

**MAY 25, 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, MAY 25, 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. Phillip Gouaux, Co-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 7:57 p.m. with the following:

**PRESENT:** Mr. Tyrone Williams  
Mr. Mike Delatte  
Mr. Michael Matherne  
Mr. Mark Atzenhoffer  
Mr. Lindel Touts  
Mr. L. Phillip Gouaux, IIBCo-Chairman  
Mr. Brent Callais  
Mr. Daniel Lorraine  
**ABSENT:** Mr. Tommy Lasseigne BChairman

**PRESENTATIONS**

The first item (1) on the agenda was a presentation by Ms. Debra Gautreaux regarding Ambulance Service District No. 1 (Ward 10). The presentation was given by Mr. Brady Daigle, who gave a brief history on Ambulance Service District No. 1 (Ward 10). He commented on the following: the area the district covers, the effectiveness of the paramedic ambulances, substation locations, service responses, who the district answers to, employment, regulations, employee training, billing department, equipment purchases, vehicle conditions, ownership of substations, worth of operation centers, and dispatchers. He mentioned that this district is a non-profit organization with a sole purpose to provide ambulance transportation, adding that it is locally based and parish owned. Mr. Daigle then listed events which they are on stand-by for. He discussed the education program used to train high school EMTs. Mr. Daigle stated that Ambulance Service District No. 1, given the appropriate amount of time, is capable and willing to extend its coverage area to supply ambulance service to the entire parish. Mr. Touts mentioned that this Ambulance District is funded through a millage and Medicare/Medicaid. A discussion ensued regarding residents who use the service but cannot afford to pay the bill. Mrs. Debra Gautreaux explained the Medicaid process. A discussion ensued regarding helicopter transportation. Mr. Mark Atzenhoffer

announced that last week was National EMT Week and recognized all members of the EMS Community and volunteer Fire Departments.

### DISCUSSIONS

The next item (2) on the agenda was a discussion concerning Attorney General opinions. Co-Chairman Gouaux announced that this item was being *deferred*.

The next item (3) on the agenda was a discussion regarding deleting the request for an Attorney General's opinion from Resolution No. 04-036 and only request an opinion regarding whether or not the Lafourche Parish Council can assume the duties of the Lafourche Parish Library Board of Control from the Lafourche Parish District Attorney. Mr. Mark Atzenhoffer stated that this item should be a motion instead. A motion was offered by Mr. Mark Atzenhoffer and seconded by Mr. Brent Callais. Mr. Daniel Lorraine read a letter, dated May 12, 2004 and addressed to the Council Chairman, from the District Attorney. Mr. Atzenhoffer said that in hopes of removing the opinion from the Attorney General, that the District Attorney, who is the Council's legal advisor, would render his opinion. A discussion ensued regarding legal opinions. Mr. Toups said that the District Attorney agreed to issue an opinion if the opinion from the Attorney General was removed from the resolution. He then discussed taking over the duties of the Library Board, saying that instead of removing the entire board, only remove those members not doing their job. A vote was taken as follows:

**YEAS:** Mr. Tyrone Williams  
Mr. Mike Delatte  
Mr. Mark Atzenhoffer  
Mr. Lindel Toups  
Mr. L. Phillip Gouaux, II  
Mr. Brent Callais

**NAYS:** Mr. Michael Matherne  
Mr. Daniel Lorraine

**ABSENT:** Mr. Tommy Lasseigne

The Committee *approved* the motion to delete the request for an Attorney General's opinion from Resolution No. 04-036 and only request an opinion regarding whether or not the Lafourche Parish Council can assume the duties of the Lafourche Parish Library Board of Control from the Lafourche Parish District Attorney.

The next item (4) on the agenda was a discussion concerning the selling of seafood on the side of roads in Lafourche Parish. Mr. Mark Atzenhoffer inquired about the legality of this issue. He stated that to be fair, all people who sale shrimp on roadsides should follow the same regulations, such as using certified scales, paying taxes and fees, and having permits. Mr. Dwayne LeBoeuf mentioned that he receives complaints from people who have food stands. He said that the parish does have an ordinance, but it does not distinguish between someone selling fruits/vegetables or shrimp and described a clause within the ordinance. He elaborated on the requirements to sell fruits/vegetables and shrimp, and complaints that arise. Mr. Lorraine referred to an Ordinance dealing with peddlers. He said that the Council needs to handle this situation with caution to avoid making the situation worse. Discussion ensued. President Randolph offered to have the Administration research the matter, including Ordinance 2160, for the next Committee meeting.

The next item (5) on the agenda was a discussion concerning the request of proposals for donations of land to build a new Thibodaux Branch and Headquarters building for the Lafourche Parish Library. Mr. Michael Matherne stated that this item should be a motion instead. A **motion** was offered by Mr. Michael Matherne and seconded by Mr. Tyrone Williams. Mr. Michael Matherne referred to the attachment, which contained language that would allow the Library Board some information about what land was available. He said that he did not include an end date but thought that 60 days was appropriate. Mr. Matherne then requested that letters be sent to the Lafourche Parish School Board and Thibodaux City Council including the information. A discussion ensued regarding advertising. An **amendment** was offered by Mr. Michael Matherne and seconded by Mr. Mark Atzenhoffer to advertise for four weeks with a 60 day deadline and to send letters to the Lafourche Parish School Board and Thibodaux City Council including the proposal information. Mr. Cullen Curole suggested that motion should contain Aproposals for donations **and/or selling** of land.@ Mr. Matherne read the proposal, which already included Mr. Curole=s suggestion. Mr. Paul Chiquet, Director of the Library, discussed the need for the property to be in the City Limits of Thibodaux. The Committee **approved** the amendment by a vote of eight (8) yeas and one (1) absent, being that of Mr. Tommy Lasseigne. The Committee **approved** the motion as amended by a vote of eight (8) yeas and one (1) absent, being that of Mr. Tommy Lasseigne.

The next item (6) on the agenda was a discussion concerning the By-Laws of the Lafourche Parish Council. Mr. Phillip Gouaux mentioned that the by-laws had not been updated in at least five years or since the Council had changed from a 15 to 9 member board. He requested that the Council review the by-laws and be ready for discussion at the next Council meeting. Ms. Sharlene Hotard mentioned that the Home Rule Charter revisions will be on the ballot for the November election and suggested that the Council hold off on addressing the by-laws. Mr. Gouaux said that minor modifications need to be made to the By-Laws and after the Home Rule Charter changes are made, the modifications to the by-laws can be made.

The next item (7) on the agenda was a discussion concerning going to two (2) Council meetings per month. Mr. Phillip Gouaux mentioned that the Council agendas have become quite lengthy. He said that the Committees are comprised of all nine councilmen and suggested eliminating committee meetings. Mr. Brent Callais recommended moving the time of the Council meetings from 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Mr. Gouaux mentioned that the by-laws state that the Council meetings must begin at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Callais then said that the Committee Chairmen need to be stricter on what items to allow on the agenda. Mr. Gouaux stated that having two full Council meetings would be more appropriate, saying that it would help to save time.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

The next item (8) on the agenda was a resolution urging Louisiana=s entire Congressional Delegation to advocate and support federal legislation and appropriations bills that increase national funding for LIHEAP and WAP; provide for advance funding of both LIHEAP and WAP; and to study the implications for families in Louisiana if prevented from keeping pace with growing aging populations, poverty rates and natural gas prices. A motion was offered by Mr. Mark Atzenhoffer and seconded by Mr. Michael Matherne. The Committee **recommended approval** of said resolution by a vote of eight (8) yeas and one (1) absent, being that of Mr. Tommy Lasseigne.

**RES. NO. 04-041**

**SUPPORT LIHEAP & WAP FUNDING**

The next item (9) on the agenda was a resolution stating the Lafourche Parish Council=s endorsement of Corbitt Manufacturing Company, Inc., to be located at the old Caldwell Sugars site to participate in the benefits of the Louisiana Enterprise Zone Program. Mr. Mike Delatte said that the company makes fertilizer and mulch. A motion was offered by Mr. Mike Delatte and seconded by Mr. Daniel Lorraine. The Committee *recommended approval* of said resolution by a vote of eight (8) yeas and one (1) absent, being that of Mr. Tommy Lasseigne.

**RES. NO. 04-042 CORBITT MANUFACTURING CO.**

The next item (10) on the agenda was a resolution committing to providing a pro-active mosquito abatement program for the Parish of Lafourche and requesting a one-time limited funding from the State of Louisiana. A motion was offered by Mr. Mark Atzenhoffer and seconded by Mr. Brent Callais. The Committee *recommended approval* of said resolution by a vote of eight (8) yeas and one (1) absent, being that of Mr. Tommy Lasseigne.

**RES. NO. 04-043 MOSQUITO ABATEMENT PROGRAM**

**PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE**

The next item on the agenda was Public to Address the Committee. Hearing none, Co-Chairman Gouaux moved to the next item.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

The next item on the agenda was Other Business to be addressed. No further business needed to be addressed.

**ADJOURN**

On motion by Mr. Lindel Toups, seconded by Mr. Mike Delatte, and with no further business, the Lafourche Parish Council Legislative and Finance Committee of May 25, 2004, adjourned at 8:49 P.M.

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

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