ABSENT:  None

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Mr. C. Voisin moved, seconded by Mr. P. Lambert, “THAT, the Council accept nominations from SCIA of Mr. Don Hingle and Mr. Bobby Barthel for the Terrebonne Economic Development Authority, that nominations be closed and that a voice vote of the Council be taken to determine who will fill the vacancy.” *(SUBSTITUTE MOTION OFFERED IMMEDIATELY.)*

*Mr. W. Thibodeaux offered a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. A. Tillman, “THAT, the Council deny both the nominations submitted by SCIA for the Terrebonne Economic Development Authority.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the substitute motion offered by Mr. W. Thibodeaux.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS:  W. Thibodeaux, T. Cavalier, P. Rhodes, and A. Tillman

NAYS:  K. Elfert, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, and P. Lambert

ABSTAINING:  None

ABSENT:  C. Duplantis

The Chairman declared the motion failed.

*The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Mr. C. Voisin.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS:  K. Elfert, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Lambert

NAYS:  W. Thibodeaux, T. Cavalier, P. Rhodes, and A. Tillman

ABSTAINING:  None

ABSENT:  None

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.
The Chairman called for a voice vote of the Council to determine who would fill the vacancy on TEDA, representing SCIA, whereupon the following was recorded:

**DON HINGLE**  
K. Elfert  
C. Duplantis  
H. Lapeyre  
C. Voisin  
P. Lambert

**BOBBY BARTHEL**

W. Thibodeaux, T. Cavalier, P. Rhodes, and A. Tillman were recorded as voting “nay”

The Chairman stated as per the aforementioned results, Mr. Don Hingle is appointed to TEDA, representing SCIA.

Ms. K. Elfert moved, seconded by Ms. C. Duplantis, “THAT, the Council hold nominations open for the vacancy on the Terrebonne Parish Tree Board.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Ms. K. Elfert.

**UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:**

**YEAS:** W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

**NAYS:** None

**ABSTAINING:** None

**ABSENT:** None

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Ms. K. Elfert moved, seconded by Ms. C. Duplantis, “THAT, the Council appoint Mr. Chris Erny to the un-expired term of Mr. Gary Landry on the Terrebonne Port Commission.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Ms. K. Elfert.

**UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:**

**YEAS:** W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

**NAYS:** None

**ABSTAINING:** None

**ABSENT:** None

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

The Chairman recognized Mr. Chris Erny, who thanked the Council for the appointment and the opportunity to serve his Parish in this capacity.

Ms. C. Duplantis moved, seconded by Mr. C. Voisin, “THAT, the Council re-appoint Mr. Jim Gueydan to another term on the Houma-Terrebonne Public Trust Finance Authority.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Ms. C. Duplantis.

**UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:**

**YEAS:** W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

**NAYS:** None

**ABSTAINING:** None

**ABSENT:** None

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.
NAYS: None
ABSTAINING: None
ABSENT: None

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Mr. W. Thibodeaux moved, seconded by Ms. K. Elfert, “THAT, the Council hold nominations open for the expired terms of Ms. Nellie Smith and Mr. Jay Duplantis on the Recreation District No. 7 Board.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Mr. W. Thibodeaux.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS: W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS: None
ABSTAINING: None
ABSENT: None

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Mr. C. Voisin moved, seconded by Mr. W. Thibodeaux, “THAT, the Council hold nominations open for the expired term of Mr. Temus Bonnette on the Houma Visitors and Convention Bureau.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Mr. C. Voisin.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS: W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS: None
ABSTAINING: None
ABSENT: None

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Ms. T. Cavalier moved, seconded by Ms. C. Duplantis, “THAT, the Council hold nominations open for the expired term of Mr. Dale LeBouef on the Bayou Blue Fire Protection District Board.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Ms. T. Cavalier.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS: W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS: None
ABSTAINING: None
ABSENT: None
The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Ms. K. Elfert moved, seconded by Mr. C. Voisin, “THAT, the Council re-appoint Mr. Kenneth Wright, Mr. Edward Lawson, and Mr. Tommy Beeson to another term on the Bayou Cane Fire Protection District Board.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Ms. K. Elfert.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS: W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: None

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Ms. T. Cavalier moved, seconded by Ms. C. Duplantis, “THAT, the Council hold nominations open for the expired terms of Mr. Robert Parr, Mr. Jimmy Rogers, and Mr. Wayne Gautreaux on the Coteau Fire Protection District Board.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Ms. T. Cavalier.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS: W. Thibodeaux, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: K. Elfert

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Mr. C. Voisin moved, seconded by Mr. H. Lapeyre, “THAT, the Council re-appoint Mr. Louis Pitre, Mr. Evest Voisin, Jr., and Mr. Cyril A. Verret to another term on the Fire Protection District No. 4 Board.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Mr. C. Voisin.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS: W. Thibodeaux, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: K. Elfert

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Mr. P. Lambert moved, seconded by Mr. H. Lapeyre, “THAT, the Council hold nominations open for the expired terms of Mr. Earl Baudoin, Mr. Kurt Charpentier, Mr. Jan Rogers, and Mr. Edward Robichaux on the Fire Protection District No. 5 Board.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Mr. P. Lambert.
Upon roll call there was recorded:

YEAS: W. Thibodeaux, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: K. Elfert

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Mr. P. Lambert moved, seconded by Mr. H. Lapeyre, “THAT, the Council hold nominations open for the expired terms of Mr. Russell Hebert and Mr. Louis Prosperie on the Fire Protection District No. 6 Board.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Mr. P. Lambert.

Upon roll call there was recorded:

YEAS: W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: None

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Mr. P. Lambert moved, seconded by Mr. A. Tillman, “THAT, the Council hold nominations open for the expired terms of Mr. John Voisin, Mr. Herman LeBlanc, and Mr. Reiley LeBouef on the Fire Protection District No. 7 Board.”

Upon roll call there was recorded:

YEAS: W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: None

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Mr. H. Lapeyre moved, seconded by Mr. C. Voisin, “THAT, the Council re-appoint Mr. Charles Dusenberry, Mr. Lynn Giroir, and Mr. Mickey Adams to another term on the Fire Protection District No. 9 Board.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Mr. H. Lapeyre.

Upon roll call there was recorded:

YEAS: W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS: None

ABSTAINING: None
The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Ms. C. Duplantis moved, seconded by Mr. A. Tillman, “THAT, the Council hold nominations open for the expired terms of Mr. Harry Michel, Mrs. Kathy Pennington, and Mr. Rene Williams on the Village East Fire Protection District Board.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Ms. C. Duplantis.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS:  W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS:  None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: None

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Mr. C. Voisin moved, seconded by Mr. H. Lapeyre, “THAT, the Council re-appoint Mr. Avery Hebert and Mrs. Shirley Liner to another term on the Fire Protection District No. 10 Board.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Mr. C. Voisin.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS:  W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS:  None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: None

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Mr. W. Thibodeaux moved, seconded by Ms. C. Duplantis, “THAT, the Council re-appoint Mrs. Peggy Pitre and Mr. Jeff Hill to another term on the Schriever Fire Protection District Board.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Mr. W. Thibodeaux.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS:  W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS:  None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: None

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

The Chairman recognized Mrs. Peggy Pitre, who thanked the Council for the re-appointment and encouraged citizens to get involved with their volunteer fire companies.
Mr. P. Lambert moved, seconded by Mr. C. Voisin, “THAT, the Council re-appoint Mr. Keith Kurtz to another term on the Houma-Terrebonne Regional Planning Commission.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Mr. P. Lambert.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS:  W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, T. Cavalier, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS:  None

ABSTAINING:  None

ABSENT:  None

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Councilwoman T. Cavalier commended Vandebilt Catholic High School for their efforts in raising funds for Grand Caillou Elementary School due to their losses as a result of Hurricane Rita.

Councilman W. Thibodeaux inquired whether information is being presented to businesses to inform them of the Governor’s passage of State tax-free shopping days on 12/16, 17, & 18 this year.

Upon questioning, TEDA President Henry Richard stated that TEDA did not send any notice to the public regarding State tax-free shopping days, but it was in “The Courier” and that would give the public notification of same.

Councilman P. Lambert announced that he had the recent pleasure of being a speaker at Montegut Middle School where they hosted Kipowa Middle School from Arizona, who adopted Montegut Middle School after the hurricanes. He stated they raised all sorts of donations for the school and they were honored for their kindness.

Councilwoman C. Duplantis reminded the public of the annual Christmas parade this Friday, 12/9/05, beginning at 7:00 p.m., from Terrebonne High School to the Court Square in downtown Houma.

Chairman P. Rhodes read letters he had received from the President of the United States in response to correspondence sent regarding a federal aid request for the Parish of Terrebonne due to the recent hurricanes.

Councilman W. Thibodeaux announced a food drive to be held in the City of Houma being sponsored by the New Mount Zion Baptist Church and the members of Prince Hall Masonic Family. He stated that food distribution to the community will take place at the Prince Hall on Lafayette Street on Thursday, 12/15/05 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on Friday, 12/16/05 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Councilman C. Voisin announced that on 12/10/05 there would be a “Celebration for Survival” at the Grand Caillou Recreation Center. He stated there would be food and drink (alcohol-free), and a band and it starts at 6:00 p.m. until 11:30 p.m.

Councilman H. Lapeyre stated that at the Davidson Hardware Store on Grand Caillou Road the Salvation Army received a large volume of toys and appliances, so if anyone is in need they could possibly go there.

Councilman P. Labat reminded everyone of the Council meeting change in schedule and that the meetings are next week.

Parish President D. Schwab allowed Utilities Director T. Bourg to introduce Ms. Jhana Enders of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), regarding the household hazardous waste collection of the agency in Terrebonne Parish. She stated that the collection center is
located at 3451 Highway 182 in Raceland and explained the different items being collected there and what has been collected thus far. She provided the Council with contact information for EPA response. She introduced Mr. Malcolm Andre, with the Department of Environment Quality (DEQ) who was present also and he stated that the DEQ also has an office in Lockport at 532-6206.

At this time, 8:30 p.m., Councilwoman T. Cavalier was recorded as leaving the proceedings.

Parish President D. Schwab stated that he had a visit from the Habitat for Humanity from Canada who are visiting and he is hoping they will adopt Terrebonne Parish to build some homes, possibly in Bayou Blue.

Everyone wished Councilman C. Voisin a Happy Birthday for Friday, 12/9/05.

Mr. A. Tillman moved, seconded by Ms. K. Elfert, “THAT, the Council accept the following Monthly Engineering Reports:

A) GSE Associates, Inc.
B) T. Baker Smith & Son, Inc.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Mr. A. Tillman.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS: W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: T. Cavalier

The Chairman declared the motion adopted.

Mr. A. Tillman moved, seconded by Ms. C. Duplantis, “THAT, there being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting be adjourned.”

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion offered by Mr. A. Tillman.

UPON ROLL CALL THERE WAS RECORDED:

YEAS: W. Thibodeaux, K. Elfert, C. Duplantis, H. Lapeyre, C. Voisin, P. Rhodes, P. Lambert, and A. Tillman

NAYS: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: T. Cavalier

The Chairman declared the motion adopted and the meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

VENITA H. WHITNEY
MINUTE CLERK

ATTEST:

/S/PETER RHODES
PETER RHODES, CHAIRMAN
TERREBONNE PARISH COUNCIL

/S/PAUL A. LABAT