

**LAFOURCHE PARISH HOME RULE  
CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION  
BARRIOS CENTER  
RACELAND, LOUISIANA**

The Charter Revision Commission assembled at its regular meeting place, Barrios Center, 1612 HWY. 182, Suite 100, Raceland, Louisiana, on Tuesday, June 1, 2004, at 6:30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Plaisance at 6:32 P.M..

A prayer was given by Mr. Joseph Fertitta, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag by Mr. Joseph Mickles.

Upon roll call, the following members were present:

Mary Kitchen  
Sharleen Hotard  
Elizabeth Breaux  
Charles Beasley  
O.E. Monnier, Jr.  
Danny Mayet  
Henry Lafont, Jr. (Entered Meeting @ 6:36 P.M.)  
John Plaisance  
Joseph "Joe" Mickles  
Walter, Lanier, Jr.  
Joseph "Joe" Fertitta

A motion was made by Mr. Danny Mayet and seconded by Ms. Sharleen Hotard, that the minutes of May 18, 2004, be approved as presented. Without objection, the motion was adopted.

A motion was made by Mr. Charles Beasley and seconded by Mr. Joseph Mickles requesting that the minutes of May 26, 2004, be approved. Ms. Sharleen Hotard noted there was an error in the minutes which listed Ms. Elizabeth Breaux as voting when in actuality she was not present. That correction was made and the minutes were approved.

Chairman John Plaisance observed that no public comments will be made because no one from the general public was in attendance and no guests was invited.

Judge Walter Lanier, Jr. advised that Mr. Dan Sullivan with Louisiana Civil Service League would be at the next meeting and suggested that the Commission may want to invite all of the Parish Civil Service Board because Ms. Sheila Boudreaux said that she was going to send out a notice to all of the members of the Board in case they wanted to attend. Mr. John Plaisance stated that the Commission needed to invite Mr. Ronnie Lefort who is the Chairman of the Lafourche Parish Civil Service Board.

Chairman John Plaisance asked Ms. Sheila Boudreaux to give a status report on the clerical assistance position. Ms. Boudreaux advised that starting today a temporary person, Vicky Melancon, was hired and she will be transcribing the minutes and doing all the typing for Home Rule Charter Revision Commission.

At the last meeting, at least five people were concerned about the definition of emergency, so Judge Lanier took the liberty to research four definitions and circulated them to the commission.

Also, Mr. Walter Lanier, Jr., was asked to research the issue of signing checks. He read through all the charters that he had and the only thing that the charters had were facsimiles signatures. He spoke to the clerk of the City of Thibodaux who gave him a copy of

the resolution on how Thibodaux handled signatures. Judge Lanier passed out copies for the Commission members to examine and advised that he would prepare an amendment on this for the Commission to consider.

The Chairman called for any other comments on Article Five, Ordinances, Resolutions, and Motions.

Chairman Plaisance was informed by Ms. Lisa Orgeron and Ms. Sheila Boudreaux that the time periods of ten (10) days each in Article V, Section 2, Paragraphs J (1) and (2) are a longer time period than the Parish presently has and they may want to look into cutting those ten day periods down some, so they can be shorter periods. Formerly, it was three then five and now ten.

Mr. Joe Mickles made a motion which was seconded by Mr. Charles Beasley to change both tens in Article V, Section 2, Paragraph J (1) and (2) to five working days; there would be five days for the Council Clerk to get the enacted ordinance to the President and then five days for the President to veto it.

#### Roll Call Vote

Mary Kitchen	Yes
Sharleen Hotard	Yes
Elizabeth Breaux	Yes
Charles Beasley	Yes
O.E. Monnier, Jr.	Yes
Danny Mayet	Yes
Henry Lafont, Jr.	Yes
John Plaisance	Yes
Joseph "Joe" Mickles	Yes
Walter, Lanier, Jr.	Yes
Joseph "Joe" Fertitta	No

Mr. Joe Fertitta made a motion to reconsider the time between enactment of an emergency ordinance and action by the President which now is six hours to get it to the President and six hours for the President to veto it. This Provision is in Article V, Section 3, Paragraph B.

Mr. Henry Lafont, Jr. suggested that the Commission first consider the definition section and make a note to come back to re-address the Emergency Ordinance Section.

Judge Lanier discussed the Local Government Budget Act in La R.S. 39:1303.

Judge Lanier also advised that he did not put the fiscal year in the draft he wrote because under Ordinance Code Article 2:204, the fiscal year of the Parish is the calendar year.

Chairman Plaisance advised that assuming that Civil Service is placed in, Article IV, Finance, would be Article VI.

The Commission began discussion Article VI, Section One, Paragraph B which provides as follows: "At least one hundred twenty days (120) before the beginning of each fiscal year, the President shall submit to the Council a line item operating budget and a capital budget in accordance with accepted accounting procedures in the format outlined below."

Ms. Shannon Chiasson, Parish Director of Finance, and Ms. Elizabeth Breaux stated that 120 days was long. To do the budget they need three months to pull it together, so even doing that, she starts working on it in March and in that time, you only would have figures for the first three months, the first quarter of your revenues.

Councilman Phillip Gouaux stated that he believed the one hundred twenty days are too long and seventy five days were more than enough. The councilmen know what is going to happen if you keep up with the finances on a monthly basis and what the President would want to put into the budget because they communicate with him/her about what money is available and his/hers proposals. The negotiation of money and putting in certain items will be done prior to the submission of the budget.

A motion is proposed by Mr. Joseph Fertitta and seconded by Ms. Elizabeth Breaux to change the one hundred twenty days to seventy-five days in Article VI, Section 1, Paragraph B entitled Submittal of Budgets.

Roll Call Vote

Mary Kitchen	Yes
Sharleen Hotard	No
Elizabeth Breaux	Yes
Charles Beasley	Yes
O.E. Monnier, Jr.	No
Danny Mayet	No
Henry Lafont, Jr.	No
John Plaisance	No
Joseph "Joe" Mickles	No
Walter Lanier, Jr.	No
Joseph "Joe" Fertitta	Yes

A motion was proposed by Ms. Elizabeth Breaux and seconded by Mr. Joseph Fertitta to change the one hundred twenty days to ninety days in Article VI, Section 1, Paragraph B entitled Submittal of Budgets.

Roll Call Vote

Mary Kitchen	Yes
Sharleen Hotard	Yes
Elizabeth Breaux	Yes
Charles Beasley	Yes
O.E. Monnier, Jr.	Yes
Danny Mayet	Yes
Henry Lafont, Jr.	Yes
John Plaisance	Yes
Joseph "Joe" Mickles	Yes
Walter Lanier, Jr.	Yes
Joseph "Joe" Fertitta	Yes

Mr. Henry Lafont, Jr., proposed an amendment by motion, and Mr. Charles Beasley seconded, that at the first regular meeting of the Council following submittal of the budget, the Council shall schedule at least two public hearings instead of 4 on the budgets in Article VI, Section 1, Paragraph E (1) and (2).

Roll Call Vote

Mary Kitchen	Yes
Sharleen Hotard	Yes
Elizabeth Breaux	Yes
Charles Beasley	Yes
O.E. Monnier, Jr.	Yes

Danny Mayet	Yes
Henry Lafont, Jr.	Yes
John Plaisance	Yes
Joseph “Joe” Mickles	Yes
Walter Lanier, Jr.	Yes
Joseph “Joe” Fertitta	Yes

A discussion of Article VI, Section 1, Paragraph C, the Operating Budget was commenced. Mr. Charles Beasley suggested that due to our discussions that the Commission put off debating Paragraph C, Operating Budget and requested Ms. Elizabeth Breaux to propose alternate language that would present a clearer picture of how the Operating Budget should appear.

Mr. Danny Mayet proposed by motion the acceptance of the provisions on capital budget in Article VI, Section 1, Paragraph D, seconded by Ms. Sharleen Hotard, and unanimously passed eleven to zero.

Mr. Joseph Fertitta made a motion that a 2/3's majority of the voting Council members present may allow a proposed oral amendment to a proposed budget, as provided for in Article VI, Section 1, Paragraph E(3), which was seconded by Mr. Henry Lafont, Jr.

Roll Call Vote

Mary Kitchen	No
Sharleen Hotard	Yes
Elizabeth Breaux	No
Charles Beasley	Yes
O.E. Monnier, Jr.	Ye
Danny Mayet	No
Henry Lafont, Jr.	Yes
John Plaisance	No
Joseph “Joe” Mickles	No
Walter Lanier, Jr.	Yes
Joseph “Joe” Fertitta	Yes

Mr. Charles Beasley proposed and Mr. Danny Mayet seconded that Article VI, Section 1, Paragraph E be adopted as amended.

Roll Call Vote

Mary Kitchen	Yes
Sharleen Hotard	Yes
Elizabeth Breaux	Yes
Charles Beasley	Yes
O.E. Monnier, Jr.	Yes
Danny Mayet	Yes
Henry Lafont, Jr.	Yes
John Plaisance	Yes
Joseph “Joe” Mickles	Yes
Walter Lanier, Jr.	Yes
Joseph “Joe” Fertitta	Yes

Ms. Elizabeth Breaux proposed and Mr. Joseph Mickles seconded that the Commission accept Article VI, Section 1, Paragraph F, as amended.

Roll Call Vote

Mary Kitchen	Yes
Sharleen Hotard	Yes
Elizabeth Breaux	Yes
Charles Beasley	Yes
O.E. Monnier, Jr.	Yes
Danny Mayet	Yes
Henry Lafont, Jr.	Yes
John Plaisance	Yes
Joseph “Joe” Mickles	Yes
Walter Lanier, Jr.	Yes
Joseph “Joe” Fertitta	No

Mr. Joseph Mickles moves, and Danny Mayet seconded, Article VI, Section 1, Paragraph G, be accepted. All members of the Commission accepted this motion with no opposition.

A motion was made by Ms. Elizabeth Breaux seconded by Ms. Sharleen Hotard, to adopt Article VI. Section 1, Paragraph H. The motion was unanimously adopted.

A motion was made by Ms. Sharleen Hotard, seconded by Mr. Charles Beasley, to adopt Article VI, Section 1, Paragraph I, as amended. The motion was unanimously adopted.

Ms. Elizabeth Breaux proposed that the Commission take each Paragraph in Article VI, Section 2 and vote on them individually. Mr. Joseph Fertitta seconded the proposal.

A motion to adopt Article VI, Section 2, Paragraph A, was unanimously passed with a vote of eleven to zero.

A motion to adopt Article VI, Section 2, Paragraph B, was adopted by a vote of eleven to zero.

Mr. Joseph Mickles proposed that the Commission adopt Article VI, Section 2, Paragraph C, as amended. Mr. Charles Beasley seconded.

Roll Call Vote

Mary Kitchen	Yes
Sharleen Hotard	Yes
Elizabeth Breaux	No
Charles Beasley	Yes
O.E. Monnier, Jr.	Yes
Danny Mayet	Yes
Henry Lafont, Jr.	Yes
John Plaisance	Yes
Joseph “Joe” Mickles	Yes
Walter Lanier, Jr.	Yes
Joseph “Joe” Fertitta	No

Article VI, Section 2, Paragraph D, will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

The next meeting will be held on June 9, 2004, at 6:30 P.M.

On motion by Mr. Joseph Fertitta and seconded by Mr. Danny Mayet, and without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 P.M.

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MARY KITCHEN, SECRETARY

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JOHN J. PLAISANCE, II, CHAIRMAN