

APRIL 27, 2004
RACELAND, LOUISIANA

STATE OF LOUISIANA
PARISH OF LAFOURCHE

THE LAFOURCHE PARISH COUNCIL FINANCE & LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE, PARISH OF LAFOURCHE, STATE OF LOUISIANA, WAS SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 27, 2004, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE BOARD OF APPOINTMENTS AND PERMITS COMMITTEE MEETING, IN THE COUNCIL ROOM AT THE LAFOURCHE PARISH COUNCIL BARRIOS CENTER, 1612 HWY. 182, SUITE 100, RACELAND, LOUISIANA.

Mr. Tommy Lasseigne, Chairman, stated that the Finance and Legislative Committee was ready for the transaction of business following the Board of Appointments and Permits Committee. Proceedings of the meeting were called to order at 8:30 with the following:

PRESENT: Mr. Tyrone Williams
Mr. Mike Delatte
Mr. Michael Matherne
Mr. Tommy Lasseigne—Chairman
Mr. Mark Atzenhoffer
Mr. Lindel Toups
Mr. L. Phillip Gouaux, II—Chairman
Mr. Brent Callais
Mr. Daniel Lorraine

ABSENT: None

A motion was offered by Mr. Daniel Lorraine, seconded by Mr. Phillip Gouaux, and *carried* to deviate from the regular agenda and move to a 2/3 Agenda by a vote of nine (9) yeas and zero (0) nays.

2/3 AGENDA

The first item (1) on the 2/3 Agenda was a motion to enter into a discussion concerning the bid for renovations to the Galliano Health Unit. Mr. Cullen Curole referred to the bids received and recommended that the Council give the Administration the authority to accept the lowest bidder, Picciola Construction Co., Inc. at a bid of \$106,550. A **motion** was offered by Mr. Phillip Gouaux and seconded by Mr. Mark Atzenhoffer. The Committee *approved* the motion to give the Administration the authority to accept the bid from Picciola Construction Co., Inc. by a vote of nine (9) yeas and zero (0) nays.

The next item (2) was a discussion concerning parish credit cards. Mrs. Shannon Chiasson stated that the purpose for the credit cards would be for emergency purposes only, referring to an instance when the parish was unable to purchase a part for a bridge. She also said that the credit card would have \$25,000 line of credit and only the Parish President could purchase the charge to the credit card. Mrs. Chiasson mentioned that certain staff members would be able to have a credit card, which has a checks and balances system set up. A **motion** was offered by Mr. Phillip Gouaux and *unanimously seconded* to authorize the Parish President to acquire a business credit card for the parish of Lafourche with a total maximum limit of up to \$25,000 and to designate and establish internal guidelines for its use.

Next, a motion was offered by Mr. Mark Atzenhoffer and *unanimously seconded* to return to the regular agenda.

MOTIONS

The first item (1) on the agenda was a motion to enter into discussion concerning the parish website. Mr. Mark Atzenhoffer mentioned that the parish website needs work, adding that people should be able to access the website for agendas, code of ordinances, and Home Rule Charter, in addition to contacting councilmen. He suggested that the Administration look into utilizing Nicholls State University or the technical college to develop a design within the next 30-60 days. Mr. Curole mentioned that the parish currently has an agreement with South Central Planning (SCP) to assist with the existing website, adding that SCP has not been provided with much information from the parish and any ideas are welcomed. Discussion ensued. Mr. Atzenhoffer suggested that the website responsibilities be taken from SCP and make it a function of the parish to maintain its own website internally. Mr. Phillip Gouaux discussed SCP's role in developing the website and recommended that the photographer who took pictures of the councilmen be called so that the pictures can be given to SCP to be posted on the website.

The next item (2) on the agenda was a motion to enter into discussion concerning food services at the Head Start facilities. Mr. Tyrone Williams discussed complaints he received about the food supplied from the detention center to Head Start, saying that he does not see a problem with the food. A discussion ensued regarding the cost of this service to be provided elsewhere. President Randolph mentioned that the complaints were investigated and until further evidence is received, there is no need to change the contract. Mr. Willie Johnson, Head of the Correction Office for the Sheriff's office, discussed the allegations concerning the food services, which does not profit the Sheriff's office because inmate labor is used and the Sheriff's office absorbs the cost of the supervision of the inmates. He further discussed the quality and cost of the service, saying that any profit organization would not be able to provide the service at a cheaper cost.

The next item (3) on the agenda was a motion to enter into discussion to request additional information from the Lafourche Parish Library. Mr. Mark Atzenhoffer said that this item could be removed since he, as the liaison, could get the information himself. Chairman Lasseigne announced that item (3) was removed from the agenda.

The next item (4) on the agenda was a motion to enter into discussion regarding can shakes on bridges throughout the parish. Mr. Daniel Lorraine mentioned that he was trying to make the can shakes safer, not trying to get rid of them. He suggested that a letter be sent to the Sheriff's office requesting that a deputy be supplied, at no charge, when can shakes are held. Mr. Lorraine requested that the Council Clerk send the councilmen copies of the ordinances regarding can shakes.

RESOLUTIONS

The next item (5) on the agenda was a resolution authorizing the Parish President to sign grant applications, contracts and cooperative agreements and to administer signed grants, contracts, and agreements for new and continuing programs including, but not limited to, Coastal Zone Management, Head Start, and the workforce Investment Program. This authorization does not provide for authority in circumstances where the Council has taken action to maintain said authority in another body. A **motion** was offered by Mr. Lindel Toups and seconded by Mr. Mark Atzenhoffer. An amendment was offered by Mr. Mark Atzenhoffer to exclude the words *new and, after agreements for*, from the resolution, to allow for the signing of grants that are already in the works. Discussion ensued. Mr. Cullen Curole explained (refer to handout) the effects of the resolution authorizing the Parish President to sign certain budgeted contracts, adding that the text

on the handout was divided into parts for the purpose of explanation. He discussed each individual part. Mr. Curole concluded that the adoption of this resolution would give the Parish President authority to act on behalf of the parish, in regards to grant programs and projects and may be of a time sensitive matter. A discussion ensued with further explanation of the resolution. Chairman Lasseigne read the **amendment** to read as follows (additions--italicized; exclusions--stricken through):

Resolution authorizing the Parish President to sign grant applications, contracts and cooperative agreements *for continuing programs to present new grant awards and programs for the approval of the Council* and to administer ~~signed~~ *approved* grants, contracts, and agreements for new and continuing programs including, but not limited to, Coastal Zone Management, Head Start, and the workforce Investment Program. This authorization does not provide for authority in circumstances where the Council has taken action to maintain said authority *for themselves or in another body*.

The **amendment** was offered by Mr. Phillip Gouaux and seconded by Mr. Mark Atzenhoffer. The committee **recommended approval** of the amendment by a vote of nine (9) yeas and zero (0) nays. Next, the Committee **recommended approval** of the resolution as amended by a vote of nine (9) yeas and zero (0) nays.

RES. NO. 04-032 AUTHORIZE SIGNATURE OF PARISH PRESIDENT

The next item (6) on the agenda was a resolution rescinding Resolution No. 04-012 and enacting a new resolution authorizing the Parish President to negotiate all contracts pertinent to the Lafourche Parish Government; to execute and administer contracts for equipment, professional services, material, supplies and other services up to amounts budgeted in the approved maintenance and operating budget; to execute and administer contracts for projects, capital improvements and related professional services as specifically identified in the approved maintenance and operating budget or as subsequently authorized by the Council; to prepare, and submit for approval to the Council contracts for projects, capital improvement sand related professional services not specifically identified in the Maintenance and Operating Budget; and to execute and administer contracts for projects, capital improvements and related professional services not specifically identified in the approved Maintenance and Operating Budget when approved by the Council. (A *handout was also distributed to the committee for further explanation of the resolution*) A **motion** was offered by Mr. Mark Atzenhoffer and seconded by Mr. Phillip Gouaux. Mr. Daniel Lorraine questioned the need to change Resolution No. 04-012, which reads: "Resolution authorizing the Parish President to negotiate contracts pertinent to the Lafourche Parish Government and thereafter present the final contract to the Council for final ratification." Mr. Mark Atzenhoffer referred to contracts dealing with the daily operations of the parish, saying that those contracts, which may be time sensitive, should not need council approval. Mr. Brent Callais commented that the parish knows ahead of time when contracts will end. He spoke in opposition to the resolution because it does not require council approval, citing comments A2 and A3 on the handout. Mr. Curole explained the handout further and discussed instances in which council approval would, or should not, be needed. Further discussion ensued. An **amendment** was offered by Mr. Mark Atzenhoffer for the resolution to read as follows (additions--bolded): *Resolution rescinding Resolution No. 04-012 and enacting a new resolution to authorize the Parish President to negotiate all contracts pertinent to the Lafourche Parish Government; to execute and administer contracts for equipment, professional services, material, supplies and other services up to amounts budgeted in the approved maintenance and operating budget; to execute and administer contracts for projects, capital improvements and related professional services as specifically identified in **and up to amounts originally budgeted in** the approved maintenance and operating budget or as subsequently*

authorized by the Council; to prepare, and submit for approval to the Council contracts for projects, capital improvement sand related professional services not specifically identified in the Maintenance and Operating Budget; and to execute and administer contracts for projects, capital improvements and related professional services not specifically identified in the approved Maintenance and Operating Budget when approved by the Council. This authorization does not provide for authority in circumstances where the Council has taken action to maintain said authority for themselves or to another body. The Lafourche Parish Council will maintain said authority for contracts dealing with all Road Sales Tax Districts and any contracts that extend beyond one year. The Committee **recommended approval** of the amendment by a vote of eight (8) yeas and one (1) nay, being that of Mr. Daniel Lorraine. Next, a roll call vote was taken on the resolution as amended as follows:

YEAS: Mr. Phillip Gouaux
Mr. Mike Delatte
Mr. Tyrone Williams
Mr. Lindel Toups
Mr. Michael Matherne
Mr. Mark Atzenhoffer

NAYS: Mr. Daniel Lorraine
Mr. Brent Callais
Mr. Tommy Lasseigne

The Committee **recommended approval** of the resolution as amended by a vote of six (6) yeas and three (3) nays.

RES. NO. 04-033 AUTHORIZE PARISH PRESIDENT TO NEGOTIATE CONTRACTS

PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE

The next item on the agenda was Public to address the Committee. Ms. Rosie Galjour mentioned that she felt tension over the issue dealing with the contracts and inquired about President Randolph feeling on the matter. President Randolph said that she did not want the issue to be a personal one but wanted the Council to vote on whether or not to give the Parish President the authority, not her personally, adding that the Council continues to have authority.

OTHER BUSINESS

The next item on the agenda was any business be addressed. Mr. Mark Atzenhoffer announced that the Muscular Dystrophy Association will be holding a “Lock-up” at Fremin’s on May 11, 2004 and asked for the public’s support.

ADJOURN

On motion by Mr. Mark Atzenhoffer, seconded by Mr. Phillip Gouaux, and with no further business the Lafourche Parish Council Legislative and Finance Committee of April 27, 2004, was adjourned at 9:28 P.M.

**TOMMY LASSEIGNE, CHAIRMAN
LAFOURCHE PARISH FINANCE
AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

**SHEILA B. BOUDREAUX, COUNCIL CLERK
LAFOURCHE PARISH**