

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2007
RACELAND, LOUISIANA

STATE OF LOUISIANA
PARISH LAFOURCHE

A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE LAFOURCHE PARISH COUNCIL, PARISH OF LAFOURCHE, STATE OF LOUISIANA, WAS SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2007, AT 5:00 P.M., AT THE LAFOURCHE PARISH COUNCIL BARRIOS CENTER, 1612, HWY. 182, SUITE 100, RACELAND, LOUISIANA.

The Lafourche Parish Council was duly convened as the Governing Authority of said Parish by Dr. Tommy Lasseigne, Chairman, who then stated that the Lafourche Parish Council was ready for the transaction of business at 5:02 p.m.

Proceedings of the meeting were called to order with the following:

PRESENT: Mr. Michael Delatte
Mr. Michael Matherne
Dr. Tommy Lasseigne
Mr. Mark Atzenhoffer
Mr. Phillip Gouaux
Mr. Daniel Lorraine
President Charlotte A Randolph

ABSENT: Mr. Tyrone Williams (*entered at 5:08 p.m.*)
Mr. Lindel Touns
Mr. Brent Callais

Chairman Lasseigne announced that the invocation would be led by Mr. Michael Matherne. The Council then recited the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Phillip Gouaux.

PUBLIC WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

The first item on the agenda was the Public to address the Council. Chairman Lasseigne asked if there was anyone wishing to address the Council; with no one responding he moved to the next item.

A **motion** was offered by Mr. Atzenhoffer, seconded by Mr. Delatte, *to open the budget public hearing*, and *carried* by a vote of (6) yeas, (0) nays, and (3) absent, that being of Mr. Williams, Mr. Touns, and Mr. Callais.

SECOND BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

The next item on the agenda was a Public Hearing for public comments on the proposed **2008 Operations and Capital Budgets** for the Lafourche Parish Council. Chairman Lasseigne asked three times if anyone from the Public wished to comment; with no one responding he moved to the next item.

A **motion** was offered by Mr. Atzenhoffer, seconded by Mr. Delatte, *to close the budget public hearing*, and *carried* by a vote of (6) yeas, (0) nays, and (3) absent, that being of Mr. Williams, Mr. Touns, and Mr. Callais.

REVIEW OF THE 2008 OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE BUDGET AND THE CAPITAL BUDGET FOR THE LAFOURCHE PARISH COUNCIL AS FOLLOWS

Chairman Lasseigne asked if anyone from the Council had any questions regarding the following items, when hearing none he would go on to the next fund item:

1) FUND NO. 001 General Fund:

Legislative, Finance, Executive, Purchasing, Risk Management, Human Resources, Civil Service, Information Technology, Planning/Zoning, 911, Corrections, Parish Coroner, Public Works, Coastal, Energy & Environmental, Economic Development, County Agent

2) FUND NO. 102 Building Maintenance

3) FUND NO. 103 Roads and Bridges

4) FUND NO. 104 Drainage Maintenance

5) FUND NO. 105 Street Lights

6) FUND NO. 106 Road Sales Tax District 2 - Mr. Lorraine said that it seemed like they were looking to buy some equipment, saying that if the tax call was read that it shows that equipment is no where to be found. He said that it also seemed that they were buying a lot with Road Sales Tax District 2's money, but looking at the rest of the budget that he did not see very much being bought with the other Districts. Mr. Lorraine stated that he had received a letter from the Bonding Attorney which says that Road Sales Tax District 2 expires December 31, 2007, in that he could foresee a \$4 million surplus and that the money can only be used for roads and incidental drainage, that it could not be used to buy a road grader or bladders. He then said that if you look at the new Road Sales Tax District, that they did have drainage, roads and bridges in it, but that was not included in the original one. Mr. Lorraine questioned how they could begin spending money on purchasing something when they do not start collecting the tax until January 1, 2008. He said that it could have been done if they would have bonded the money out, but according to the letter from the Bonding Attorney that the money has to remain in that account and can only be used for roads and incidental drainage, and nothing else. Mr. Lorraine said that the Parish should buy equipment as a whole, in that his District was part of the Parish. He said that the money was always draining out of Road Sales Tax District 2, saying that he would take the issue to court personally if the money was to be spent on equipment, and continued to voice his opinions in regards to Road Sales Tax District 2.

7) **FUND NO. 107 Solid Waste** - Mr. Matherne asked President Randolph if she foresaw in the next year or so that the Council having to reconsider, going back with the three tenths of an increase. President Randolph responded as possibly, yes, in that the contract will be up in a couple of years and it can only be anticipated that the cost increasing. She said that there was also potential for other use that three tenths that could serve the Parish as well.

8) **FUND NO. 108 Royalty Fund**

9) **FUND NO. 109 Board of Health**

10) **FUND NO. 110 Recreation**

11) **FUND NO. 111 Road Sales Tax District 3**

12) **FUND NO. 114 Special District 1**

13) **FUND NO. 116 Road Sales Tax District 5**

14) **FUND NO. 117 Road Sales Tax District 6**

15) **FUND NO. 119 Library** - Chairman Lasseigne asked when they were going to get anything for Thibodaux, if Thibodaux was ever going to get a Library, saying that Mr. Caillouet had been having a Notice to Proceed for some time now. He moved onto the next item without a reply.

16) **FUND NO. 127 Senior Citizens Activity Fund**

17) **FUND NO. 128 2004 Rededication Fund**

18) **FUND NO. 129 Health Activity Fund**

19) **FUND NO. 160 Road Sales Tax District A**

20) **FUND NO. 161 Road Sales Tax District 2 (½%)**

21) **FUND NO. 201 Road Sales Tax District 2 - Capital Outlay**

22) **FUND NO. 206 Road Sales Tax District 3, 5, 6 - Capital Outlay** - Chairman Lasseigne requested a status update on Lefort By-Pass. President Randolph said that she just had a discussion on that, saying that the land owner was looking at the markings in his cane field to determine his participation in the right-of-way, that they were also looking at land perhaps on the opposite side of the shell road to use for a right-of-way, in that they were actually working in an attempt to resolve the issue. Chairman Lasseigne asked if Mr. Theriot was there; with Mr. Curole replying that Mr. Theriot was working very closely with Terry Arabie on this. Mr. Matherne stated that he had passed there and had seen flags.

23) **FUND NO. 299 Capital Project Fund**

