

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ST. MARTIN PARISH COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING - OCTOBER 5, 2021

The St. Martin Parish Council met in Regular Session convened at 5:01 P.M., Tuesday, October 5, 2021, 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 Chris Tauzin.

The Invocation was read by Brooke Gillespie, and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Dean LeBlanc.

The following members were present: Carla JeanBatiste, Tangie Narcisse, David Poirier, Chris Tauzin, Brook Champagne, Vincent Alexander, Dean LeBlanc and Daniel Richard, Jr. Members absent: Byron Fuselier (excused). Also present: Parish President Chester Cedars, Director of Administration Calder Hebert, Director of Finance Sean Hundley, Deputy Clerk of the Council Chantelle Dever and Parish Attorney Allan Durand.

A motion was made by Dean LeBlanc and seconded by Carla JeanBatiste to approve the minutes of the St. Martin Parish Council Regular Meeting of September 7, 2021.

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

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

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Byron Fuselier (excused).

And the motion was declared adopted this 5th day of October, 2021.

Chase Guidry, Citizens for Cecilia introduced himself and briefly discussed his concerns about the community of Cecilia. Mr. Guidry expressed that the roads are in deplorable condition, and law enforcement has longer response times. Mr. Guidry predicted that in the next ten to twenty years, Cecilia will get dissolved with the growth of Henderson and Breaux Bridge. Mr. Guidry requested use of the Cecilia Civic Center to have a meeting with the community where residents can express their concerns. Mr. Guidry's idea is to incorporate the community of Cecilia. In closing, Mr. Guidry requested to meet with Parish President Chester Cedars to go over the cost to run the community. Council Members and Parish President Chester Cedars thanked Mr. Chase Guidry for

coming.

A motion was made by Brook Champagne and seconded by Carla JeanBatiste to acknowledge receipt of the Year 2022 Sinking Fund and Operating and Maintenance Budgets and to approve the following Call For Public Hearing for the Year 2022 Sinking Fund and Operating and Maintenance Budgets.

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

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

And the motion was declared adopted this 5th day of October, 2021.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

THE ST. MARTIN PARISH COUNCIL WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2021, 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 2022 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 24, 2021 THRU DECEMBER 7, 2021) IN THE ST. MARTIN PARISH GOVERNMENT FINANCE DEPARTMENT, ST. MARTIN PARISH ANNEX BUILDING, 301 WEST PORT STREET, ST. MARTINVILLE, LOUISIANA.

ST. MARTIN PARISH COUNCIL
CHRIS TAUZIN, CHAIRMAN
BROOKE GILLESPIE, CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

ADV: November 24, 2021
December 1, 2021

A motion was made by Dean LeBlanc and seconded by Carla JeanBatiste to acknowledge receipt of the Year 2022 Parish Capital Outlay Budget and to approve the following Call For Public Hearing for the Year 2022 Parish Capital Outlay Budget.

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

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

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Byron Fuselier (excused).

And the motion was declared adopted this 5th day of October, 2021.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

THE ST. MARTIN PARISH COUNCIL WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2021, 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 2022 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 24, 2021 THRU DECEMBER 7, 2021) IN THE ST. MARTIN PARISH GOVERNMENT FINANCE DEPARTMENT, ST. MARTIN PARISH ANNEX BUILDING, 301 WEST PORT STREET, ST. MARTINVILLE, LOUISIANA.

ST. MARTIN PARISH COUNCIL
CHRIS TAUZIN, CHAIRMAN
BROOKE GILLESPIE, CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

ADV: November 24, 2021
December 1, 2021

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

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Byron Fuselier (excused).

And the motion was declared adopted this 5th day of October, 2021.

Upon hearing no comments from the audience, Chairman Chris Tauzin 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 2021. One appeal was received. Assessor Dugas reviewed and discussed the Abstract of Assessment Detailed Comparison 2020 vs 2021 (*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 David Poirier and seconded by Carla JeanBatiste to close public hearing.

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

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

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Byron Fuselier (excused).

And the motion was declared adopted this 5th day of October, 2021.

Clerk of the Council Brooke Gillespie read Special Business Item D: RULE TO SHOW CAUSE to address nuisance property at 1041 Petite Road, St. Martinville. Property owned by Christina Melancon.

Property owner Christina Melancon was present to discuss the condition of 1041 Petite Road, St. Martinville. Ms. Melancon mentioned the house on the property is actually for her ex-husband, and the land is hers. Compliance Officer Ronald Solarie stated the property owner has made improvements relative to the condition of the property. It was recommended to proceed with the Rule, but to allow the administration to work with Ms. Cristina Melancon on a deadline to remediate the condition of the property. After hearing testimony from Mr. Ronald Solarie and upon reviewing the photographs taken by Mr. Solarie (*on-file*), the Council found that under Section 24-105 of the St. Martin Parish Code of Ordinances, the condition of the property renders it a “Nuisance” as a result of the overgrown grass and dilapidated structure on the premises.

Therefore, a motion was made by David Poirier and seconded by Dean LeBlanc authorizing Parish President Chester Cedars to proceed with an Order of Condemnation and Abatement.

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

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

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Byron Fuselier (excused).

And the motion was declared adopted this 5th day of October, 2021.

Clerk of the Council Brooke Gillespie read Special Business Item E: RULE TO SHOW CAUSE to address nuisance property at 1003 Mason Road, Arnaudville. Property owned by the heir of Jerry Moffett, Randy Moffett.

Property owner Randy Moffett was not present to discuss the condition of 1003 Mason Road, Arnaudville. After hearing testimony from Compliance Officer Ronald Solarie and upon reviewing the photographs taken by Mr. Solarie (*on-file*), the Council found that under Section 24-105 of the St. Martin Parish Code of Ordinances, the condition of the property renders it a “Nuisance” as a result of the overgrown grass, inoperable vehicles, and other debris or junk on the premises.

Therefore, a motion was made by Daniel Richard, Jr. and seconded by Dean LeBlanc authorizing Parish President Chester Cedars to proceed with an Order of Condemnation and Abatement.

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

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

And the motion was declared adopted this 5th day of October, 2021.

Clerk of the Council Brooke Gillespie read Special Business Item F: RULE TO SHOW CAUSE to address nuisance property at 1007 Mason Road, Arnaudville. Property owned by the unopened succession of Euna Hebert.

Property owner(s) was not present to discuss the condition of 1007 Mason Road, Arnaudville, as the heirs of Euna Hebert cannot be located. Compliance Officer Ronald Solarie stated Attorney Keith Thibodeaux was served the Rule to Show Cause. Parish President Chester Cedars recommended postponing this Rule to Show Cause until the next Regular meeting to allow Attorney Thibodeaux more time to locate the property owners.

Therefore, a motion was made by Brook Champagne and seconded by David Poirier postponing the RULE TO SHOW CAUSE to address nuisance property at 1007 Mason Road, Arnaudville, until the November 2, 2021 Regular Meeting.

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

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

And the motion was declared adopted this 5th day of October, 2021.

Clerk of the Council Brooke Gillespie read Special Business Item G: Placement on the agenda of November 2, 2021, the determination to approve or disapprove the application of Peppers Unlimited of Louisiana, Inc. (#20190509-ITE) for an Industrial Tax Exemption.

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

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

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

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Byron Fuselier (excused).

And the motion was declared adopted this 5th day of October, 2021.

Chairman Chris Tauzin asked for public comment regarding the proposed ordinance being considered for final adoption.

Clerk of the Council Brooke Gillespie read the Ordinance Summary.

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

A motion was made by Dean LeBlanc and seconded by Tangie Narcisse that the Public Hearing be closed.

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

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

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Byron Fuselier (excused).

And the motion was declared adopted this 5th day of October, 2021.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 21-10-1335-OR

AN ORDINANCE REDUCING THE SPEED LIMIT FOR MOTOR VEHICLES ON **CHES BROUSSARD ROAD**, LOCATED IN DISTRICT 7, SECTIONS 60 & 62, TOWNSHIP 9 SOUTH, RANGE 5 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 CHES BROUSSARD ROAD in St. Martin Parish, Louisiana, at a speed in excess of 35 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 vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

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

And the Ordinance was declared adopted this 5th day of October, 2021.

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Assessor Todd Dugas declared one appeal was received. Pilot Travel Centers, LLC is requesting the fair market value to be set at \$1.864 million, while the Assessor's Office has it set at \$3.728 million. Assessor Dugas stated he believes his value is fair.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 21-074-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 24, 2021, thru September 9, 2021; 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 **\$505,208,897.00** of all properties in the Parish of St. Martin for the tax year 2021; and

WHEREAS, the St. Martin Parish Council has given public notice that they would sit as a Board of Review on Tuesday, October 5, 2021, 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 28, 2021, 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, the Board of Review considered the appeal of the following:

Pilot Travel Centers, LLC

Assessment #05902C0730

Pilot Travel Centers, LLC

555 W. 5th Street

Los Angeles, CA 90013

Represented by: Mr. Evan Staggs

WHEREAS, Todd Dugas, St. Martin Parish Assessor, presented supporting documentation supporting the Assessor's fair market value of **\$430,300.00** and declared that the values assigned to the protested property was based on fair market value of January 1, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Pilot Travel Centers, LLC representative Mr. Evan Staggs was not present, to support its claim that the fair market value of the subject property be fixed at \$215,150.00; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Review of Assessments has fully considered the written testimony presented by the above mentioned taxpayer and the Assessor.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the St. Martin Parish Council, in Regular Session convened on this 5th day of October, 2021, that the Council rules in favor of the Assessor and rejecting the protest of Pilot Travel Centers, LLC and 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: Carla JeanBatiste, Tangie Narcisse, David Poirier, Chris Tauzin, Brook Champagne, Vincent Alexander, Dean LeBlanc, and Daniel Richard, Jr.
- NAYS: None.
- ABSTAIN: None.
- ABSENT: Byron Fuselier (excused).

And the Resolution was declared adopted this 5th day of October, 2021.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 21-075-RS

WHEREAS, the St. Martin Parish Government and Ceres Environmental Services, Inc. entered into an Agreement dated November 28, 2017, to provide debris removal services in event of a disaster in St. Martin Parish; and

WHEREAS, under Article 1, debris removal services were described in the Scope of Work of said agreement; and

WHEREAS, under Article 18, the term of said agreement is one year, with the possibility of four (4) 1-year extensions at the discretion of the Parish and upon mutual agreement of the parties; and

WHEREAS, the parties wish to extend the term of the agreement by one (1) year, with the new expiration date being November 28, 2022.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the St. Martin Parish Council does hereby authorize Parish President Chester Cedars to execute an amendment to the original Agreement to provide a Pre-Positioned Debris Removal Contract with Ceres Environmental Services, Inc.

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

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

And the Resolution was declared adopted this 5th day of October, 2021.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 21-076-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 which will be requested and which are described herein; and

WHEREAS, the St. Martin Parish Council has selected and authorized the submission of the following State Capital Outlay Budget Requests for year 2022-2023:

- * 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

- * Spanish Trail Industrial Park Access Road
- * Installation of 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 (waterlines and meters)
- * 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
- * Planning and improvements to Landry Lane, Edna Street, and Adell Street
- * Expansion/Renovation of Central Office Complex of St. Martin Parish Government

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the St. Martin Parish Council, in Regular Session convened this 5th day of October, 2021, 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 although it has the capability to provide the statutorily mandated match.

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

And the Resolution was declared adopted this 5th day of October, 2021.

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A motion was made by Dean LeBlanc and seconded by Tangie Narcisse that the following resolution be adopted, as amended:

RESOLUTION NO. 21-077-RS

WHEREAS, the St. Martin Parish Council recognizes the need for highway improvements and is desirous that certain highway priorities be considered in the 2022-2023 highway budget as follows:

1. Construct an exchange/exit at the intersection of Louisiana Highway 354 and I-10.
2. Culverts to be placed from Louisiana Highway 347 along the South side of Louisiana Highway 352.
3. Replace or elevate culverts for Coulee LaSalle and Cypress Bayou at Louisiana Highway 182.
4. 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.
5. Straighten out curves on Louisiana Highway 96 West of St. Martinville.
6. Perform drainage study on Louisiana Highway 347 (Cecilia Senior High School Highway) between parish road Bruce Huval Street to parish road Madeline Boulevard.
7. Perform drainage study on Louisiana Highway 347 (Grandpoint Highway) between parish road Louis Circle to Louisiana Highway 678 (Grand Anse Highway).
8. Construct Frontage Roads, the entire length of St. Martin Parish, along U.S. Highway 90.
9. Reconstruction and overlay of Louisiana Highway 328, from Interstate 10 to Cecilia Senior High School Highway.
10. Reconstruction and overlay of Louisiana Highway 31 from Poche Bridge to St. Martin Parish/St. Landry Parish line.

11. Reconstruction/Repair of Henderson Levee Road (Louisiana Highway 352).
12. Frontage Road construction along Interstate 10 in St. Martin Parish.
13. Correct remaining drainage/flooding issues at the roundabouts at the Henderson Exit on Interstate 10.
14. Upgrade to culvert(s) at the 1900 block of Louisiana Highway 678 (Grand Anse Highway).
15. Reconstruction/Repair of Cecilia High School Road.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the St. Martin Parish Council, in Regular Session convened this 5th day of October, 2021, that Senator Fred H. Mills, Jr., Senator Rick Ward, III, Senator Gerald Boudreaux, Representative Michael "Mike" Huval, Representative Marcus Bryant, Representative Gerald "Beau" Beauillieu, IV, and Representative Vincent St. Blanc, III (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: Carla JeanBatiste, Tangie Narcisse, David Poirier, Chris Tauzin,
 Brook Champagne, Vincent Alexander, Dean LeBlanc, and Daniel Richard, Jr.
 NAYS: None.
 ABSTAIN: None.
 ABSENT: Byron Fuselier (excused).

And the Resolution was declared adopted this 5th day of October, 2021.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 21-078-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 5th day of October, 2021, 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, 2020, through September 30, 2021:

1. The Parish has performed all interim inspections on all Parish owned or maintained bridges in accordance with the National Bridge Inspection Standards.
2. 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.

3. 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.

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

And the Resolution was declared adopted this 5th day of October, 2021.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 21-079-RS

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PARISH PRESIDENT TO EXECUTE THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS FOR THE PURCHASE OF WETLANDS MITIGATION CREDITS IN CONNECTION WITH THE DEPOSIT OF SPOIL GENERATED BY THE DREDGING OF CATAHOULA LAKE, KNOWN AS THE "CATAHOULA LAKE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT."

WHEREAS, the St. Martin Parish Government has been allocated substantial money exceeding \$1,500,000.00 for the dredging of Catahoula Lake; and

WHEREAS, the project is known as "The Catahoula Lake Improvements Project" (hereinafter "The Project"); and

WHEREAS, in connection with The Project, St. Martin Parish entered into an agreement for the use of property needed to deposit dredged materials to be generated from Catahoula Lake; and

WHEREAS, St. Martin Parish publicly advertised for Requests for Proposals for the use of such property for the aforesaid purpose(s); and

WHEREAS, in consultation with the engineering firm of Sellers and Associates, Inc., and pursuant to federal procurement procedures, the said proposals were rated and ranked; and

WHEREAS, the proposal submitted by Jackie Theriot and Sue Theriot was deemed to be in the best interests of the project; and

WHEREAS, the St. Martin Parish Government entered into an agreement with the said Jackie Theriot and Sue Theriot for use of their land for the deposit of dredged materials; and

WHEREAS, the United States Army Corps of Engineers determined that under the Clean Waters Act and other regulatory edicts, the site where the dredged materials are to be deposit is deemed wetlands and thus mitigation is necessary; and

WHEREAS, acting in concert with their engineers and consultants, it was determined that it would be in the best interests of St. Martin Parish Government to purchase mitigation credits from SEG Environmental, LLC for Bayou Wauksha Mitigation Bank for the sum of only \$3,200.00:

BE IT, THEREFORE, RESOLVED by the St. Martin Parish Council that Parish President Chester Cedars be and is hereby authorized to adopt the steps necessary to purchase wetlands mitigation credits from SEG Environmental, LLC for Bayou Wauksha Mitigation Bank, all for the sum of \$3,200.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Parish President be and is hereby directed, empowered, and authorized to negotiate and execute such documents and agreements necessary to effectuate the purchase of the mitigation credits to satisfy the dictates of the Clean Waters Act and any all other regulatory dictates associated with the mitigation of the said deposit site for the aforementioned dredged materials. Any such transactional instruments shall contain such terms and conditions as deemed reasonable and necessary by the Parish President.

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

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

And the Resolution was declared adopted this 5th day of October, 2021.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 21-080-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 2021 theme, is “Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety.”; 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 3-9, 2021, 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: Carla JeanBatiste, Tangie Narcisse, David Poirier, Chris Tauzin,
Brook Champagne, Vincent Alexander, Dean LeBlanc, and Daniel Richard, Jr.
NAYS: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: Byron Fuselier (excused).

And the Resolution was declared adopted this 5th day of October, 2021.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 21-081-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, there is no cogent, logical reason to conclude that men are likewise far too often victims of homicides and major crime against the person in connection with domestic violence; 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, while there is no published statistical data available, male homicides are likewise frequently 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 5th day of October, 2021, does hereby officially declare the month of October 2021 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: Carla JeanBatiste, Tangie Narcisse, David Poirier, Chris Tauzin,
Brook Champagne, Vincent Alexander, Dean LeBlanc, and Daniel Richard, Jr.
NAYS: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: Byron Fuselier (excused).

And the Resolution was declared adopted this 5th day of October, 2021.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 21-082-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 281,550 new cases of invasive breast cancer are expected to occur among women in the United States this year; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 43,600 women are expected to die from the disease in 2021 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 5th day of October, 2021, does hereby celebrate 36 years of awareness, education and empowerment and recognizes the month of October 2021 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: Carla JeanBatiste, Tangie Narcisse, David Poirier, Chris Tauzin,
Brook Champagne, Vincent Alexander, Dean LeBlanc, and Daniel Richard, Jr.
NAYS: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: Byron Fuselier (excused).

And the Resolution was declared adopted this 5th day of October, 2021.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 21-083-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 2021 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 56 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: Carla JeanBatiste, Tangie Narcisse, David Poirier, Chris Tauzin,
Brook Champagne, Vincent Alexander, Dean LeBlanc, and Daniel Richard, Jr.
NAYS: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: Byron Fuselier (excused).

And the Resolution was declared adopted this 5th day of October, 2021.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 21-084-RS

A resolution confirming an election date change pursuant to Executive Order of the Governor; establishing a new date to canvass the returns of the election; and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

WHEREAS, the St. Martin Parish Council, State of Louisiana, acting as the governing authority of Sales Tax District No. 1 of the Parish of St. Martin, State of Louisiana, heretofore called for an election to be held on Saturday, October 9, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Governor issued Executive Order Number 2021 JBE 13 on September 9, 2021 (said Executive Order, with any supplements or modifications, herein the "Executive Order"), to reschedule elections due to the Statewide State of Emergency caused by Hurricane Ida;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the St. Martin Parish Council, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of Sales Tax District No. 1 of the Parish of St. Martin, State of Louisiana (the "District"), that:

SECTION 1. This Governing Authority acknowledges the change in the election date, pursuant to the Executive Order, from October 9, 2021 to November 13, 2021.

SECTION 2. This Governing Authority shall meet at its regular meeting place, the Carroll J. Fuselier Meeting Room, St. Martin Parish Annex Building, 301 West Port Street, St. Martinville, Louisiana, on **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2021**, at **FIVE O'CLOCK (5:00) P.M.**, and shall examine and canvass the returns and declare the result of the said special election.

SECTION 3. All provisions of the election call resolution previously adopted by this Governing Authority, other than the change in the election date and the canvass date, shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 4. The Chairman and/or Clerk of the Council are further authorized, empowered and directed to take any and all further action required by State and/or Federal authorities to conduct the election.

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

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

And the resolution was declared adopted on this, the 5th day of October, 2021.

/s/ Brooke Gillespie
Clerk of the Council

/s/ Chris Tauzin
Chairman

Clerk of the Council Brooke Gillespie read the ordinance introduced for publication, as follows:

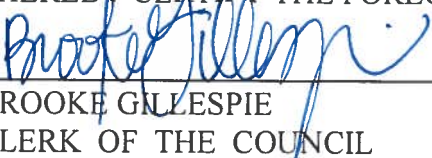
SUMMARY NO. 1336-OR (Introduced by Chris Tauzin, District 5)

An Ordinance declaring that a reapportionment of the St. Martin Parish Election District boundaries is necessary following the release of the 2020 Census Counts and providing further with respect thereto.

Prior to adjournment, Parish President Chester Cedars briefed the Council Members on a few matters not requiring Council action. President Cedars advised that the mosquito counts are slightly elevated. Roadside spraying operations will continue. President Cedars reminded everyone that the Butte La Rose Pontoon Bridge Replacement Project will not begin until the Entrance and Exit Ramps for I-10 in Butte La Rose are opened. Finally, Parish President Chester Cedars thanked Director of Finance Sean Hundley for a smooth budget process.

A motion was made by Dean LeBlanc seconded by David Poirier that the St. Martin Parish Council does hereby adjourn. Motion was unanimously approved.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THE FOREGOING TO BE EXACT AND TRUE:



BROOKE GILLESPIE
CLERK OF THE COUNCIL