

Minutes of a meeting of the Plaquemines Parish Council, held in the Belle Chasse Council Building Chambers, 333 F. Edward Hebert Blvd., Bldg. 203, Belle Chasse, Louisiana on Thursday, July 8, 2021, at 3:31 p.m., pursuant to notice to all members with a quorum present as follows:

PRESENT: Council Member Mark Cognevich, Chairman
Council Member John L. Barthelemy, Jr.
Council Member W. Beau Black
Council Member Corey Arbourgh
Council Member Stuart J. Guey
Council Member Benedict Rousselle
Council Member Trudy Newberry
Council Member Carlton M. LaFrance, Sr.
Council Member Richie Blink

Kim M. Toups, Council Secretary

The Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance were dispensed with.

President Lepine and Charter Directors Crystal Taylor, Todd Eppley and Scott Rousselle were present representing the Administration.

The following items were deferred:

- 7a(2), "Gillen Engineering, LLC, Application No. 2021-282, dated March 26, 2021, drill six boring for the Glen Oaks Development (four-multi family structures), intersection of Russell Drive and LA Highway 23, Belle Chasse" was offered for discussion only by Council Member Rousselle, it was seconded, a discussion was held and then the item was deferred;
- 7a(3), "Plaquemines Dirt & Clay, LLC, Application No. 2021-335, dated April 16, 2021, continuation of existing borrow pit operation, 22222 Highway 23, Port Sulphur";
- 9b, "A Resolution authorizing the Parish President, Kirk M. Lepine, for and on behalf of the Plaquemines Parish Government to enter into an agreement with Jefferson Parish Finance Authority for the purpose of allowing low to moderate income borrowers of Plaquemines Parish to participate in the Authority's Southern Mortgage Assistance Program and Lagniappe Advantage Program; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto";
- 9i, "An Ordinance to amend the 2021 General Fund, Operating Expenditure Budget, Flood Control-General Department; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto";
- 11b, "District 9 update";
- 11c, "District 8 update";
- 11g, "District 6 update";
- 11h, "Status of the Latter & Blum contract and the marketing of Parish property"; and
- 11i, "Consideration of authorization of the filing of an action for declaratory judgment in regard to Chapter 18, Article V of the Plaquemines Parish Code of Ordinances, as recommended by Council attorney".

Agenda Item 7a(1), "Woodland Borrow Pits, LLC (North), Application No. 2021-90, dated January 22, 2021, continuation of existing borrow pit operation, Ironton Area" was withdrawn.

Council Member Cognevich moved to Agenda Item 2, "Executive Session". Without objection, so ordered.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-187

On motion of Council Member Cognevich, seconded by Council Member Newberry, and on roll call all members present and voting "YES", the following Resolution was adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT it hereby resolves itself into Executive Session at 3:32 p.m. for the purpose of hearing a report and recommendations and strategy advice for the management of litigation from its attorney concerning: Receipt of attorney-client privileged information and recommendation in regard to Chapter 18, Article V of the Plaquemines Parish Code of Ordinances (LRS 42:17(A)(10))-Attorney Dannie Garrett.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT it hereby came out of Executive Session at 4:05 p.m. with no final or binding action taken.

There being no Proclamations, Council Member Cognevich moved to Agenda Item 4, "Status Report by the Parish President". Without objection, so ordered. The following was reported by President Lepine:

- COVID as of July 7th : Confirmed Positive Cases- 1,889
Positivity Rate- 3.4%
Confirmed deaths- 26;
- The Venture Global Will to Skill Cohort 4 had a great turn out of Plaquemines residents. Classes are set to begin in early August;
- Numerous Events are taking place:
July 24th-Bayou Lagniappe Marketplace at the Buras VFD
July 22 through July 24-Faux Pas Lodge Invitational at the Venice Marina
August 5 through August 7-the 71st annual Empire Rodeo
August 8-Blessing of the Fleet at Bay Adams at 1:00 p.m.;
- The President met and PIO meeting with Plenary and DBI on emergency responses when something happens on the bridge and tunnel projects. They also asked for Plenary and DBI to meet with each of the Council Members. President Lepine wants the lines of communication to be open for residents also; and
- Jump Start your Career with a Global Industry leader for a free two day course on scaffolding, insulation and coating on July 17th and 18th from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Plaquemines Learning Center.

Council Member Black asked the President if any Council Members attended the meeting with Plenary and DBI and if he was notified about the meeting. President Lepine replied no to each question. Council Member Black wanted to clarify that he did not attend any meeting nor did he know about any meeting. He then stated the only time he had a meeting about the bridge project was after the Hogs for a Cause when the problem with the bridge occurred. He said he was invited because the traffic issue was in his District.

Council Member Cognevich said he contacted Ms. Dupre, the Public Relations representative, and he asked for Plenary to attend the July 8th Council Meeting in order for the Council and residents to know what is happening with the project. Initially, they said they would attend the meeting; however, they later responded that they had a meeting with the President and a few other people so they would not be coming to the July 8th meeting. Council Member Cognevich said he told Ms. Dupre that he still wanted Plenary to give an update at a Council Meeting. Council Member Blink said that they need to come to the meeting, be responsible and address the residents of this Parish. He further stated that anything less is a dis-service to the people of Plaquemines. Council Member Rousselle agrees and he believes there are some people here today who would like to speak on this issue. Plenary said they want to be transparent but they are holding meetings behind closed doors. He explained that he put the item on the agenda for discussion because he is not certain who is in charge of different issues with the project. Council Member Black agrees with Council Member Rousselle and he would like to see a 10 minute update at a meeting once a month. Council Member Blink said we need a decision maker with the company to attend the meetings.

Council Member Cognevich advanced to Agenda Item 11j, "Discussion of the Belle Chasse Bridge". Council Member Rousselle opened the floor to members of the public to address the Council regarding the bridge. Council Member Rousselle explained that a RPC meeting he asked Chris Morvant, the District Engineer, to discuss this matter and his response was to see Plenary. Council Member Rousselle said that when you ask DOTD to address the issues they send you to Plenary. Council Member Cognevich said he has an introduction to make today to get Plenary to a meeting. Council Member Blink stated that this is what privatization does; no responsibility and no one here to answer questions. Council Member LaFrance said he was making an introduction of the lawsuit legislation again today and hopefully he can get the support needed for it to be adopted. Council Member Newberry said she didn't agree with the legislation as it was written for the last piece of legislation. She further stated she would like to see us move forward and get with an attorney to see if we have any leg to stand on. She said that

if we have no power over this bridge project, we may need to look into this for the people of Plaquemines.

Council Member Cognevich moved to Agenda Item 4a, "Update by Charter Directors". Without objection so ordered. Council Member Newberry asked Director Todd Eppley about the time frame between when the notification of Substantial Completion for the Jesuit Bend drainage project was submitted and when we actually sign off for completed project. She was told by Mr. Eppley that generally once Notice of Substantial Completion is issued there is 30-45 days to finish items on the punch list. This means we probably have about 30 days left but he will check into the exact amount of time. He asked that Council Members Newberry and Blink send him any information they have received on issues that need to be addressed.

Council Member Cognevich moved to Agenda Item 5, "Bids and Advertisements". Without objection, so ordered.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-188

On motion of Council Member Cognevich, seconded by Council Member Blink and on roll call all members present and voting "YES", the following Resolution was adopted:

A Resolution authorizing the acceptance of bids for furnishing oil, grease, lubes, etc. for period of one year for use Parish wide; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.

WHEREAS, after due advertisement bids were received on June 22, 2021, for furnishing oil, grease, lubes, etc. for a period of one year for use Parish wide as follows: Gulf Coast Oil & Supply, 45 Conquille, Belle Chasse, LA 70037; Fleet Parts, 124 Barriere Road, Belle Chasse, LA 70037; and Chauvin Brothers Tractor, P.O. Box 7087, Belle Chasse, LA 70037; all bids on file in the Parish Purchasing Agent's Office and made a part hereof by reference to; and

WHEREAS, Brenda Stanifer, Purchasing Agent, recommends the acceptance of the low bid of Gulf Coast Oil & Supply for furnishing oil, grease, lubes, etc.; and the Council concurred in said recommendation;

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT it hereby authorizes its Parish Purchasing Agent to issue purchase orders to issue purchase order to Gulf Coast Oil & Supply, 45 Conquille, Belle Chasse, LA 70037; for furnishing oil, grease, lubes, etc. for a period of one year, to be purchased on an as needed basis, all in accordance with bids submitted by said company on June 22, 2021, on file in the Parish Purchasing Agent's Office.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT Kirk Lepine, Parish President, be and he is hereby authorized for and on behalf of the Plaquemines Parish Government, to enter into a contractual agreement with Gulf Coast Oil & Supply, for furnishing oil, grease, lubes, etc. for a period of one year, beginning with the adoption of this Resolution and ending June 23, 2022.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT its Parish Fiscal Officers are authorized to issue check in payment of materials upon approval of invoices by Brenda L. Stanifer, Parish Purchasing Agent.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT the Secretary of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify and release this Resolution and that Parish employees and officials are authorized to carry out the purposes of this Resolution, both without further reading and approval by the Plaquemines Parish Council.

There were no items under Agenda Item 6, "Beer and Liquor Licenses". Without objection, so ordered. Therefore, Council Member Cognevich moved to Agenda Item 7, "Building Permits". Without objection, so ordered.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-189

On motion of Council Member Barthelemy, seconded by Council Member Newberry, and on roll call all members present and voting “YES”, except Council Members Black and Cognevich who “ABSTAINED” and Council Member Blink who was “ABSENT”, the following Resolution was adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT the following application for construction permit in the Parish of Plaquemines is hereby approved: Whitney Oil & Gas, LLC, Application No. 2021-539, dated June 16, 2021, install three 12-inch flowlines, East Bay Field.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT the Secretary of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify and release this Resolution and that Parish employees and officials are authorized to carry out the purposes of this Resolution, both without further reading and approval by the Plaquemines Parish Council.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-190

On motion of Council Member LaFrance, seconded by Council Member Barthelemy, and on roll call all members present and voting “YES”, except Council Member Arbourgh who was “ABSENT”, the following Resolution was adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT the following application for construction permit in the Parish of Plaquemines is hereby approved **with the stipulation that all provisions of Chapter 18 of the Plaquemines Parish Code of Ordinances, Section V, are complied with:** Woodland Borrow Pits, LLC (North), Application No. 2021-402, dated April 29, 2021, continuation of existing Woodland Borrow Pit Operation, 17300 Highway 23, Port Sulphur.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT the Secretary of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify and release this Resolution and that Parish employees and officials are authorized to carry out the purposes of this Resolution, both without further reading and approval by the Plaquemines Parish Council.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-191

On motion of Council Member LaFrance, seconded by Council Member Blink, and on roll call all members present and voting “YES”, except Council Member Black who “ABSTAINED”, the following Resolution was adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT the following application for construction permit in the Parish of Plaquemines is hereby approved: : James W. Hill, Application No. 2021-540, dated June 16, 2021, install pilings, new stainless steel all thread rods to repair approximately 50 feet of existing bulkhead, 724 Martin Lane (Lot #155), Port Sulphur.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT the Secretary of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify and release this Resolution and that Parish employees and officials are authorized to carry out the purposes of this Resolution, both without further reading and approval by the Plaquemines Parish Council.

Council Member Cognevich moved to Agenda Item 8, “Introduction of Ordinances and Resolutions”. Without objection, so ordered. The following legislation was introduced:

1. A Resolution of the Plaquemines Parish Council to issue a summons, under the authority of Section 4.02(B) of the Charter for Local Self Government; and to provide for related matters.
COUNCIL MEMBER COGNEVICH
2. A Resolution of the Plaquemines Parish Council, specifically authorizing and tasking Council Special Counsel, Dannie P. Garrett, III, Attorney at Law, LLC to initiate and litigate a petition for declaratory judgment related to Chapter 18, Article V of the Plaquemines

Parish Code of Ordinances and prior agreements related thereto; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto. COUNCIL MEMBER COGNEVICH

3. An Ordinance to amend the 2021 Operating Revenue Budget and to designate all American Rescue Plan funding; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto. COUNCIL MEMBER COGNEVICH
4. A Resolution of the Plaquemines Parish Council authorizing and directing the initiation of litigation related to the proposed Belle Chasse Bridge Project; authorizing and directing the Chairman, Mark Cognevich to engage special counsel for such litigation; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto. COUNCIL MEMBER LAFRANCE
5. An Ordinance to amend the 2021 General Fund, Manpower Structure and Operating Expenditure Budget; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto. COUNCIL MEMBER LAFRANCE
6. An Ordinance to amend the 2021 Library Services Fund, Operating Expenditure Budget, Libraries General Department; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto. COUNCIL MEMBER ARBOURGH
7. An Ordinance to amend the Five Year Capital Improvements Plan, Land Acquisition-F. Edward Hebert Blvd Project; authorize the Parish President to do all things necessary and proper to either acquire by public auction or private sale the property known as Tract B, on the Map of Division, Property of the State of Louisiana, Department of Health and Hospitals, Belle Chasse, LA by Hugh McCurdy, III, LA PLS Number 4647, dated December 8, 2009, containing 18.67 acres, more or less, across F. Edward Hebert Blvd. from the Plaquemines Parish Government Complex; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto. COUNCIL MEMBER ROUSSELLE
8. A Resolution authorizing the Plaquemines Parish Government's President to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Coastal Protection Restoration Authority (CPRA) for the Reach C Culvert Closure-Phoenix to Bohemia Project; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto. COUNCIL MEMBER BARTHELEMY
9. An Ordinance to amend the 2021 General Fund, Operating Expenditure Budget, Swimming Pools-Davant Department; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto. COUNCIL MEMBER BARTHELEMY

Council Member Cognevich moved to Agenda Item 9, "Ordinances and Resolutions on second reading and final passage". Without objection, so ordered.

There were no items under 9a.

Council Member Cognevich filled in the blanks for Item 9c.

ORDINANCE NO. 21-69

The following Ordinance was offered by Council Member Cognevich who moved its adoption:

An Ordinance amending the Library Services Fund, 2021 Operating Revenue and Expenditure Budgets; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.

WHEREAS, Plaquemines Parish Government has received funding in the amount of \$47,064.84 from the State Library of Louisiana to be used by the Library Department; and

WHEREAS, amending the Library Services Fund, 2021 Operating Revenue and Expenditure Budgets, is requested;

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT:

SECTION 1

The Library Services Fund, 2021 Operating Revenue and Expenditure Budgets, are amended as follows:

Fund: 006 Library Services Fund			
Dept/Div: 675-4240 Libraries-Gen Department			
Object	Description	Inc/Dec	Amendment
430.005	State Grants Library Funds	Inc	47,065
563.110	Office Computer Hardware	Inc	47,065

SECTION 2

The Secretary of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify and release this Ordinance and that Parish employees and officials are authorized to carry out the purposes of this Ordinance, both without further reading and approval by the Plaquemines Parish Council.

WHEREUPON, in open session the above Ordinance was read and considered section by section and as a whole.

Council Member Arbourgh seconded the motion to adopt the Ordinance.

The foregoing Ordinance having been submitted to a vote, the vote resulted as follows:

YEAS: Council Members John L. Barthelemy, Jr., W. Beau Black, Corey Arbourgh, Stuart J. Guey, Benedict Rousselle, Trudy Newberry, Carlton M. LaFrance, Sr., Richie Blink and Mark Cognevich

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

PRESENT BUT NOT VOTING: None

And the Ordinance was adopted on this the 8th day of July, 2021.

Agenda Item 9d was temporarily passed over.

Council Member Cognevich offered Agenda Item 9e with changes.

ORDINANCE NO. 21-70

The following Ordinance was offered by Council Member Cognevich who moved its adoption:

An Ordinance to amend the 2021 General Fund, Operating Expenditure Budget, Legal Services Department, for settlement of Case Number 63-150, 25th JDC Division "B"; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.

WHEREAS, \$350,000 is needed for settlement of Case Number 63-150, 25th JDC Division "B", William Hall, III vs The Parish of Plaquemines, also referred to as the Plaquemines Parish Government; and,

WHEREAS, amending the 2021 General Fund, Operating Expenditure Budget, Legal Services Department, by appropriating \$350,000 is requested;

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT:

SECTION 1

The 2021 General Fund, Operating Expenditure Budget, Legal Services Department, is amended by appropriating \$350,000, as follows:

Fund: 001 General Fund			
Dept/Div: 430-2180 Legal Services Department			
Object	Description	Inc/Dec	Amendment
529.010	Legal Settlements General	Inc	350,000

SECTION 2

The 2021 General Fund, Operating Expenditure Budget, Self Insurance Department, is amended as follows:

Fund: 001 General Fund			
Dept/Div: 526-2570 Self Insurance Department			
Object	Description	Inc/Dec	Amendment
537.605	Self Insurance Workers Comp-Salary	Dec	(175,000)
537.610	Self Insurance Workers Comp-Medical	Dec	(175,000)

SECTION 3

The Secretary of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify and release this Ordinance and that Parish employees and officials are authorized to carry out the purposes of this Ordinance, both without further reading and approval by the Plaquemines Parish Council.

WHEREUPON, in open session the above Ordinance was read and considered section by section and as a whole.

Council Member Arbourgh seconded the motion to adopt the Ordinance.

The foregoing Ordinance having been submitted to a vote, the vote resulted as follows:

YEAS: Council Members John L. Barthelemy, Jr., W. Beau Black, Corey Arbourgh, Stuart J. Guey, Benedict Rousselle, Trudy Newberry, Carlton M. LaFrance, Sr., Richie Blink and Mark Cognevich

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

PRESENT BUT NOT VOTING: Council Member W. Beau Black

And the Ordinance was adopted on this the 8th day of July, 2021.

Council Member Cognevich returned to Agenda Item 9d and filled in the blanks for this item.

ORDINANCE NO. 21-71

The following Ordinance was offered by Council Member Cognevich who moved its adoption:

An Ordinance to amend the 2021 Boat Harbors & Shipyards Fund, Operating Expenditure Budget, Boat Harbors Venice Department; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.

WHEREAS, an amendment is necessary to the 2021 Boat Harbors & Shipyards Fund, Operating Expenditure Budget, Boat Harbors Venice Department;

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT:

SECTION 1

The 2021 Boat Harbors & Shipyards Fund, Operating Expenditure Budget, Boat Harbors Venice Department, is amended by appropriating \$13,000 from the Unreserved/Undesignated Fund Balance as follows:

Fund: 448 Bt Hrbs & Shpyd Fd			
Dept/Div: 562-2840 Boat Harbors Venice Department			
Object	Description	Inc/ Dec	Amendment
528.005	Maintenance Machinery & Equipment	Inc	13,000

SECTION 2

The Secretary of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify and release this Ordinance and that Parish employees and officials are authorized to carry out the purposes of this Ordinance, both without further reading and approval by the Plaquemines Parish Council.

WHEREUPON, in open session the above Ordinance was read and considered section by section and as a whole.

Council Member Arbourgh seconded the motion to adopt the Ordinance.

The foregoing Ordinance having been submitted to a vote, the vote resulted as follows:

YEAS: Council Members John L. Barthelemy, Jr., W. Beau Black, Corey Arbourgh, Stuart J. Guey, Benedict Rousselle, Trudy Newberry, Carlton M. LaFrance, Sr., Richie Blink and Mark Cognevich

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

PRESENT BUT NOT VOTING: None

And the Ordinance was adopted on this the 8th day of July, 2021.

ORDINANCE NO. 21-72

The following Ordinance was offered by Council Member Blink who moved its adoption:

An Ordinance to amend the 2021 General Fund, Manpower Structure and Operating Expenditure Budget; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.

WHEREAS, after a review of the manpower needs of the Flood Control Department, it has been recommended to create and fund four (4) part-time Pump Station Operator II positions;

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT:

SECTION 1

The 2021 Manpower Structure, is amended by creating and funding four (4) part-time Pump Station Operator II positions in the Flood Control-General Department.

SECTION 2

The 2021 General Fund, Operating Expenditure Budget, is amended as follows:

Fund: 001 General Fund			
Dept/Div: 770-4500 Flood Control-Gen Department			
Object	Description	Inc/Dec	Amendment
510.005	Salaries & Wages-Regular	Inc	43,960
515.005	FICA Taxes	Inc	3,360

Fund: 001 General Fund			
Dept/Div: 210-2008 Parish Council District 8 Dept			
Object	Description	Inc/Dec	Amendment
510.005	Salaries & Wages-Regular	Dec	(35,800)
516.105	Retirement PERS	Dec	(5,740)
517.005	Group Insurance Health	Dec	(5,780)

SECTION 3

The Secretary of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify and release this Ordinance and that Parish employees and officials are authorized to carry out the purposes of this Ordinance, both without further reading and approval by the Plaquemines Parish Council.

WHEREUPON, in open session the above Ordinance was read and considered section by section and as a whole.

Council Member Rousselle seconded the motion to adopt the Ordinance.

The foregoing Ordinance having been submitted to a vote, the vote resulted as follows:

YEAS: Council Members John L. Barthelemy, Jr., W. Beau Black, Corey Arbourgh, Stuart J. Guey, Benedict Rousselle, Trudy Newberry, Carlton M. LaFrance, Sr., Richie Blink and Mark Cognevich

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

PRESENT BUT NOT VOTING: None

And the Ordinance was adopted on this the 8th day of July, 2021.

Council Member Blink left the meeting at 5:23 p.m.

Council Member Rousselle filled in the blanks for Item 9g.

ORDINANCE NO. 21-73

The following Ordinance was offered by Council Member Rousselle who moved its adoption:

An Ordinance to amend the 2021 General Fund, Operating Expenditure Budget, Buildings-General Department; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.

WHEREAS, upon review of the 2021 Operating Expenditure Budget, an amendment to the Buildings-General Department is necessary;

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT:

SECTION 1

The 2021 General Fund, Operating Expenditure Budget, Buildings-General Department, is amended by appropriating \$10,500 as follows:

Fund: 001 General Fund			
Dept/Div: 620-3300 Buildings-General Department			
Object	Description	Inc/ Dec	Amendment
532.001	Professional Services-General	Inc	10,500

SECTION 2

The 2021 General Fund, Operating Expenditure Budget is amended as follows:

Fund: 001 General Fund			
Dept/Div: 620-3300 Buildings-General Department			
Object	Description	Inc/ Dec	Amendment
565.001	Equipment General	Dec	(8,000)
Fund: 001 General Fund			
Dept/Div: 620-3514 PALH Courthouse			
Object	Description	Inc/ Dec	Amendment
565.001	Equipment General	Dec	(2,500)

SECTION 3

The Secretary of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify and release this Ordinance and that Parish employees and officials are authorized to carry out the purposes of this Ordinance, both without further reading and approval by the Plaquemines Parish Council.

WHEREUPON, in open session the above Ordinance was read and considered section by section and as a whole.

Council Member Cognevich seconded the motion to adopt the Ordinance.

The foregoing Ordinance having been submitted to a vote, the vote resulted as follows:

YEAS: Council Members John L. Barthelemy, Jr., Stuart J. Guey, Benedict Rousselle,
Carlton M. LaFrance, Sr. and Mark Cognevich

NAYS: Council Members W. Beau Black, Corey Arbourgh and Trudy Newberry

ABSENT: Council Member Richie Blink

PRESENT BUT NOT VOTING: None

And the Ordinance was adopted on this the 8th day of July, 2021.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-192

On motion of Council Member Arbourgh, seconded by Commissioner Guey, and on roll call all members present and voting “YES”, except Council Member Cognevich who “ABSTAINED” and Council Member Blink who was “ABSENT”, the following Resolution was adopted:

A Resolution in support of resuming Federal Offshore Leasing in the Gulf of Mexico; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.

WHEREAS, the United States of America Offshore Oil and Gas Program, since its authorization by the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (OCSLA), has provided significant energy to help fuel the great economy of America; and

WHEREAS, the United States of America Offshore Oil and Gas Program, has been very effective in helping America achieve energy security and strengthening our National Security; and

WHEREAS, the offshore industry and government have collaborated with groups such as the Coastal Conservation Association to create innovative ways to find beneficial cooperation such as the Rigs-to-Reef program, which benefits the recreational fishing community by repurposing obsolete structures of which nearly 600 reefered platforms in the United States Gulf of Mexico are home to almost seven million fish and other critical marine species, enriching marine life; and

WHEREAS, since its inception, the United States of America Offshore Oil and Gas Program is responsible for helping to create hundreds of thousands of jobs with a significant economic impact and has generated hundreds of billions in royalty revenue for the United States Treasury; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress in 2020 permanently funded the Land and Water Conservation Fund at \$900 million per year with wide bipartisan support. Relying solely on earnings from federal offshore oil and gas leasing, the Land and Water Conservation Fund has funded more than \$4 billion worth of projects since its inception in 1965 for purposes of conservation, recreation, restoration and protection of vital national resources, and

WHEREAS, since 2006, more than \$1 billion, funded exclusively by federal offshore lease revenues, has been disbursed to four Gulf energy-producing states through the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act to support coastal conservation and restoration projects; hurricane protection programs, and activities to implement marine coastal or conservation management plans; and

WHEREAS, in the most recent conservation legislation, the Great American Outdoors Act, the United States Congress set aside up to \$1.9 billion a year from Federal offshore lease revenues for the next five years to repair facilities and infrastructure in our national parks, forests, wildlife refuges and American Indian Schools; and

WHEREAS, it is important for the funding of these conservation, recreation, restoration and protection efforts that the United States of America Offshore Oil and Gas Program continues; and

WHEREAS, the United States of America Offshore Oil and Gas Program has been managed in such a way that it is recognized as an environmentally advantaged energy producer with approximately half (53%) of the carbon intensity per barrel of other producing regions worldwide; and

WHEREAS, United States of America Offshore Energy represents a significant opportunity to help improve the health of our planet due to its low carbon intensity; and

WHEREAS, President Biden and Department of Interior Secretary Deb Haaland have caused regularly scheduled lease sales for offshore resources, previously authorized by administrations of both political parties to be canceled, resulting in great uncertainty for the economy, the energy, and the environment of America; and

WHEREAS, Terry A. Doughty of the United States District Court recently decided in a suit filed by the States of Louisiana, Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Georgia, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah and West Virginia that the Executive Branch does not have the legal right to stop leasing Federal territory for Oil and Gas production without approval from Congress; and

WHEREAS, the future production of these oil and gas resources and consequently the funding of conservation, recreation, restoration and protection and further consequently the denial of environmentally advantaged, low carbon intensity barrels of production as a substitution for higher carbon intensity barrels of production from foreign sources; all will be negatively impacted by the continued cancellation of offshore lease sales;

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT at it's meeting held on July 8, 2021, it petitions President Biden and Secretary Haaland to immediately schedule Lease Sales for the Gulf of Mexico, a historic energy producing province, to assist in producing a larger portfolio of some of the planet's lowest carbon intensity barrels of oil and to assist in producing a larger portfolio of natural gas which can serve the Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) worldwide market; all in an effort to restore confidence, generate economic activity, enhance environmental stewardship, create American jobs, and strengthen national and energy security.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to President Biden, Secretary Haaland, the Louisiana Delegation of the United States Congress, the Louisiana Police Jury Association, the Louisiana Municipal Association, and the National Association of Counties.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT the Secretary of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify and release this Resolution and that the Parish employees and officials are authorized to carry out the purposes of this Resolution, both without further reading and approval by the Plaquemines Parish Council.

Council Member Cognevich moved to Agenda Item 10, "Approval of the Minutes". Without objection, so ordered.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-193

On motion of Council Member Barthelemy, seconded by Council Member Cognevich, and on roll call all members present and voting "YES", except Council Member Blink who was "ABSENT", the following Resolution was adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT it hereby approves the minutes of the June 24, 2021, regular meeting, as recorded by the Secretary of this Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE PLAQUEMINES PARISH COUNCIL THAT the Secretary of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify and release this Resolution and that Parish employees and officials are authorized to carry out the purposes of this Resolution, both without further reading and approval by the Plaquemines Parish Council.

Council Member Cognevich moved to Agenda Item 11, "New Business". Without objection, so ordered.

There were no items listed under 11a for suspension.

Under 11(d), "District 1 update", the following was discussed:

- 1) Update on the Pointe-a-la-Hache and West Pointe-a-la-Hache Ferry ramps: Todd Eppley said the ramps were in the design phase which would take about a year to finish.
- 2) Update on the personnel for the Ferry Department: Mr. Eppley said that Civil Service is reaching out to the deckhands who responded to the ad on Indeed but, there are still no applicants as of today.

Under 11(e), "District 7 update", the following was addressed:

Council Member LaFrance asked Director Rousselle if both sides of Lake Hermitage Road could be cut and Scott Rousselle said yes. He also asked for the trash to be picked up on West Bayou Lane and he was told that Scott Rousselle would get with Gregory and check on it. Council Member LaFrance inquired as to when he could expect an excavator to be brought to Diamond Park for drainage work and he was told by Director Rousselle that he would check to see where the excavator was located and when it could get to the park.

Under 11(f), "District 5 update", the following was discussed:

- 1) Update and discussion on the Fort Saint Leon Drainage Project: Council Member Rousselle said he spoke to Ken Dugas who said he would give Director Eppley a list of the complaints from over the past several years. He then asked Mr. Eppley if he had received the list and he said it was not given to him yet. Council Member Rousselle said he was looking at a preliminary set of plans and it doesn't look that those requests are in there.
- 2) Status of upgrades to the Belle Chasse Water Plant and Intake: The information on the slope analysis was given to another Engineer and hopefully, they will take the work which was already done by the previous Engineer and just get the info together for the permit.
- 3) Discussion on pending drainage work requests (Protti Drive, Clausen Road and Cedar Drive): Council Member Rousselle asked Director Rousselle if the main outfall canal had been addressed and Scott Rousselle said yes. He also said that on Protti Drive the ditch was dug and the resident put in the culvert. Over the last couple of weeks it has been draining okay. Also, the long boom has begun to clean out the canal on Clausen and Cedar.
- 4) Discussion and update on the Plaquemines Off-Road Vehicle track on Walker Road: Council Member Rousselle explained that he spoke to Administration last year about Tim Boles and his searching for grants for the track. He thought we would move forward with him; however, he recently spoke to Mr. Boles and nothing has happened. Council Member Rousselle asked if the Administration planned on abandoning track. Scott Rousselle said they are working on it and yesterday he spoke to Mr. Boles. They are looking at other options for using the grant and possibly hiring permanent employees to work at the track. Council Member Cognevich asked if they could add the Ft. Jackson track, that has been abandoned, and he was told by Scott Rousselle that they are trying to work on both of the tracks. Council Member Rousselle asked if, at the next meeting, a better update could be given on where we are at with the track, what we need to do to move forward and provide more grant information.

Mr. Boles then asked to address the Council on this matter. Council Member Rousselle offered a Suspension of the Rules to allow Mr. Boles to speak. The motion was seconded by Dr. Guey, and on roll call all members present voting "YES", except Council Member Barthelemy who was "PRESENT BUT NOT VOTING" and Council Member Blink who was "ABSENT", the motion was adopted by a vote of 7-0. The floor was opened to Mr. Boles who explained the grant available for the track.

There being no further business to come before this Council, on motion Council Member LaFrance, seconded by Council Member Barthelemy and on roll call all members present voting "YES" except Council Member Blink who was "ABSENT", the meeting adjourned at 6:01 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary

For a full transcript of discussions and presentations a video of this meeting is available for viewing on the Parish website www.plaqueminesparish.com or on YouTube.