

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ST. MARTIN PARISH COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING - OCTOBER 1, 2019

The St. Martin Parish Council met in Regular Session convened at 5:02 p.m., Tuesday, October 1, 2019, Carroll J. Fuselier Meeting Room, St. Martin Parish Annex Building, 301 West Port Street, St. Martinville, Louisiana.

The meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Lisa Nelson.

The Invocation was read by Laci Laperouse, and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Albert Menard.

The following members were present: Byron Fuselier, Lisa Nelson, Jason Willis, Neil Thibodeaux, Chris Tauzin, Albert Menard and Dean LeBlanc. Members absent: Jill Hebert (excused) and Daniel Richard, Jr. (excused). Also present: Parish President Chester Cedars, Director of Administration Calder Hebert, Director of Finance Sean Hundley, Director of Public Works Martin Poirrier and Parish Attorney Allan Durand.

A motion was made by Dean LeBlanc and seconded by Chris Tauzin to approve the minutes of the St. Martin Parish Council Regular Meeting of September 3, 2019.

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

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Lisa Nelson, Jason Willis, Neil Thibodeaux,
Chris Tauzin, Albert Menard and Dean LeBlanc.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Jill Hebert (excused) and Daniel Richard, Jr. (excused).

And the motion was declared adopted this 1st day of October, 2019.

Chairwoman Lisa Nelson recognized Parish President Chester Cedars, who addressed Item (A) of Special Business: Acknowledge receipt of the Year 2020 Sinking Fund and Operating and Maintenance Budgets and to Call For Public Hearing for the Year 2020 Sinking Fund and Operating and Maintenance Budgets; and Item (B): Acknowledge receipt of the Year 2020 Parish Capital Outlay Budget and to Call For Public Hearing for the Year 2020 Parish Capital Outlay Budget. Parish President Cedars urged the Council Members review the submitted budget and meet with him if they have any questions. Parish President Chester Cedars thanked St. Martin Parish Government Director of Finance Sean Hundley and his staff for a job well done on preparing the budget. Parish

President Chester Cedars recommended the Council hold a Public Hearing at the December 3, 2019 Regular Meeting.

Chairwoman Lisa Nelson announced that St. Martin Parish Council has received a copy of the Year 2020 Sinking Fund and Operating and Maintenance Budgets, along with the Year 2020 Parish Capital Outlay Budget.

A motion was made by Chris Tauzin and seconded by Byron Fuselier to acknowledge receipt of the Year 2020 Sinking Fund and Operating and Maintenance Budgets and to approve the following Call For Public Hearing for the Year 2020 Sinking Fund and Operating and Maintenance Budgets.

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

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Lisa Nelson, Jason Willis, Neil Thibodeaux,
Chris Tauzin, Albert Menard and Dean LeBlanc.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Jill Hebert (excused) and Daniel Richard, Jr. (excused).

And the motion was declared adopted this 1st day of October, 2019.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

THE ST. MARTIN PARISH COUNCIL WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2019, AT 5:00 P.M. IN THE CARROLL J. FUSELIER MEETING ROOM, ANNEX BUILDING, 301 WEST PORT STREET, ST. MARTINVILLE, LOUISIANA FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING PUBLIC INPUT ON THE **YEAR 2020 SINKING FUND AND OPERATING AND MAINTENANCE BUDGETS.**

COPIES OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M., MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 20, 2019 THRU DECEMBER 3, 2019) IN THE ST. MARTIN PARISH GOVERNMENT FINANCE DEPARTMENT, ST. MARTIN PARISH ANNEX BUILDING, 301 WEST PORT STREET, ST. MARTINVILLE, LOUISIANA.

ST. MARTIN PARISH COUNCIL
LISA NELSON, CHAIRWOMAN
LACI LAPEROUSE, CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

ADV: November 20, 2019
November 27, 2019

A motion was made by Chris Tauzin and seconded by Byron Fuselier to acknowledge receipt of the Year 2020 Parish Capital Outlay Budget and to approve the following Call For Public Hearing for the Year 2020 Parish Capital Outlay Budget.

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

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Lisa Nelson, Jason Willis, Neil Thibodeaux,
Chris Tauzin, Albert Menard and Dean LeBlanc.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Jill Hebert (excused) and Daniel Richard, Jr. (excused).

And the motion was declared adopted this 1st day of October, 2019.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

THE ST. MARTIN PARISH COUNCIL WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2019, AT 5:00 P.M. IN THE CARROLL J. FUSELIER MEETING ROOM, ANNEX BUILDING, 301 WEST PORT STREET, ST. MARTINVILLE, LOUISIANA FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING PUBLIC INPUT ON THE **YEAR 2020 PARISH CAPITAL OUTLAY BUDGET**.

COPIES OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET ARE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M., MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 20, 2019 THRU DECEMBER 3, 2019) IN THE ST. MARTIN PARISH GOVERNMENT FINANCE DEPARTMENT, ST. MARTIN PARISH ANNEX BUILDING, 301 WEST PORT STREET, ST. MARTINVILLE, LOUISIANA.

ST. MARTIN PARISH COUNCIL
LISA NELSON, CHAIRWOMAN
LACI LAPEROUSE, CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

ADV: November 20, 2019

November 27, 2019

Item (C) of Special Business: Conduct Public Hearing to hear comments on values of property for assessment purposes fixed by the St. Martin Parish Assessor. {The Parish Council sits as a Board of Review to hear any complaints of values of property for assessment purposes set by the Assessor. The Board of Review can only hear the written or oral complaint of any qualified person, which has provided notice to the Board of Review at least 7 days prior to tonight's public hearing, either through appearing in person at its office or by filing such appeal by means of certified mail.}

A motion was made by Chris Tauzin and seconded by Jason Willis to open public hearing to obtain public comments on values of property for assessment purposes fixed by the St. Martin Parish Assessor.

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

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Lisa Nelson, Jason Willis, Neil Thibodeaux,
Chris Tauzin, Albert Menard and Dean LeBlanc.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Jill Hebert (excused) and Daniel Richard, Jr. (excused).

And the motion was declared adopted this 1st day of October, 2019.

Upon hearing no comments from the audience, Chairwoman Lisa Nelson recognized St. Martin Parish Assessor Todd Dugas.

Assessor Todd Dugas has submitted to the Board of Review their certification of the assessed valuation of all properties in St. Martin Parish for tax year 2018. No appeals were received. Assessor Dugas reviewed and discussed the Abstract of Assessment Detailed Comparison 2018 vs 2019 (*on-file*). Parish President Chester Cedars and Council Members thanked Assessor Todd Dugas and his staff for a job well done.

A motion was made by Albert Menard and seconded by Byron Fuselier to close public hearing.

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

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Lisa Nelson, Jason Willis, Neil Thibodeaux,
Chris Tauzin, Albert Menard and Dean LeBlanc.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Jill Hebert (excused) and Daniel Richard, Jr. (excused).

And the motion was declared adopted this 1st day of October, 2019.

A motion was made by Albert Menard and seconded by Jason Willis to open the Public Hearing to obtain public comments regarding the ordinances being considered for final adoption.

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

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Lisa Nelson, Jason Willis, Neil Thibodeaux,
Chris Tauzin, Albert Menard and Dean LeBlanc.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Jill Hebert (excused) and Daniel Richard, Jr. (excused).

And the motion was declared adopted this 1st day of October, 2019.

Chairwoman Lisa Nelson asked for public comment regarding the proposed ordinances being considered for final adoption.

Clerk of the Council Laci Laperouse read each Ordinance Summary.

Parish President Chester Cedars spoke about Ordinance Summary No. 1276-OR {An Ordinance to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Breaux Bridge, Louisiana, to redefine the boundaries of Sales Tax District No. 1 to delete the area North of I-10 annexed by the City subsequent to 1998.}. Parish President Chester Cedars stated for clarification purposes it's important to state publicly that there has been some mis-communication relative to this item. Particularly there were some communications that were erroneously transmitted to the area in question which states that, "In order to keep those of you who live north of I-10 from having your sales tax rate go up (due to the extra Road Maintenance 1 cent tax that you now pay to Parish Government for roughly two more years), the City will shortly enter into an "Intergovernmental Agreement" with St. Martin Parish Government allowing for a sharing of the existing 1 cent."

Parish President Chester Cedars exclaimed this is an incorrect statement disseminated on August 22, 2019. Parish President Chester Cedars mentioned when he learned of this communication, he immediately arranged for a meeting on August 27, 2019, with the administration of the City of Breaux Bridge, as well as St. Martin Parish Council Chairwoman Lisa Nelson, Director of Finance Sean Hundley and Director of Administration Calder Hebert. Parish President Chester Cedars stated they clarified at this meeting this statement to be incorrect. Parish President Chester Cedars announced there has been no agreement relative to Sales Tax District No. 1, whether it be the abatement, sharing or the division of that tax. Parish President Chester Cedars stated he would look at this matter very methodically, professionally, and even-handedly and will do what's best for the citizens of St. Martin Parish. Parish President Chester Cedars stated he will do the right thing and fair thing. Parish President Chester Cedars recognized the issues, but again St. Martin Parish is to protect its tax base revenues. Lastly, Parish President Chester Cedars mentioned this matter appears on the agenda because it was requested by the City of Breaux Bridge. Parish President Chester Cedars advised that on September 20, 2019, he and Director of Administration Calder Hebert met with representatives of the City of Breaux Bridge. Parish President Chester Cedars did propose something that was rejected. Parish President Chester Cedars stated at this same meeting, the City of Breaux Bridge requested the item be tabled or postponed. Chairwoman Lisa Nelson added the meeting on September 20, 2019, went well but declared her concerns that if we do for one municipality, we do for all, which would endanger our revenue. A general discussion amongst Council Members was had.

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

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

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

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Lisa Nelson, Jason Willis, Neil Thibodeaux,
Chris Tauzin, Albert Menard and Dean LeBlanc.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Jill Hebert (excused) and Daniel Richard, Jr. (excused).

And the motion was declared adopted this 1st day of October, 2019.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 19-10-1275-OR

An Ordinance to authorize the Parish President to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the St. Martin Parish School Board for the use of a tract of land adjacent to Parks Elementary School, all for youth recreational endeavors, the said property being situated in Section 75, Township 9 South, Range 6 East of St. Martin Parish, Louisiana.

WHEREAS, the **ST. MARTIN PARISH GOVERNMENT** sponsors recreational programs throughout the parish; and

WHEREAS, the areas in and around the Village of Parks, Louisiana, form a portion of one of the recreational districts of the Parish of St. Martin; and

WHEREAS, the **ST. MARTIN PARISH GOVERNMENT** is in dire need of additional property in the Parks community so that it can effectively and efficiently provide recreational activities; and

WHEREAS, the recreational activities associated with the said district provide critical needs for the youth of St. Martin Parish; and

WHEREAS, the **ST. MARTIN PARISH GOVERNMENT** and the **ST. MARTIN PARISH SCHOOL BOARD** have frequently engaged in joint cooperative endeavors to aid and assist in providing services to and on behalf of the citizens of St. Martin Parish, Louisiana, as well as other governmental entities; and

WHEREAS, the **ST. MARTIN PARISH GOVERNMENT** and the **ST. MARTIN PARISH SCHOOL BOARD** acknowledge that St. Martin Parish, Louisiana, is a rural community with limited resources, and therefore, it is at a severe disadvantage relative to the availability of facilities for the rendition of recreational programs; and

WHEREAS, the **ST. MARTIN PARISH SCHOOL BOARD** is the owner of property adjacent to Parks Elementary School, situated in the Village of Parks, which can be utilized for recreational activities; and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid property is not currently being utilized by the **ST. MARTIN PARISH SCHOOL BOARD** for any activities whatsoever, including, but not limited to, recreational endeavors; and

WHEREAS, the use of the subject property by **ST. MARTIN PARISH GOVERNMENT** for recreational activities will require moderate improvements which the parish is willing to absorb; and

WHEREAS, the **ST. MARTIN PARISH SCHOOL BOARD** will benefit from improvements to the said property and have the use of it when not being utilized by the **ST. MARTIN PARISH GOVERNMENT**; and

WHEREAS, a joint venture between the **ST. MARTIN PARISH GOVERNMENT** and the **ST. MARTIN PARISH SCHOOL BOARD** wherein property located adjacent to Parks Elementary School in the Village of Parks, Louisiana, is utilized by the former for recreational endeavors will serve the best interests of the citizens of St. Martin Parish, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Article VII, Section 14(C) of the Louisiana Constitution sanctions cooperative endeavors for such public purposes:

BE IT, THEREFORE, ORDAINED that, on behalf of the **ST. MARTIN PARISH GOVERNMENT**, the Parish President be authorized, empowered, and directed to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the **ST. MARTIN PARISH SCHOOL BOARD** wherein the Parish will be afforded use of the following described property solely and exclusively for youth recreational purposes, all in connection with the Parish's recreational program:

That certain tract of land, together with all improvements situated thereon, located in Section 75, Township 9 South, Range 6 East, St. Martin Parish, Louisiana, containing 3.635 acres and being delineated as Tract 1-B on a plat of survey prepared by Clarence Thibodeaux, dated August 27, 2004, a copy of which is recorded in Book 1442, Page 234 of the Conveyance Records of St. Martin Parish, Louisiana; the said property being bounded, now or formerly, as follows: on the Northwest by the property of Leonard Potier; on the Southeast by the properties of the St. Martin Parish School Board, Nelson Anthony, Pauline Arceneaux, Louise Hypolite, and Viola Phillips; on the Southwest by Tract 1-A of the aforescribed plat of survey and by St. Louis Drive; and on the Northeast by the property of Cecelia D. Boyance; the said property containing such dimensions and further boundaries as shown and depicted on the said plat of survey.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the said intergovernmental agreement shall not obligate the Parish to pay any sum of money to the **ST. MARTIN PARISH SCHOOL BOARD** for the use of the said property. However, the accord may, in the discretion of the Parish President, obligate the Parish to provide routine maintenance of the premises to accommodate its use as a recreational facility. Moreover, the Parish President is further authorized to incorporate in the intergovernmental agreement such other terms and conditions as he may deem necessary and proper.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the Parish President be authorized, directed, and empowered to adopt any and all other steps necessary to effectuate the terms, provisions, and conditions of this edict including, but not limited to, the signing of all instruments and/or other related documents.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that 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 vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Lisa Nelson, Jason Willis, Neil Thibodeaux,
Chris Tauzin, Albert Menard and Dean LeBlanc.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Jill Hebert (excused) and Daniel Richard, Jr. (excused).

And the Ordinance was declared adopted this 1st day of October, 2019.

A motion was made by Dean LeBlanc and seconded by Chris Tauzin that the following ordinance be tabled:

ORDINANCE SUMMARY NO. 1276-OR

An Ordinance authorizing the execution of a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement/ Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Breaux Bridge, Louisiana, whereby the St. Martin Parish Council agrees to amend an ordinance adopted by the Police Jury of the Parish of St. Martin, State of Louisiana, on May 19, 1998, and/or Ordinance Number 02-05-0228-OR so as to redefine the boundaries of Sales Tax District No. 1 of the Parish of St. Martin, and providing for other matters relative thereto.

WHEREAS, the Police Jury of the Parish of St. Martin, State of Louisiana, now the St. Martin Parish Council, by ordinance adopted on May 19, 1998, created Sales Tax District No. 1 of the Parish of St. Martin, State of Louisiana ("The Tax District") with boundaries comprising all of that territory contained within the boundaries of St. Martin Parish, less and except that area of the Parish contained within the corporate limits of the municipalities of St. Martinville, Breaux Bridge, Parks, Henderson, and Arnaudville, as the corporate limits as said municipalities were constituted at that time (May 19, 1998); and

WHEREAS, by virtue of Ordinance No. 02-05-0228-OR, adopted on May 22, 2002, the St. Martin Parish Council redefined the boundaries of The Tax District to include all of that territory contained within the boundaries of St. Martin Parish, less and except: that area of the Parish contained with the boundaries of Sales Tax District No. 2 of the Parish of St. Martin, State of Louisiana; and, that area of the Parish located within the corporate limits of the municipalities of St. Martinville, Breaux Bridge, Parks, Henderson, and Arnaudville, as the corporate limits of said municipalities were constituted on May 19, 1998; and

WHEREAS, subsequent to the adoption of the Ordinances referred to herein, the City of Breaux Bridge, Louisiana, annexed a portion of The Tax District which is located immediately north of Interstate Highway 10; and

WHEREAS, the City of Breaux Bridge has a proposition on the ballot of November 16, 2019, seeking voter approval of a one cent sales tax for all of the municipality; and

WHEREAS, the City of Breaux Bridge has agreed that should the sales tax proposition be approved, it will abate the said one cent sales tax for the aforescribed annexed area of The District

until the October 1, 2022, if the St. Martin Parish Council will agree to redefine the boundaries of the Tax District so as to exclude the said annexed area immediately north of Interstate Highway 10, the exclusion to be effective October 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the cooperative and mutual endeavors between St. Martin Parish and the City of Breaux Bridge furnish an excellent vehicle by which those governmental entities can afford fair and equal treatment of the citizens of St. Martin Parish, Louisiana:

BE IT, THEREFORE, ORDAINED by the St. Martin Parish Council that should the one-cent Breaux Bridge sales tax proposition on the ballot for the election of November 16, 2019, be approved by the electorate of the City of Breaux Bridge, Louisiana, the necessary edicts shall be adopted by the Council redefining the boundaries of Sales Tax District No. 1 of the Parish of St. Martin, State of Louisiana, to exclude the area immediately North of Interstate Highway 10 which the City of Bridge, Louisiana, annexed subsequent to the enactment the 1998 Ordinance which established The Tax District, provided that the Breaux Bridge one-cent sales tax is abated until October 1, 2022. Any such redefinition of the said boundaries of The Tax District shall not be effective until October 1, 2022. No other annexed areas of the City of Breaux Bridge shall be excluded from the boundaries of The Tax District or subject to any term of this edict.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the St. Martin Parish Council that the Parish President, Chester R. Cedars, or his successor in office, be and is hereby authorized, directed, and empowered to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Breaux Bridge setting forth the terms expressed herein, and containing such other terms, conditions, and provisions as the Parish President may negotiate and deem necessary and feasible in his uncontrolled discretion, except as limited by the dictates specified herein.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable, and if any provision, word, phrase, or clause of this ordinance, or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that this ordinance shall become effective immediately upon approval of the St. Martin Parish Council and the signature of the Parish President, all in accordance with the dictates of the Home Rule Charter of St. Martin Parish, Louisiana.

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

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Lisa Nelson, Jason Willis, Neil Thibodeaux,
Chris Tauzin, Albert Menard and Dean LeBlanc.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Jill Hebert (excused) and Daniel Richard, Jr. (excused).

And the Ordinance was declared tabled this 1st day of October, 2019.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 19-083-RS

WHEREAS, the Assessor of St. Martin Parish has opened his books for public inspection and review for a period of fifteen (15) calendar days, from August 28, 2019, thru September 13, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Assessor of St. Martin Parish has certified to the St. Martin Parish Council (Board of Review of Assessments) the total assessed valuation of \$486,367,337.00 of all properties in the Parish of St. Martin for the tax year 2019; and

WHEREAS, the St. Martin Parish Council has given public notice that they would sit as a Board of Review on Tuesday, October 1, 2019, at 5:00 P.M. in the Carroll J. Fuselier Meeting Room, St. Martin Parish Annex Building, 301 West Port Street, St. Martinville, Louisiana, for the purpose of receiving protests and hearing complaints of values of property for assessment purposes in the Parish, fixed by the St. Martin Parish Assessor. That it will hear the written or oral complaint of any qualified person as provided by R.S. 47:1992, who has provided notice to the Board of Review on or before Tuesday, September 24, 2019, at 4:30 P.M. either through appearing in person at its office or by filing such appeal by means of certified mail; and

WHEREAS, no written or oral complaints of any qualified person as provided by R.S. 47:1992, were provided to the Board of Review on or before Tuesday, September 24, 2019, at 4:30 P.M.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the St. Martin Parish Council, in Regular Session convened on this 1st day of October, 2019, that the Council certifies the Assessment List as submitted by the Assessor of St. Martin Parish.

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

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Lisa Nelson, Jason Willis, Neil Thibodeaux,
Chris Tauzin, Albert Menard and Dean LeBlanc.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Jill Hebert (excused) and Daniel Richard, Jr. (excused).

And the Resolution was declared adopted this 1st day of October, 2019.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 19-084-RS

WHEREAS, the St. Martin Parish Government intends to submit budget requests to the Division of Administration for Capital Outlay Funds; and

WHEREAS, the St. Martin Parish Government does not have the financial resources necessary to fund projects of this size; and

WHEREAS, the St. Martin Parish Council has selected and authorized the submission of the following State Capital Outlay Budget Requests for year 2020-2021:

- * Frontage Road Louisiana Highway 328 to 347
- * Joe Daigre Canal Drainage Improvements
- * Replacement of Butte La Rose Pontoon Bridge
- * Coulee LaSalle Drainage Improvements
- * Road Improvements on Four-Mile Bayou Road
- * Installation of 8" water lines along Louisiana Highway 94 from the municipal limits of the City of Breaux Bridge to the Vermilion River (Lafayette-St. Martin Parish line), for the express purpose of providing potable water to homes, residential developments, and businesses within the corridor of Louisiana Highway 94
- * Infrastructure improvements to Waterworks District No. 4
- * Supplemental funding for the dredging of Catahoula Lake, necessary to improve drainage of entirety of St. Martin Parish and other parishes within the watershed from which Catahoula Lake receives water
- * Acquisition of 3 Rapid Sand Filter Systems at the St. Martin Industrial Park Water Treatment Plant which is responsible for providing potable water to Waterworks District No. 4 (Catahoula, Louisiana)
- * Acquisition of a Variable Frequency Control Unit necessary to maintain water system pressure during frequent periods of time in which the water tower at the St. Martin Industrial Park Water Treatment Plant is non-functional because of legally mandated inspections, routine maintenance, and inclement weather conditions

* Planning and improvements to Landry Lane, Edna Street, and Adell Street

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the St. Martin Parish Council, in Regular Session convened this 1st day of October, 2019, does hereby certify to the Division of Administration, Facility Planning and Control, that it does not have cash or bond funding available to fund these projects.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Parish President Chester Cedars, be and is authorized, directed and empowered to act on behalf of St. Martin Parish, in all matters pertaining to the aforesaid projects, all relative to seeking budget requests for Capital Outlay funds, executing cooperative endeavor agreements should Capital Outlay funding be granted, and certifying requests for disbursements from the State of Louisiana.

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

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Lisa Nelson, Jason Willis, Neil Thibodeaux,
Chris Tauzin, Albert Menard and Dean LeBlanc.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Jill Hebert (excused) and Daniel Richard, Jr. (excused).

And the Resolution was declared adopted this 1st day of October, 2019.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 19-085-RS

WHEREAS, the St. Martin Parish Council recognizes the need for highway improvements and is desirous that certain highway priorities be considered in the 2020-2021 highway budget as follows:

1. Replacement of Butte La Rose Pontoon Bridge.
2. Construct an exchange/exit at the intersection of Louisiana Highway 354 and I-10.
3. Culverts to be placed from Louisiana Highway 347 along the South side of Louisiana Highway 352.
4. Replace or elevate culverts for Coulee LaSalle and Cypress Bayou at Louisiana Highway 182.
5. Extend Louisiana Highway 94 from intersection with Rees Street to Doyle Melancon/Lion Castille Road and continuing in a straight line path to the intersection of Louisiana Highway 347 and Louisiana Highway 349.
6. Straighten out curves on Louisiana Highway 96 West of St. Martinville.
7. Perform drainage study on Louisiana Highway 347 (Cecilia Senior High School Highway) between parish road Bruce Huval Street to parish road Madeline Boulevard.
8. Perform drainage study on Louisiana Highway 347 (Grandpoint Highway) between parish road Louis Circle to Louisiana Highway 678 (Grand Anse Highway).
9. Construct Frontage Roads, the entire length of St. Martin Parish, along U.S. Highway 90.
10. Reconstruction and overlay of Louisiana Highway 328, from I-10 to Cecilia Senior High School Highway.
11. Reconstruction and overlay of Louisiana Highway 31 from Poche Bridge to St. Martin Parish/St. Landry Parish line.
12. Reconstruction/Repair of Henderson Levee Road (Louisiana Highway 352).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the St. Martin Parish Council, in Regular Session convened this 1st day of October, 2019, that Senator Fred H. Mills, Jr., Senator Rick Ward, III, Senator Gerald Boudreaux, Representative Michael "Mike" Huval, Representative Terry C. Landry, Sr., Representative Taylor F. Barras, and Representative Sam Jones (and/or their respective successors, if any) submit the above priorities to Governor John Bel Edwards and to the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development requesting assistance in accomplishing the foregoing priorities.

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

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Lisa Nelson, Jason Willis, Neil Thibodeaux,
Chris Tauzin, Albert Menard and Dean LeBlanc.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Jill Hebert (excused) and Daniel Richard, Jr. (excused).

And the Resolution was declared adopted this 1st day of October, 2019.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 19-086-RS

A Resolution authorizing the Parish President or Director of Finance to act on behalf of St. Martin Parish Government in all matters pertaining to the Joe Daigre Canal Drainage Improvements Project (FP&C Project No. 50-J50-18-01) all relative to Capital Outlay Funding awarded for the said project.

WHEREAS, by virtue of Act 20 of the 2019 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the St. Martin Parish Government received Capital Outlay Funding for the planning and construction of drainage improvements to the Joe Daigre Canal; and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid project was assigned Project No. 50-J50-18-01 by the Office of Facility Planning and Control (“FP&C”) of the Division of Administration; and

WHEREAS, the State of Louisiana appropriated sources of cash for the said project or the Bond Commission did grant a cash line of credit and/or non-cash line of credit for the project in the amount referenced in the funding summary of Act 20; and

WHEREAS, St. Martin Parish Government desires that all steps be adopted to insure receipt of the proceeds appropriated by the State of Louisiana for the said project:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the St. Martin Parish Council does hereby authorize and designate Parish President, Chester R. Cedars(or his successor) or the Director of Finance, Sean Hundley (or his successor) to act on behalf of St. Martin Parish Government in all matters pertaining to the Joe Daigre Canal Drainage Improvements Project (FP&C Project No. 50-J50-18-01), all relative to the execution of cooperative endeavor agreements, certifying requests for disbursements from the State of Louisiana, and/or adopting any other action necessary to confect the said Capital Outlay funding.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any and all other actions taken by the said Chester R. Cedars relative to the Capital Outlay funding of the said FP&C Project No. 50-J50-18-01, inclusive of any Cooperative Endeavor Agreement previously executed by him in connection therewith, are hereby confirmed and ratified.

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

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Lisa Nelson, Jason Willis, Neil Thibodeaux,
Chris Tauzin, Albert Menard and Dean LeBlanc.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Jill Hebert (excused) and Daniel Richard, Jr. (excused).

And the Resolution was declared adopted this 1st day of October, 2019.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 19-087-RS

WHEREAS, St. Martin Parish Government has hired Ms. Sentina Tune (part-time contract bridge tender) for the specific purpose of operating the Stephenville Bridge at 1000 Landry Drive, Stephenville, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Sentina Tune's contract is effective October 5, 2019, and will expire on October 5, 2021.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the St. Martin Parish Council does hereby authorize Parish President Chester Cedars to execute a Contract for Services in behalf of the St. Martin Parish Government with Ms. Sentina Tune for the specific purpose of operating the Stephenville Bridge at 1000 Landry Drive, Stephenville, Louisiana.

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

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Lisa Nelson, Jason Willis, Neil Thibodeaux,
Chris Tauzin, Albert Menard and Dean LeBlanc.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Jill Hebert (excused) and Daniel Richard, Jr. (excused).

And the Resolution was declared adopted this 1st day of October, 2019.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 19-088-RS

WHEREAS, cooking, heating, and electrical fires represent three of the nation’s leading causes of home fires, and are collectively responsible for nearly half of all home fires and almost one-third of the associated fire deaths; and

WHEREAS, the vast majority of home cooking, heating, and electrical fires can be prevented by taking simple safety precautions; and

WHEREAS, developing a home fire escape plan and practicing it at least twice a year are critical to escaping a fire safely; and

WHEREAS, proper installation, testing, and maintenance of smoke alarms are part of a thorough home fire escape plan; and

WHEREAS, the Fire Prevention Week 2019 theme, is “Not Every Hero Wears A Cape. Plan and Practice Your Escape!”; and

WHEREAS, the fire service of St. Martin Parish is dedicated to the safety of life and property from the devastating effects of fire.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the St. Martin Parish Council does hereby proclaim the week of October 6-12, 2019, as

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

and urges all citizens of St. Martin Parish to participate in fire prevention activities at home, work, and school, and to take the steps needed to make their homes and families safe from the leading causes of home fires, which include cooking, heating and electrical.

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

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Lisa Nelson, Jason Willis, Neil Thibodeaux,
Chris Tauzin, Albert Menard and Dean LeBlanc.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Jill Hebert (excused) and Daniel Richard, Jr. (excused).

And the Resolution was declared adopted this 1st day of October, 2019.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 19-089-RS

WHEREAS, in recent years, the Louisiana State Legislature has recognized the seriousness of domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, the law of the State of Louisiana now addresses domestic violence as a unique and severe criminal offense and dictates enhanced criminal penalties commensurate therewith; and

WHEREAS, the treatment of domestic violence by the criminal justice system, while admirable, is not a panacea for the prevention of such egregious misconduct; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence knows and recognizes no boundaries of race, age, gender, social status, or community; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence has a direct impact on over 4 million Americans annually; and

WHEREAS, women are victims of homicides committed in connection with acts of domestic violence at the rate of 2.2 per 100,000 females; and

WHEREAS, empirical studies reflect that children of maternal victims of domestic violence are 50% more likely to be victims of domestic violence and furthermore, experience lifelong repercussions from the trauma associated therewith; and

WHEREAS, the general public erroneously believes that domestic violence is a “crime of passion” when in actuality, it is a crime of violence; and

WHEREAS, 81% of female homicide victims in the State of Louisiana are committed by a partner or ex-partner; and

WHEREAS, there has been at least one reported domestic homicide in every parish in the State of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, over 5,000 adult women annually in Louisiana will experience some form of domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, 72% of all murder-suicides involve an intimate partner, and 94% of the victims of these crimes are females; and

WHEREAS, the Partnership Against Domestic Violence reports that every 9 seconds a woman in the United States is subject to physical domestic abuse; and

WHEREAS, a successful campaign against domestic violence commences with an understanding and deep appreciation of the pervasiveness of this societal cancer termed “domestic violence”; and

WHEREAS, Domestic Violence Awareness Month provides an excellent vehicle for the citizens of St. Martin Parish, Louisiana, to learn and study the issues associated with domestic violence and thus, commit themselves to provide support, financial and otherwise, for organizations and individuals which sponsor and/or offer advocacy services, shelters, and other related assistance to both the victims of domestic violence and their minor offspring:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the St. Martin Parish Council, in Regular Session convened this 1st day of October, 2019, does hereby officially declare the month of October 2019 as:

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

in St. Martin Parish, Louisiana. All citizens of this parish are encouraged to commit themselves to offering support in any way plausible for all organizations and individuals who provide advocacy services, shelters, and other related assistance to those affected by domestic violence.

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

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Lisa Nelson, Jason Willis, Neil Thibodeaux,
Chris Tauzin, Albert Menard and Dean LeBlanc.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Jill Hebert (excused) and Daniel Richard, Jr. (excused).

And the Resolution was declared adopted this 1st day of October, 2019.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 19-090-RS

WHEREAS, breast cancer is the most common cancer in women in the United States, aside from skin cancer; and

WHEREAS, according to the American Cancer Society (ACS), an estimated 268,600 new cases of invasive breast cancer are expected to occur among women in the United States this year; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 41,760 women are expected to die from the disease in 2019 alone; and

WHEREAS, the impact of breast cancer is wide ranging, directly affecting women; and

WHEREAS, the National Breast Cancer Awareness Month (NBCAM) is an annual international health campaign organized by major breast cancer charities every October to increase awareness of the disease and to raise funds for research into its cause, prevention and cure.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the St. Martin Parish Council, in Regular Session convened this 1st day of October, 2019, does hereby celebrate 34 years of awareness, education and empowerment and recognizes the month of October 2019 as:

NATIONAL BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

and urges all citizens in St. Martin Parish to actively participate in the events and programs that the American Cancer Society pursues towards the cause, prevention and cure of this disease.

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

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Lisa Nelson, Jason Willis, Neil Thibodeaux,
Chris Tauzin, Albert Menard and Dean LeBlanc.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Jill Hebert (excused) and Daniel Richard, Jr. (excused).

And the Resolution was declared adopted this 1st day of October, 2019.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 19-091-RS

WHEREAS, Head Start is a national initiative that provides comprehensive services in education, social services, health, nutrition, parent involvement, disabilities, and transition to largely low-income children and their families; and

WHEREAS, it is known that Head Start had humble beginnings during the summer of 1965 and was viewed largely as a pilot program, but has grown and expanded to become the foremost Early Childhood Development Program in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the SMILE, CAA has long recognized the benefits of such a program in St. Martin Parish and became an active participant by agreeing to administer the program; and

WHEREAS, the successes of Head Start are well-documented, and this body is very proud of its accomplishments in this regard; and

WHEREAS, Head Start serves the needs of lower income families throughout this nation, serving more than 15 million children and their families nationwide – 1,600 people in the tri-parish area of St. Martin, Iberia, and Lafayette Parishes alone.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the St. Martin Parish Council does hereby proclaim October 2019 as:

HEAD START AWARENESS MONTH

and urges all citizens to continue to support Head Start and to recognize and acknowledge the important educational, social, and economic accomplishments of Head Start during the past 54 years, particularly that of the SMILE, CAA Head Start Program.

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

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Lisa Nelson, Jason Willis, Neil Thibodeaux,
Chris Tauzin, Albert Menard and Dean LeBlanc.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Jill Hebert (excused) and Daniel Richard, Jr. (excused).

And the Resolution was declared adopted this 1st day of October, 2019.

Carmen Gonzales an advocate of Dysautonomia was present and gave details, along with educational fliers of the “invisible disease” of Dysautonomia.

A motion was made by Chris Tausin and seconded by Dean LeBlanc that the following resolution be adopted:

RESOLUTION NO. 19-092-RS

WHEREAS, Dysautonomia affects people of any age, gender, race or background, negatively impacting over 70 million people around the world, including many individuals in the State of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, there are 15 different forms of Dysautonomia. These include Neuropathy, Vasovagal Syncope, Pure Autonomic Failure, and Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome (commonly known as POTS), just to list a few; and

WHEREAS, people who have been diagnosed with some form of Dysautonomia often have secondary conditions such as: Lupus, Multiple Sclerosis (MS), Parkinson's disease, Sjogren's syndrome or Diabetes; and

WHEREAS, Dysautonomia is an extremely disabling and life changing disease, and this chronic illness can result in the inability to work or attend school and may cause social isolation, depression and /or anxiety; and

WHEREAS, Dysautonomia not only has physical effects on its victims, but the malady also introduces emotional and financial issues, and as such, it results in extremely stress on the families of those impacted; and

WHEREAS, Dysautonomia Louisiana is a local organization that advocates on behalf of patients living with Dysautonomia and those individuals suffering from its symptoms and still struggling for a diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, the goal of Dysautonomia Louisiana is to bring much needed awareness to the community and information to the medical professionals across Louisiana.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the St. Martin Parish Council, in Regular Session convened this 1st day of October, 2019, does hereby officially declare the month of October 2019 as:

DYSAUTONOMIA AWARENESS MONTH

in St. Martin Parish, Louisiana. All citizens of this parish are encouraged to adopt any and all steps to insure that the general public and medical profession remain attentive and responsive to this disease.

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

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Lisa Nelson, Jason Willis, Neil Thibodeaux,
Chris Tauzin, Albert Menard and Dean LeBlanc.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Jill Hebert (excused) and Daniel Richard, Jr. (excused).

And the Resolution was declared adopted this 1st day of October, 2019.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 19-093-RS

ANNUAL CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH STATE OF LOUISIANA OFF SYSTEM BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, the Code of Federal Regulations as enacted by the United States Congress mandates that all structures defined as bridges located on all public roads shall be inspected, rated for safe load capacity and posted in accordance with the National Bridge Inspection Standards and that an inventory of these bridges be maintained by each State; and

WHEREAS, the responsibility to inspect, rate and load post those bridges under the authority of St. Martin Parish in accordance with those Standards is delegated by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development to St. Martin Parish.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the St. Martin Parish Council, in Regular Session convened this 1st day of October, 2019, that the St. Martin Parish Government (herein referred to as the Parish) does hereby certify to the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (herein referred to as the DOTD) that for the period October 1, 2018, through September 30, 2019:

The Parish has performed all interim inspections on all Parish owned or maintained bridges in accordance with the National Bridge Inspection Standards.

1. All bridges owned or maintained by the Parish have been structurally analyzed and rated by the Parish as to the safe load capacity in accordance with AASHTO Manual for Maintenance Inspection of Bridges. The load posting information that has been determined by the LA DOTD for all bridges where the maximum legal load under Louisiana State law exceeds the load permitted under the operating rating as determined above has been critically reviewed by the Parish. Load posting information has been updated by the Parish to reflect all structural changes, any obsolete structural ratings or any missing structural ratings.
2. All Parish owned or maintained bridges which require load posting or closing are load posted or closed in accordance with the table in the DOTD Engineering Directives and Standards Manual Directive No. 1.1.1.8. All DOTD supplied load posting information concerning a bridge has been critically reviewed by the Parish Engineer prior to load posting.

3. All bridges owned or maintained by the Parish are shown on the attached list in the format specified by the DOTD. Corrections to data supplied to the Parish by the LA DOTD are noted.

These stipulations are prerequisites to participation by the Parish in the Off System Bridge Replacement Program.

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

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Lisa Nelson, Jason Willis, Neil Thibodeaux,
Chris Tauzin, Albert Menard and Dean LeBlanc.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Jill Hebert (excused) and Daniel Richard, Jr. (excused).

And the Resolution was declared adopted this 1st day of October, 2019.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 19-094-RS

WHEREAS, it is necessary to engage the services of a professional engineering firm for the removal and replacement of the Pontoon Bridge in Butte La Rose.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the St. Martin Parish Council does hereby authorize Parish President Chester Cedars to execute a contract in behalf of the St. Martin Parish Government with Huval and Associates for the removal and replacement of the Pontoon Bridge in Butte La Rose, Louisiana.

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

YEAS: Byron Fuselier, Lisa Nelson, Jason Willis, Neil Thibodeaux,
Chris Tauzin, Albert Menard and Dean LeBlanc.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Jill Hebert (excused) and Daniel Richard, Jr. (excused).

And the Resolution was declared adopted this 1st day of October, 2019.

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

SUMMARY NO. 1277-OR (Introduced by Chris Tauzin, District 5)

An Ordinance to amend the road name of "Dean LeBlanc Road" to "Circle T Farms Road."

SUMMARY NO. 1278-OR (Introduced by Chris Tauzin, District 5)

An Ordinance to amend Chapter 38 of the Code of Ordinances of the St. Martin Parish Government by the enactment of Article IV thereof entitled, "Cross Connection Control" consisting of Sections 38-150 through 38-164, all relative to the backflow prevention and providing for penalties for violations thereof.

SUMMARY NO. 1279-OR (Introduced by Lisa Nelson, District 2)

An Ordinance to adopt the Sinking Fund and Operating and Maintenance Budgets for the Year 2020.

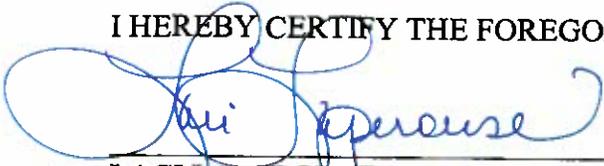
SUMMARY NO. 1280-OR (Introduced by Dean LeBlanc, District 8)

An Ordinance to adopt the Parish Capital Outlay Budget for the Year 2020.

Prior to adjournment Parish President Chester Cedars updated the Council Members on several items not requiring Council action as follows: Possible FEMA reimbursement from the high water events earlier in the year, Bayou Estates Flood Proofing Project, Pelican Waste & Debris, L.L.C. billing questions, meeting with Waste Management regarding billing, home elevation program, and the Catahoula Lake Dredging project. Finally, Parish President Chester Cedars along with all Council Members publicly acknowledged and thanked all of the St. Martin Parish Volunteer Firefighters.

A motion was made by Dean LeBlanc and seconded by Chris Tauzin 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