

NOTICE OF RESCHEDULED REGULAR MEETING OF THE
ST. MARTIN PARISH COUNCIL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the regular meeting of the St. Martin Parish Council, originally scheduled for April 7, 2020, will be held on the date, at the time, and at the place specified below, upon the call of the St. Martin Parish Council Chairperson, Dean Leblanc, and the Parish President, Chester R. Cedars, all pursuant to Section 2-07 (C) the Parish Home Rule Charter:

MEETING DATE: APRIL 16, 2020
TIME: 5:00 P.M.
PLACE: CARROLL J. FUSELIER MEETING ROOM,
ANNEX BUILDING, 301 WEST PORT STREET
ST. MARTINVILLE, LOUISIANA

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that acting pursuant to guidance provided by the La. Attorney General by memoranda dated March 16, 2020, and March 19, 2020, and in accordance with Section 4 of Executive Order 30 JBE 2020, this meeting will likely be attended via teleconference and/or video conference by several members of the St. Martin Parish Council. Therefore, the undersigned certifies that if not for the teleconference and/or video conference attendance, the meeting may not occur because of the quorum dictates of Section 2-07 (H) of the Parish's Home Rule Charter.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that any one wishing to comment upon an agenda item to be voted upon, an e-mail must be submitted to the Council Clerk, Laci Laperouse at llaperouse@stmartinparish.net setting forth the substance of the comment. This e-mail must be received on or before 3:00 P. M. on April 16, 2020. Moreover, the Council policy on public comments shall be applicable except as otherwise restricted or amended by the dictates of this notice.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that attendance at the said meeting shall be limited to 10 persons pursuant to Section 2 of the Governor's Executive Orders 33 JBE 2020 and 41 JBE 2020. This includes Parish Council members, Parish President, and the Clerk of the Council as well as the media.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that because of the COVID-19 crisis, and on this occasion only, the entire meeting will be video recorded and available for later viewing on the St. Martin Parish Government website at www.stmartinparish.net and/or on the St. Martin Parish Government Facebook page and/or YouTube channel.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ST. MARTIN PARISH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING - APRIL 16, 2020

Pursuant to the Notice above the St. Martin Parish Council met in Regular Session convened at 5:05 p.m., Thursday, April 16, 2020, Carroll J. Fuselier Meeting Room, St. Martin Parish Annex Building, 301 West Port Street, St. Martinville, Louisiana.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dean LeBlanc.

The Invocation was read by Laci Laperouse, and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Carla JeanBatiste.

The following members were present: Byron Fuselier, Carla JeanBatiste, Chris Tauzin, Brook Champagne and Dean LeBlanc. The following members attended through GoToMeeting via video conference: Tangie Narcisse, David Poirier, Vincent Alexander (ended the meeting by way of tele-conference) and Daniel Richard, Jr. Members absent: None. Also present: Parish President Chester Cedars and Deputy Clerk of the Council/PIO Brooke Gillespie.

A motion was made by Chris Tauzin and seconded by Brook Champagne to approve the minutes of the St. Martin Parish Council Regular Meeting of March 3, 2020.

This motion having been submitted to a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Carla JeanBatiste, Tangie Narcisse, David Poirier, Chris Tauzin, Brook Champagne, Vincent Alexander, Dean LeBlanc and Daniel Richard, Jr.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

And the motion was declared adopted this 16th day of April, 2020.

Clerk of the Council Laci Laperouse read aloud the following Notice of Public Meeting:

Notice is hereby given that at its meeting to be held on Tuesday, May 19, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. at the Carroll J. Fuselier Parish Council Meeting Room, St. Martin Parish Government Annex Building, 301 W. Port Street, St. Martinville, Louisiana, the St. Martin Parish Council plans to consider adopting a resolution ordering and calling an election to be held in the Parish of St. Martin, State of Louisiana, to authorize the renewal, extension and/or rededication of an ad valorem tax.

A motion was made by Carla JeanBatiste and seconded by Byron Fuselier to open the Public Hearing to obtain public comments regarding ordinances being considered for final adoption.

This motion having been submitted to a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Carla JeanBatiste, Tangie Narcisse, David Poirier, Chris Tauzin, Brook Champagne, Vincent Alexander, Dean LeBlanc and Daniel Richard, Jr.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

And the motion was declared adopted this 16th day of April, 2020.

Chairman Dean LeBlanc asked for public comments regarding the proposed ordinances being considered for final adoption.

Clerk of the Council Laci Laperouse read each ordinance summary. Chairman Dean LeBlanc stated no comments were submitted to the Clerk of the Council prior to the meeting.

Upon requesting and hearing no comments from the audience regarding the proposed ordinances being considered for final adoption, the Chairman requested a motion to close the Public Hearing.

A motion was made by Chris Tauzin and seconded by Byron Fuselier that the Public Hearing be closed.

This motion having been submitted to a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Carla JeanBatiste, Tangie Narcisse, David Poirier, Chris Tauzin, Brook Champagne, Vincent Alexander, Dean LeBlanc and Daniel Richard, Jr.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

And the motion was declared adopted this 16th day of April, 2020.

A motion was made by David Poirier and seconded by Chris Tauzin that the following ordinance be adopted:

ORDINANCE NO. 20-04-1288-OR

AN ORDINANCE REDUCING THE SPEED LIMIT FOR MOTOR VEHICLES ON **RASPY ROAD**, LOCATED IN DISTRICT 4, SECTIONS 25 AND 30, TOWNSHIP 9 SOUTH, RANGES 6 EAST AND 7 EAST, ST. MARTIN PARISH, LOUISIANA, TO PROVIDE FOR THE PENALTY FOR THE VIOLATION OF THIS ORDINANCE.

BE IT ORDAINED by the St. Martin Parish Council that it shall be unlawful for any person to drive any motor vehicle on **RASPY ROAD** in St. Martin Parish, Louisiana, at a speed in excess of 25 miles per hour;

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that any person violating the provisions of this Ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction shall suffer a fine of not less than \$10.00 nor more than \$50.00 at the discretion of the Court;

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that all Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon approval of the St. Martin Parish Council and the signature of the Parish President.

This Ordinance having been submitted to a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Carla JeanBatiste, Tangie Narcisse, David Poirier, Chris Tauzin, Brook Champagne, Vincent Alexander, Dean LeBlanc and Daniel Richard, Jr.
NAYS: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: None.

And the Ordinance was declared adopted this 16th day of April, 2020.

A motion was made by Byron Fuselier and seconded by Brook Champagne that the following resolution be adopted:

RESOLUTION NO. 20-020-RS

A Resolution supporting Senate Bill Number 167 of the 2020 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature which establishes regional drainage and flood mitigation districts.

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Watershed Initiative was formed in order to coordinate statewide floodplain management efforts through a watershed management approach in response to the floods of 2016 and in preparation for future storm events; and

WHEREAS, the foregoing coordination embraces outreach with local communities to build support for watershed region management approaches that can more effectively address mounting water risks statewide; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Watershed Initiative recognizes the eight watershed regions within the State of Louisiana identified by the Council on Watershed Management; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Watershed Initiative provides that each watershed region will initiatively be governed by a steering committee consisting of representatives from each parish within a region; and

WHEREAS, coordination among the parishes within each watershed is critical to reducing flood risks and preserving the health, safety, and welfare of residents and property owners; and

WHEREAS, the steering committee for each watershed will exist for only a limited period of time; and

WHEREAS, one of the functions of each steering committee will be to develop a permanent governance system for its respective watershed region; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill Number 167 seeks to establish regional drainage and flood mitigation districts within each of the eight watershed regions of the State of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill Number 167 provides an excellent vehicle by which a permanent governing body for each watershed can be established, all as envisioned by the Louisiana Watershed Initiative; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill Number 167, independent of the Louisiana Watershed Initiative, creates a governing body which, on a regional bases within each of the eight watersheds of this state, can develop and jointly secure financing for regional projects to promote drainage and reduce flood risks:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the ST. MARTIN PARISH COUNCIL and PARISH PRESIDENT do hereby publicly declare and publish its unconditional support for Senate Bill Number 167, finding that the provisions of that edict establish a much needed vehicle by which parishes with each of the eight watershed regions identified by the Louisiana Watershed Initiative can cooperatively, effectively, and efficiently engage in projects designed to promote drainage and reduce or minimize flood risk, and to identify and secure funding therefor. Moreover, the St. Martin Parish Council and Parish President further declare that Senate Bill Number 167 presents a viable, permanent alternative to the steering committees formed for each watershed region in connection with the Louisiana Watershed Initiative.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Executive Director of the Police Jury Association, Governor John Bel Edwards, and the Louisiana legislative delegation.

This Resolution having been submitted to a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Carla JeanBatiste, Tangie Narcisse, David Poirier, Chris Tauzin,
Brook Champagne, Vincent Alexander, Dean LeBlanc and Daniel Richard, Jr.
NAYS: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: None.

And the Resolution was declared adopted this 16th day of April, 2020.

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A motion was made by Carla JeanBatiste and seconded by Chris Tauzin that the following resolution be adopted:

RESOLUTION NO. 20-021-RS

WHEREAS, a contract for the Cade Cabana and Beach Volleyball Project, was awarded to low bidder, JC Construction, L.L.C., with a Base Bid in the amount of \$1,190,000.00; and

WHEREAS, Vermilion Architects, L.L.C. has recommended Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$6,645.98 (increase); and

WHEREAS, Change Order No. 1 also includes a Twenty-Eight (28) day Contract Time extension.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the St. Martin Parish Council does hereby ratify the Parish President's signature on Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$6,645.98 (increase) and a Twenty-Eight (28) day Contract Time extension for the Cade Cabana and Beach Volleyball Project, by JC Construction, L.L.C.

This Resolution having been submitted to a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Carla JeanBatiste, Tangie Narcisse, David Poirier, Chris Tauzin,
Brook Champagne, Vincent Alexander, Dean LeBlanc and Daniel Richard, Jr.
NAYS: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: None.

And the Resolution was declared adopted this 16th day of April, 2020.

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Video conferencing app failed for Vincent Alexander at 5:16 p.m.

A motion was made by Carla JeanBatiste and seconded by Brook Champagne that the following resolution be adopted:

RESOLUTION NO. 20-022-RS

WHEREAS, a contract for the Whitney Drive Improvements Project, was awarded to low bidder, Elliott Construction, L.L.C., with a Base Bid in the amount of \$218,295.00; and

WHEREAS, Duplantis Design Group has recommended Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$33,313.11 (increase); and

WHEREAS, Change Order No. 1 also includes a Ten (10) day Contract Time extension.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the St. Martin Parish Council does hereby ratify the Parish President's signature on Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$33,313.11 (increase) and a Ten (10) day Contract Time extension for the Whitney Drive Improvements Project, by Elliott Construction, L.L.C.

This Resolution having been submitted to a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Carla JeanBatiste, Tangie Narcisse, David Poirier, Chris Tauzin, Brook Champagne, Dean LeBlanc and Daniel Richard, Jr.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT AT VOTING: Vincent Alexander.

ABSENT: None.

And the Resolution was declared adopted this 16th day of April, 2020.

Vincent Alexander returned via teleconference at 5:18 p.m.

A motion was made by Tangie Narcisse and seconded by Chris Tauzin that the following resolution be adopted:

RESOLUTION NO. 20-023-RS

A Resolution of appreciation and recognition of the late Dr. Murphy Patrick Martin for his unselfish and unwavering commitment to public health in St. Martin Parish, Lafayette Parish, Iberia Parish, and St. Mary Parish serving for almost fifty years as the Chief Medical Officer in the said parishes.

WHEREAS, the late Dr. Murphy Patrick Martin graduated from the medical school of Louisiana State University in 1939; and

WHEREAS, after graduation, Dr. Martin suspended his medical practice in order to enlist in the United States Army at the outbreak of World War II, serving in the medical corps of the Army's 23rd Special Troops, commonly referred to as the "Ghost Army"; and

WHEREAS, upon release from the United States Army at the conclusion of the war, Dr. Martin elected to pursue his medical career in the field of public medicine, receiving a Master's Degree in Public Health and Tropical Medicine from Tulane University; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Martin served as the Chief Medical Officer for nearly fifty (50) years for four parishes in the Acadiana region: St. Martin, Lafayette, Iberia, and St. Mary; and

WHEREAS, while serving as the Chief Medical Officer for the said parishes, Dr. Martin was also an associate professor of Public Health Medicine at Tulane University, teaching physicians from throughout the world including Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, and Korea; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Martin was the subject of numerous professional articles and was featured in an eight page article in the former *Saturday Evening Post* in 1950; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Martin's sacrifice and dedication was captured by these remarks in the aforesaid *Saturday Evening Post* article: "As a man who deliberately gave up a profitable private practice for a public health job which brings him a fraction of his former income ...Dr. Martin is not too concerned with his private account books. What plagues him is that his people are not getting the public health services they deserve and require."; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Martin continued working as a public health physician until 1994, when he retired at the age of eighty-one (81) years; and

WHEREAS, having been born on November 2, 1913, Dr. Murphy Patrick Martin died in 1996, having retired only two years earlier; and

WHEREAS, the St. Martin Parish Government, acting through its Parish President and Parish Council, now asserts that Dr. Murphy Patrick Martin, a St. Martin Parish resident from birth until his death, should be formally and officially recognized for his decades of service to the citizens of Acadiana:

BE IT, THEREFORE, RESOLVED that the St. Martin Parish Government does hereby formally recognize and honor the late Dr. Murphy Patrick Martin for his lifetime of professional and humanitarian service as the Chief Public Health Officer for the Louisiana Department of Health in four parishes, to wit: St. Martin, Lafayette, Iberia, and St. Mary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that on behalf of all of St. Martin Parish, the St. Martin Parish Government extends to his entire family its gratitude and appreciation for the unselfish and sacrificial service of Dr. Murphy Patrick Martin.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Parish President shall adopt all steps necessary to effectuate the foregoing resolution and to prominently post replicas of same in all of the health units owned and/or operated by St. Martin Parish Government.

This Resolution having been submitted to a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Carla JeanBatiste, Tangie Narcisse, David Poirier, Chris Tauzin, Brook Champagne, Vincent Alexander, Dean LeBlanc and Daniel Richard, Jr.
NAYS: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: None.

And the Resolution was declared adopted this 16th day of April, 2020.

A motion was made by Brook Champagne and seconded by Byron Fuselier that the following resolution be adopted:

RESOLUTION NO. 20-024-RS

A Resolution establishing local guidelines for St. Martin Parish relative to the Industrial Tax Exemption Program administered by the Louisiana Board of Commerce and Industry and Louisiana Economic Development Authority.

WHEREAS, the rules of the State of Louisiana provide the option of local taxing authorities to establish guidelines for the Industrial Tax Exemption Program (“ITEP”); and

WHEREAS, the St. Martin Government, acting through its Parish Council, and in concert with its Parish President, have established various local guidelines which are applied relative to ITEP applications; and

WHEREAS, the St. Martin Parish Government now wishes to formally adopt those local guidelines by resolution:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the ST. MARTIN PARISH COUNCIL does hereby establish the following guidelines relative to the approval of applications for an applicant’s participation in the Louisiana Tax Exemption Program:

Whether the applicant has complied with all of the guidelines of the State Board of Commerce and Industry and Louisiana Economic Development;

The total economic impact of the applicant;

The number of jobs to be created by the applicant;

The extent to which there is local ownership in the applicant;

The type of jobs to be created; i.e., full-time, part-time, career oriented;

Emoluments of the jobs created by applicant;

Whether the approval of the exemption will create an unfair advantage for the applicant or unfair disadvantage for other locally owned enterprises;

Uniqueness of the product manufactured by the applicant;

The total amount of the exemption claimed and the total tax revenue expected to be generated;

The terms and conditions of the corporative endeavor agreement between the applicant and the Louisiana Department of Economic Development; and,

Any other criterion deemed relevant and material to the St. Martin Parish Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the foregoing guidelines shall be deemed to supplement and not supplant the Rules of the Louisiana Board of Commerce and Industry relative to the approval of applications under the Louisiana Tax Exemption Program. Consequently, the St. Martin Parish Council may, as deemed proper, rely upon those Rules in its considerations of applications.

This Resolution having been submitted to a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Carla JeanBatiste, Tangie Narcisse, David Poirier, Chris Tauzin,
Brook Champagne, Vincent Alexander, Dean LeBlanc and Daniel Richard, Jr.
NAYS: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: None.

And the Resolution was declared adopted this 16th day of April, 2020.

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A motion was made by Tangie Narcisse and seconded by Chris Tauzin that the following resolution be adopted:

RESOLUTION NO. 20-025-RS

WHEREAS, the week of April 13-18, 2020, has been designated as National Community Development Week by the National Community Development Association; and

WHEREAS, ST. MARTIN PARISH GOVERNMENT has for several years been a participant in and a benefactor of the Community Block Grant Program (CDBGP) which funds public infrastructure, economic development, and housing programs in St. Martin Parish; and

WHEREAS, as a consequence of the CDBGP, a strong, effective, and professional relationship has been developed among the government of St. Martin Parish and its residents, principally, though not exclusively, those of low-to-moderate income; and

WHEREAS, ST. MARTIN PARISH GOVERNMENT acknowledges that the CDBGP is a partnership among federal, state, and local government, and that the services funded by the CDBGP is reliant upon the dedication and good will of the combined efforts of the foregoing; and

WHEREAS, the CDBGP provides annual funding and flexibility to local communities to provide safe and affordable housing, sewer, water, and street improvements projects, and other infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the United States Government, State of Louisiana, and the political subdivisions of the latter acknowledge and recognize the critical value and contributions of the CDBGP; and

WHEREAS, since the inception fo the CDBGP in 1974 to date major public projects have become a reality in St. Martin Parish because of CDBGP funds:

BE IT, THEREFORE, RESOLVED that St. Martin Parish Council does hereby designate the week of April 13-18, 2020, as

NATIONAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WEEK

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this designation signifies the appreciation and recognition of all participants whose hard work and devotion to the residents of low-and moderate-income neighborhoods which helps insure the quality and effectiveness of the Community Development Block Grant Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the St. Martin Parish Government opposes any attempts to eliminate or reduce the funding for the CDBGP and hereby urges the United States Congress to recognize the outstanding work being done locally and nationally by CDBGP.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be conveyed to the appropriate elected and appointed officials of the federal government including by not limited to the entire Congressional delegation who serves the State of Louisiana.

This Resolution having been submitted to a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Carla JeanBatiste, Tangie Narcisse, David Poirier, Chris Tauzin,
Brook Champagne, Vincent Alexander, Dean LeBlanc and Daniel Richard, Jr.
NAYS: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: None.

And the Resolution was declared adopted this 16th day of April, 2020.

Chairman Dean LeBlanc read the following e-mail from St. Martin Parish Library Director Ms. Charlar Brew:

“Thank to the Council for resolution acknowledging April 19-25, National Library Week. St. Martin Parish Library would like to encourage residents to use the many virtual resources such as online services, e-books, e-audio books, databases, streaming media, virtual programming, educational materials as well as Wi-Fi access that is available to them.”

A motion was made by Byron Fuselier and seconded by Brook Champagne that the following resolution be adopted:

RESOLUTION NO. 20-026-RS

WHEREAS, today's libraries are not just about book but what they do for and with people;
and

WHEREAS, libraries of all types are at the heart of cities, towns, schools and campuses; and

WHEREAS, libraries have long served as trusted and treasured institutions where people of all backgrounds can be together and connect; and

WHEREAS, libraries and librarians build strong communities through transformative services, programs and expertise; and

WHEREAS, libraries, which promote the free exchange of information and ideas for all, are cornerstones of democracy; and

WHEREAS, libraries promote civic engagement by keeping people informed and aware of community events and issues; and

WHEREAS, librarians and library workers partner with other civic organizations to make sure their community's needs are being met; and

WHEREAS, libraries and librarians empower their communities to make informed decisions by providing free access to information; and

WHEREAS, libraries are a resource for all members of the community regardless of race, ethnicity, creed, ability, sexual orientation, gender identity or socio-economic status, by offering services and educational resources that transform lives and strengthen communities; and

WHEREAS, libraries, librarians, library workers and supporters across America are celebrating National Library Week.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the St. Martin Parish Council, in Regular Session convened this 16th day of April, 2020, does hereby proclaim the week of April 19-25, 2020, as

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

in St. Martin Parish, Louisiana, and does hereby encourage all residents to visit the library this week to take advantage of the wonderful library resources available at your library and explore what's new at your library and engage with your librarian. Find your place at the library.

This Resolution having been submitted to a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Carla JeanBatiste, Tangie Narcisse, David Poirier, Chris Tauzin,
Brook Champagne, Vincent Alexander, Dean LeBlanc and Daniel Richard, Jr.
NAYS: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: None.

And the Resolution was declared adopted this 16th day of April, 2020.

A motion was made by Daniel Richard, Jr. and seconded by Chris Tauzin that the following resolution be adopted:

RESOLUTION NO. 20-027-RS

WHEREAS, the strength of our nation flows from the promise of individual equality and freedom of choice; and

WHEREAS, the 52nd Anniversary of the National Fair Housing Law, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, during the month of April 2020, is an occasion for all Americans – individually and collectively – to rededicate themselves to the principle of freedom from housing discrimination whenever and wherever it exists; and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid law guarantees each citizen the critical, personal element of freely and without any invidious compunction selecting a home; and

WHEREAS, a fair housing law has been passed by the State of Louisiana, and implementation of that law requires the positive commitment, involvement, and support of each of our citizens; and

WHEREAS, the departments and agencies of the State of Louisiana are to provide leadership in an effort to make fair housing not just an idea, but an ideal for all our citizens; and

WHEREAS, the St. Martin Parish Government embrace all of the foregoing ideals; and

WHEREAS, barriers that diminish the rights and limit the options of any citizen to freely choose a home, will ultimately diminish the rights and limit the options of all:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the St. Martin Parish Council, in Regular Session convened this 16th day of April, 2020, does hereby proclaim the month of April 2020 as

FAIR HOUSING MONTH

in St. Martin Parish, Louisiana, and does hereby encourage all citizens to abide by the letter and spirit of the Fair Housing Law, and ask the citizens of this Parish to join in reaffirming the obligation and commitment to fair housing opportunities for all.

This Resolution having been submitted to a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Carla JeanBatiste, Tangie Narcisse, David Poirier, Chris Tauzin,
Brook Champagne, Vincent Alexander, Dean LeBlanc and Daniel Richard, Jr.
NAYS: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: None.

And the Resolution was declared adopted this 16th day of April, 2020.

Council Member Chris Tauzin requested more information on the Industrial Development Board and requested a substitute motion to table Resolution Summary No. 028-RS. Parish President Chester Cedars plans to review all boards and committees because there are several boards that are inactive, and he believes this board may be one of them.

A substitute motion was made by Brook Champagne and seconded by Byron Fuselier that the following resolution be tabled:

RESOLUTION SUMMARY NO. 028-RS

WHEREAS, due to the passing of Mr. Ray Brignac, a member of the Industrial Development Board, a vacancy exists on said board; and

WHEREAS, the St. Martin Parish Council has accepted the request of Ms. Brenda Hobbs to fill the vacancy on the Industrial Development Board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the St. Martin Parish Council does hereby appoint Ms. Brenda Hobbs as a member of the Industrial Development Board for a two (2) year term, expiring on April 16, 2022.

This Resolution having been submitted to a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Carla JeanBatiste, Tangie Narcisse, David Poirier, Chris Tauzin, Brook Champagne, Vincent Alexander, Dean LeBlanc and Daniel Richard, Jr.
NAYS: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: None.

And the Resolution was declared tabled this 16th day of April, 2020.

A motion was made by Vincent Alexander and seconded by Brook Champagne that the following resolution be adopted:

RESOLUTION NO. 20-029-RS

WHEREAS, there exists a CFMS Cooperative Agreement No. 587859 between St. Martin Parish Government and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality for the “St. Martin Parish Government Litter Abatement Program;” and

WHEREAS, said agreement stated that the parish must put together a team of leaders to oversee the operations, develop additional community support for Keep America Beautiful and also attend Keep America Beautiful workshops and national conferences; and

WHEREAS, on August 5, 2003, the St. Martin Parish Council adopted a resolution appointing seven (7) members to serve on the Keep St. Martin Beautiful Board described in CFMS Agreement No. 587859, for four (4) year terms; and

WHEREAS, on November 4, 2003, the St. Martin Parish Council adopted a resolution appointing three (3) additional members to serve on the Keep St. Martin Beautiful Board for four (4) year terms.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the St. Martin Parish Council does hereby appoint Ms. Vivian Brasseaux to serve as a member of the Keep St. Martin Beautiful Board described in CFMS Agreement No. 587859, for a four (4) year term; said term will expire on April 16, 2024.

This Resolution having been submitted to a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Carla JeanBatiste, Tangie Narcisse, David Poirier, Chris Tauzin,
Brook Champagne, Vincent Alexander, Dean LeBlanc and Daniel Richard, Jr.
NAYS: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: None.

And the Resolution was declared adopted this 16th day of April, 2020.

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A motion was made by Carla JeanBatiste and seconded by Brook Champagne that the following resolution be adopted:

RESOLUTION NO. 20-030-RS

A Resolution requesting that the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality conduct a public hearing regarding the Solid Waste Permit Renewal Application of Greenpoint, Inc., and otherwise providing with respect thereto.

WHEREAS, Greenpoint, Inc. has applied to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality for the renewal of a permit for a waste disposal site at 1469-A Old Spanish Highway, Broussard, Louisiana, the said site being situated in St. Martin Parish, Louisiana;

WHEREAS, the St. Martin Parish Government deems it to be in the interests of the general public that a public hearing be held before the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality on the renewal application of Greenpoint, Inc:

BE IT, THEREFORE, RESOLVED that the St. Martin Parish Council hereby formally and publicly requests that a public hearing before the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality be held relative to the application of Greenpoint, Inc. for its continued operation of a Type III C&D and Woodwaste Landfill at 1469-A Old Spanish Highway, Broussard, Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of the resolution be submitted to the Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality forthwith.

This Resolution having been submitted to a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

- YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Carla JeanBatiste, Tangie Narcisse, David Poirier, Chris Tauzin, Brook Champagne, Vincent Alexander, Dean LeBlanc and Daniel Richard, Jr.
- NAYS: None.
- ABSTAIN: None.
- ABSENT: None.

And the Resolution was declared adopted this 16th day of April, 2020.

A motion was made by Byron Fuselier and seconded by Chris Tauzin that the following resolution be adopted:

RESOLUTION NO. 20-031-RS

A Resolution acknowledging the successful respondent to Request for Proposals and award of contract for mosquito control/surveillance services to Cajun Mosquito Control, LLC, (land services) and Vector Disease Control International, LLC (aerial services) and otherwise providing with respect thereto.

WHEREAS, the St. Martin Parish Government has previously solicited formal Request for Proposals relative to mosquito control/surveillance for St. Martin Parish, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, by virtue of a competitive process initiated through the aforementioned formal Request for Proposals, Cajun Mosquito Control, LLC has submitted what has been deemed to be the most acceptable response/proposal for land spraying services, all pursuant to the evaluation criteria set forth in the aforementioned request for proposals and negotiations; and

WHEREAS, by virtue of a competitive process initiated through the aforementioned formal Request for Proposals, Vector Disease Control International, LLC has submitted what has been deemed to be the most acceptable response/proposal for aerial spraying services, all pursuant to the evaluation criteria set forth in the aforementioned request for proposals and negotiations; and

WHEREAS, the Parish President has commence the steps necessary to confect the proper contract(s) to secure the said services in accordance with the dictates of the said Request for Proposals and pursuant to the authority conferred upon him by virtue of the Parish's Home Rule Charter:

BE IT, THEREFORE, RESOLVED that Cajun Mosquito Control, LLC be acknowledged as the successful respondent relative to the Parish's mosquito control/surveillance program as regard land spraying services.

BE IT, FURTHER, RESOLVED that Vector Disease Control International, LLC be acknowledged as the successful respondent relative to the Parish's mosquito control/surveillance program as regard aerial spraying services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that to the extent necessary, Parish President Chester R. Cedars, be and is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to confect to necessary contract(s) for the said services under the terms and conditions set forth herein and under such additional terms and conditions as he may deem necessary and fit in his uncontrolled discretion.

This Resolution having been submitted to a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Carla JeanBatiste, Tangie Narcisse, David Poirier, Chris Tauzin, Brook Champagne, Vincent Alexander, Dean LeBlanc and Daniel Richard, Jr.
NAYS: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: None.

And the Resolution was declared adopted this 16th day of April, 2020.

Clerk of the Council Laci Laperouse read ordinances introduced for publication, as follows:

SUMMARY NO. 1289-OR (Introduced by Chris Tauzin, District 5)

An Ordinance authorizing the Parish President to execute an agreement for the use of property in connection with the deposit of spoil generated by the dredging of Catahoula Lake, known as the "Catahoula Lake Improvements Project".

SUMMARY NO. 1290-OR (Introduced by Daniel Richard, Jr., District 9)

An Ordinance to authorize the St. Martin Parish Government to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with St. Landry Parish Fire Protection District #5 whereby for the sum of \$450,000.00, the St. Martin Parish Government will have the right to occupy premises located in the Town of Arnaudville, Louisiana, for the purposes of fire protection services rendered by the Fire Service District of St. Martin Parish and/or the Arnaudville Fire Department.

Prior to adjournment Parish President Chester Cedars provided an update on the COVID-19 crisis and other matters. Parish President Chester Cedars requested everyone keep Director of Public Works Kasey Courville and his family in their thoughts and prayers, due to the recent passing of his father. Parish President Chester Cedars advised the Council Members that the Henderson Volunteer Fire Department went from a rating of 5 to 4 which will help with the reduction of insurance rates for the residents of that area. Parish President Chester Cedars stated he received notice that the

Court of Appeal has ordered a hearing before a 5-judge panel in the St. Martin Parish Government v. Bryan Champagne, et al hearing number 83926-E of the docket of the 16th Judicial District, St. Martin Parish. Parish President Chester Cedars elaborated that two of the three judges who heard the appeal voted to reverse the trial court (voting in favor of the Parish). Parish President Chester Cedars added when this occurs, the Court generally orders a second appellate hearing before two more judges. No date has been set for this hearing. Parish President Chester Cedars urged everyone to complete the 2020 CENSUS and thanked Council Member Tangie Narcisse for her efforts.

Parish President Chester Cedars gave an update on the COVID-19 crisis as follows:

The public works department has been working its normal schedule without any interruption in its normal assignments. Similarly, the personnel at the water plant have been working normal shifts. Parish President Chester Cedars noted that the health units have been operating according to LDH guidelines, and there has been little or no disruption in discharging its daily duties. Moreover, St. Martin Parish Government has been accepting and processing all building permit applications albeit remotely via electronic transmittal. However, all required inspections have been transpiring.

Beginning on March 31, 2020, the administrative and support staff have been working remotely when possible. Parish President Chester Cedars mentioned only a limited number of personnel are allowed to go in the administrative offices, and then under a schedule coordinated with Calder Hebert, our Director of Administration. Parish President Chester Cedars stated Section 8 chores are operating along normal lines except applications are reviewed remotely. The staff in the finance department is working remotely, except that several times a week, several hours are spent actually processing checks and reviewing invoices for Parish President Chester Cedars' approval. Finally, the Parish's major projects have continued to be addressed. Parish President Chester Cedars stated the Parish has had one remote bid opening (home elevation program), and the Parish has received and graded RFP's for mosquito control services. Parish President Chester Cedars stated the Parish has initiated advertising for bids on two Restore Act Projects – Catahoula Lake and Uncle Dick Davis Park floating piers. Construction remains ongoing at all of the Parish's sites including Cade, Catahoula, and Paul Angelle Park where during the last week the Parish completed the parking lot at the Cecilia Civic Center. As regards the Center, in the last two weeks almost of the fixtures, appliances, and furniture have been delivered. Parish President Chester Cedars advised the handling of routine calls is remote with staff members rotating that duty. The Clerk and Deputy Clerk are in the rotation with the Deputy Clerk/PIO being available 24/7 for reports. St. Martin Parish

Government has kept the entire staff/employees active, although some have not been able to discharge their full array of duties daily. Nonetheless, the Parish should not be “behind” on any significant matters affecting Parish Government once this crisis abates. Furthermore, at this time, Parish President Chester Cedars stated there appears to be no reason for any employment to be in jeopardy. Parish President Chester Cedars also noted that he teleconferences routinely with the Parish’s Directors, and, practicing social distancing, periodically personally confers with them. Candidly, Parish President Chester Cedars believes that, by and large, the employment plan we crafted has proven to be successful, fair, reasonable, and without compromise to any principles of the Stay at Home Order of the Governor.

Parish President Chester Cedars discussed the St. Martin Parish budget as follows:

Parish President Chester Cedars exclaimed that everyone make no mistake about it – this crisis will impact the Parish’s budget. However, it is far too early for an accurate and firm evaluation. Parish President Chester Cedars stated preliminary analysis reflects that the Parish will lose significant revenue associated with our road maintenance funds which have, as their source of revenue, money from the video poker fund and Sales Tax District #1. Parish President Chester Cedars stated the Parish’s obligation to supplement the criminal court fund (which is integral to the judicial system) will similarly be significantly impacted. Parish President Chester Cedars anticipates significant reduction in the Parish’s severance tax revenue and building permit fees. Intertwined is the loss of revenue related to the severe downturn in the oil and gas industry which has been magnified by the COVID-19 pandemic. Parish President Chester Cedars mentioned both he and the Director of Finance are looking at the present and 2021 especially in regard to the Parish’s millage assessments.

Parish President Chester Cedars is hopeful the Parish will have a better, more accurate picture in the coming months. In view of the foregoing, Parish President Chester Cedars has suspended all budgeted items for major expenditures including the acquisition of equipment such as tractors and the Parish’s road improvement project which the Parish was in the process of developing. Parish President Chester Cedars stated how the Parish adjusts for these items will be dependent upon the budget analysis in the coming weeks. Consequently, in the meantime, the Parish will focus upon the ordinary infrastructure maintenance which Parish President Chester Cedars does not anticipate will be curtailed.

Parish President Chester Cedars also discussed the Federal Stimulus Packages as follows:

Parish President Chester Cedars stated as everyone is aware, there have been several federal legislative packages enacted to “stimulate the economy” and provide assistance to those impacted by the COVID-19 crisis. These include:

Public Health Assistance legislation to provide support for federal and state healthcare needs to combat the pandemic;

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act which has two components: The Expanded Emergency Family Medical Leave Act; and, the Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act;

The CARES Act which is a \$2.2 trillion package that has several components:

Federal Unemployment Compensation which supplements unemployment payment at the rate of \$600 weekly;

The Paycheck Protection Program which provides low interest loans to businesses up to 2.5 times their monthly payroll. A feature thereof is the forgiveness of the loan if the proceeds are used to retain or re-hire employees;

Small Business Pay-Roll Tax Deferral plan permitting employers to defer the payment of pay roll taxes until 2021 and 2022; and,

Recovery Rebate Payment program where everyone who qualifies will receive a \$1,200 check for the government-these were mailed this week in many cases.

Parish President Chester Cedars invited and encouraged our business partners to visit the website designed and managed by Jennifer Stelly, the Executive Director of the St. Martin Parish Economic Development Authority: www.shopstmartinparish.com/covid-19-resources

Parish President Chester Cedars stated this site has a wealth of information about the many business opportunities afforded our local businesses as a result of the aforementioned legislation, including the CARES Act.

Parish President Chester Cedars added that another aspect of the CARES Act calls for the distribution of \$150 billion to state and local governments based upon a formula closely akin to that used for the CDBG program. Parish President Chester Cedars exclaimed only local governmental units with a population of 500,000 or more are eligible for direct payments. Therefore, Louisiana's share of these proceeds will be payable directly to the State since we have no local governmental unit which has a 500,000 population. Parish President Chester Cedars said it is his understanding that the state will distribute 45% of the amount it receives (\$1.8 Billion) to local government. However, although it is not clear at this point, it appears that the money must be used for expenditures incurred due to dealing with COVID-19 and should be earmarked for public health, public housing, and similar matters. Parish President Chester Cedars stated the bottom line is that the proceeds are not available to supplement budget shortfalls caused by COVID-19. Also, the State has not declared what criteria it will utilize in "sharing" with local government the \$1.8 billion it receives. Parish President Chester Cedars has been advised that Congress is currently considering additional legislation designed to offer assistance to the States and local government. Consequently, Parish President Chester Cedars has transmitted correspondence to the Parish's Congressional delegation making it clear that participation in any program should not be dependent on population which is unfair to rural communities. Moreover, Parish President Chester Cedars has advocated allowing local government to utilize the proceeds according to its discretionary needs so long as it can be demonstrated that those needs are directly related to COVID-19. Parish President Chester Cedars provided to the Council for their edification, the following format of the letter sent to the Parish's delegation:

April 15, 2020

Senator John Kennedy
B11 Russell Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

RE: *Direct Aid to Parish Government*

Dear Senator Kennedy:

On behalf of St. Martin Parish Government, the undersigned submits this transmittal to urge you to staunchly endorse federal legislation that will provide direct financial aid to local governmental units for revenue deficits associated with the COVID-19 crisis. This entreaty draws no distinction based upon the population of the local governing entity. While I address only parish governing authorities in this correspondence, many issues espoused herein apply with equal force to municipalities.

To fully comprehend the plight of parish governing authorities under the current financial climate, it is prudent, as a seminal matter, to recognize the vast array of financial responsibilities imposed upon Louisiana parishes by law. Thus, I present the following for your edification, noting that locally generated revenue is the primary, and often sole, source of funding for parishes.

It is an understandable misconception that Parishes only address infrastructure needs such as roads, bridges, and drainage structures. Those obligations are indeed the most visible work a Parish undertakes; however, as will be hereinafter demonstrated, it is by no means the only areas of a Parish's responsibilities.

Louisiana law imposes on parish governments the obligation to provide secure facilities for district attorneys, judges, clerks of court, tax assessors, registrar of voters, and sheriffs. These mandates embrace both the physical offices/buildings of those officials and the supplement of the operating budgets of their separately established constitutional offices.

Similarly, the maintenance of parish jails is the obligation of parish governments. Moreover, the Parish must provide for the food, clothing, medical and dental, and mental health services for all inmates in a parish jail, pretrial detainees and otherwise.

The criminal justice system in most, if not all, local jurisdictions no longer generates from fines, forfeitures, and related penalties sufficient revenue to adequately fund the operating expenses of district attorney offices, judges, law clerks, court reporters, and other necessary components thereof. By state statutory, unfunded mandates, Parish governing authorities are required to provide for all such operating expenses. In this same vein, the current COVID-19 crisis has resulted in a mass reduction of services which the Indigent Defender Boards can provide, thus creating backlogs in incarceration and criminal dockets. Consequently, additional financial burdens associated therewith are transferred to parish governing authorities.

The expenses of the parish coroner's office is likewise a financial charge imposed upon Parishes. As such, the increase in mental health issues, drug abuse requiring commitments, and an abnormal workload associated with COVID-19 public health matters has placed undue, unforeseen, and unbudgeted burdens upon Parish Governments.

Moreover, as referenced previously, the local critical infrastructure obligations of parish governing entities remain at a peak and include roads, bridges, and drainage. The maintenance and projects regarding same have always, and still remain, the sole responsibility of local government.

Furthermore, paramount services which Parishes routinely undertake to preserve public health and safety are at an all-time peak and include, but are not limited to, fire protection services, mosquito control, animal control, recreational facilities, and water services. Many of those duties are discharged by parishes via taxes associated with the operation of health units.

Also, Parishes such as St. Martin participate in a Section 8 housing program which is, as you are aware, especially important today in view of massive layoffs and related economically dire circumstances. The administrative costs associated therewith are addressed and satisfied from general fund transfers.

No commentary is necessary to highlight the significant impact of COVID-19 upon the local revenue stream which is the lifeblood for funding all of the foregoing. Without immediate and aggressive measures, Parish Government will be compelled to eliminate vital services which are necessary for the health, safety, and protection of our local communities.

It is salient to note that the CARES Act, as it is currently drafted, provides no relief directly to any unit of local government in the State of Louisiana. As you are aware, the pertinent provisions of that legislation allows funding to local governmental entities with a population in excess of 500,000, and then only for limited purposes. There is no Parish or municipality in this state with the requisite population.

In light of all of the foregoing, you are respectfully requested to support any and all legislation which will provide direct financial aid to local government without regard to population, all relative to the mitigation of prospective budgetary shortfalls which result as consequence of the COVID-19 crisis.

With kindest regards, I remain

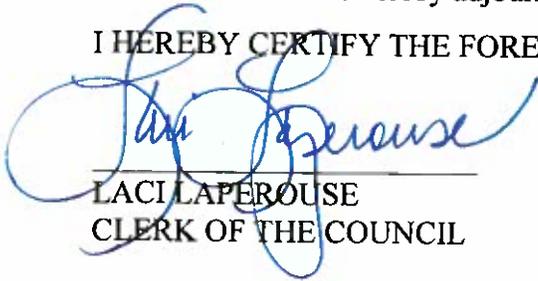
Sincerely yours,

*Chester R. Cedars
Parish President*

Parish President Chester Cedars made it clear that St. Martin Parish Government will not depend on the federal government to solve all of our budget concerns. Parish President Chester Cedars stated this does not mean that the Parish will not seek assistance; rather, the Parish will structure the budget and expenditures without factoring the potential of any outside assistance. Parish President Chester Cedars stated if the Parish receives any sort of assistance, then the Parish will treat it as icing on the cake. In Parish President Chester Cedar's view, it is imprudent for Government to depend or rely upon uncertain one-time funding to address its recurring needs. Indeed, the first in line for assistance should be our business communities and their employees. Council Members thanked Parish President Chester Cedars for all his efforts through these trying times.

A motion was made by Chris Tauzin and seconded by Byron Fuselier that the St. Martin Parish Council does hereby adjourn. Motion was unanimously approved.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THE FOREGOING TO BE EXACT AND TRUE:



LACI LAPEROUSE
CLERK OF THE COUNCIL