

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATCHITOCHE PARISH COUNCIL
PARISH OF NATCHITOCHE, STATE OF LOUISIANA
TAKEN A REGULAR MEETING HELD, Monday,
November 20, 2017
5:30 p.m.

The Natchitoches Parish Council met in regular and legal session in the Council Board Room of the Natchitoches Parish Courthouse, on Monday, November 20, 2017 for a Regular of Natchitoches Parish Council meeting at five (5:30) o'clock p.m. and for the Natchitoches Parish Council Meeting.

The Parish of Natchitoches was then convened as the governing authority by Chairman Patsy Ward Hoover who stated that the Parish was ready for the transaction of business.

The invocation was given by Mrs. Nancy Drawhorn Jones and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Nettles Brown.

After the roll call there were present Chairman Patsy Ward Hoover and Council: Doug de Graffenried, Rodney Bedgood, and Russell Rachal and Chris Paige.

Absent: None.

The Parish Council Clerk at this time she would like to add five items to the agenda upon Council approval.

Items are:

1. Council to consider introducing Ordinance 028-2017 to Authorize the Parish President on behalf of the Parish of Natchitoches to enter into an execute a Professional Services Agreement wit Archon Information Systems, L.L.C D/B/A CivicSource for the administration of an online auction and sale of adjudicated properties program.

On motion by Councilman Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by Councilman Doug de Graffenried that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby amend the agenda to introducing Ordinance 028-2017 to Authorize the Parish President on behalf of the Parish of Natchitoches to enter into an execute a Professional Services Agreement wit Archon Information Systems, L.L.C D/B/A CivicSource for the administration of an online auction and sale of adjudicated properties program.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood	
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	
Ayes:	Councilman Rachal	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	Motion Passed

2. Council to consider re-appointing Mr. William E. Dowden, III to Natchitoches Parish Fire District 4.

On motion by Councilman Russell Rachal, duly seconded by Councilman Doug de Graffenried that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby amend the agenda to consider re-appointing Mr. William E. Dowden, III to Natchitoches Parish Fire District 4.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover **Motion Passed**

3. Council to consider re-appointing Mr. Marc Custis to Natchitoches Parish Fire District 4 Board.

On motion by Councilman Russell Rachal, duly seconded by Councilman Doug de Graffenried that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby amend the agenda to consider re-appointing Mr. Marc Custis to Natchitoches Parish Fire District 4 Board.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover **Motion Passed**

4. Appointments of Hospital Board was removed from Agenda.

5. Correction in wording was also done under Other Agenda Items for B.

Council to consider to approve allowing Head Start centers to close on Friday, February 1 so that the teachers can participate in training. They participated in the first part of this training in August, and the February 1st date will be the second part. All Parish schools will be closed that day for the training. Head Start will make up the day later in the year.

Amended to:

Council to consider to approve allowing Head Start centers to close on Friday, February 1 so that the teachers can participate in training. They participated in the first part of this training in August, and the February 1st date will be the second part. All Parish **Pre-schools** will be closed that day for the training. Head Start will make up the day later in the year.

On motion by Councilman Russell Rachal, duly seconded by Councilman Doug de Graffenried that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby amend the Other Agenda Item B. to add Pre-schools. All Parish Pre-schools will be closed that day for the training.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover **Motion Passed**

Chairman, Hoover, then recognized Mr. Nettles Brown, for the Natchitoches Port Commission to give an update on the getting four (4) of his employees on Health Insurance through the Parish

with no cost to the Parish for this, the Port Commission will pay everything. He notified the Council that his Board held their meeting and approve this agreement with the Parish with the approval of the Council to make it effective beginning January 1, 2018.

Councilman Chris Paige, wanted to know if the Council had any material on this and has the President made sure all legalities was done and wanted to hear and see what exactly is going on before he cast his vote.

Parish President and the Parish Attorney both agreed everything was legal and this would not cost the Parish of Natchitoches anything to do this. at this time

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by, Councilman Doug de Graffenried that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby amend the agenda to consider approving insurance for four(4) Tax Commission employees to be added to the Parish of Insurance with no cost to the Parish.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes:	Councilman Paige	
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried	
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Rachal	Motion Passed

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by, Councilman Doug de Graffenried that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby approve insurance for four(4) Tax Commission employees to be added to the Parish of Insurance with no cost to the Parish.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes:	Councilman Paige	
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried	
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Rachal	Motion Passed

Chairman, Hoover stated the next agenda item we will hear the report of the Public Works Interim Director, Mr. Earl Townsend. Mr. Townsend had already sent his reports and asked were there any questions or comments, there were none.

Chairman, Hoover, then recognizes Ms. Sharon Harris, OCS/Head Start Executive Director, she gave her reports in the Council's packets and wanted to know if they had any questions, comments or concerns on the reports. There were none.

Chairman, Hoover, then recognizes Parish Treasurer Debbie Miley reported that she sent all the reports in the Council packages, the Inmate report, the Budget to review for Introduction for the amending of the 2017 Budget and reports for Head Start, Credit Card transactions, all checked written. Ms. Miley, reported this year they will be collecting fees for parking from 4 parking lots money to help Head Start with things that are not considered an allowable cost by Head Start, such as Graduation and if we need something Head Start does allow within the program then it will count as In-kind. She will discuss the 2018 Budget during Public Hearing.

Chairman Hoover then recognizes Parish President, Parish President wanted to go over a couple of items on his report.

CAPITAL OUTLAY UPDATE:

Since the last regular meeting of the Parish Council, we have received amendments to the following Cooperative Endeavor Agreements with Facility Planning and Control:

- a. Payne Subdivision: 500,000 Phase I Streets
- b. Old River Bridge 610,000 Planning & Construction

Please note that the Old River Bridge project funding is only part of the amount required for the project. We have submitted an application for complete funding of the project as part of the package of capital outlay applications submitted to the State.

ADA COMPLIANCE:

- a. HC Ramp at Main Entrance: The architect advises that the plans are near completion. Final plans will be presented to the Natchitoches Historic District Commission at its meeting on December 4, 2017.
- b. Main Courthouse Restrooms: The plans for the Main Courthouse restroom ADA compliance will be included in the plans for the HC entrance to the courthouse at the Church Street doors.

Parish President stated, along with Mr. David Kees they went to Caddo Parish to inspected their equipment, such as their x-ray machines, metal detectors and camera system. They also observed how the inmates are escorted in and out. We might be able to do everything, but we can mimic some things they're doing.

Chairman, Hoover, at this time had a question, She had some concerns about security concerning the employees and the Council meetings, "Will there be security on the Second Floor when the judges and the District Attorney's office leaves early on Friday's?" Chairman, Hoover, continues, "Mr. Kees and Ms. Frederick are the only one left up there." Parish President begin to explain more concerning the security measures. Councilman Rachal, wanted to know when the Parish President will be getting the plans to the Council. Parish President explained he will be giving updates on this on a monthly bases. Parish President then begins to talk about the upcoming Holidays. For Thanksgiving the employees will receive the Thanksgiving Day and the day after Thanksgiving. Christmas the employees will be given Christmas and that Tuesday after Christmas. Councilman Paige, was wondering is the President is going to let the employees leave early Friday for Christmas Festival weekend, in the past, they let employees leave at noon to beat traffic because that Friday the traffic is so congested and it takes a while to get through. The Parish President stated it was at noon it was about three o'clock (3:00). If the Council wants an early closure on Friday, then I can make it happen. Lastly the Parish President wanted to Congratulate Mrs. Hoover on her daughter's Renita Williams, accomplishment of being named Chairperson of the Committees of Membership for NASWA (National Association of State Workforce Agencies)

Chairman, Hoover stated the next item to adopt the minutes of the regular meeting of the Natchitoches Parish Council held Monday, October 16, 2017 and Special Meeting held Monday November 6, 2017.

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by, Councilman Russell Rachal that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt the minutes of the regular meeting of the Natchitoches Parish Council held Monday, October 16, 2017 and Special Meeting held Monday November 6, 2017.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes:	Councilman Paige	
Ayes:	Councilman Rachal	
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	Motion Passed

Chairman, Hoover stated next agenda item consider adopting a resolution confirming re-appointment/appointments to the following boards/commissions:

Confirmation of Ms. Kathy Carter appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Children and Youth Planning Board.

On motion by Councilman Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by, Councilman Doug de Graffenried that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby Confirms Ms. Kathy Carter appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Children and Youth Planning Board.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood	
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried	
Ayes:	Councilman Rachal	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	Motion Passed

Confirmation of Ms. Arshundae Perry appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Children and Youth Planning Board.

On motion by Councilman Russell Rachal, duly seconded by, Councilman Doug de Graffenried that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby confirms Ms. Arshundae Perry appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Children and Youth Planning Board.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes:	Councilman Rachal	
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried	
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	Motion Passed

Confirmation of Mr. Travis Guin re-appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Planning and Zoning Commission.

On motion by Councilman Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by, Councilman Chris Paige that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby confirms Confirmation of Mr. Travis Guin re-appointment to the Natchitoches Parish Planning and Zoning Commission.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

Confirmation of Mr. Vanue B. LaCour, Jr. re-
appointment to the Natchitoches Planning and Zoning Commission.

At this time Mr. Greg Lemoine wanted to have a word. Mr. Lemoine, begin, to say, "As Director of the Planning and Zoning Commission, I would like to Council to consider my thoughts on these re-appointment and appointments since I'm the one working with these people. I have no problem with Mr. Travis Guin, I fully support that re-appointment, I'm looking forward to working with Ms. Cox, she's new, and I remember working with her conversely. I vehemently opposed to re-appointment of Van LaCour, our working relationship has been difficult and contentious since the first day. I had several meetings with Mr. Nowlin, concerning Mr. LaCour and I feel that he's been forced down my throat with my objections. I do not want to work with this man anymore and I strongly asked the Council to not, not, re-appoint his term." Chairman, Hoover replied, "At this time you will find out how the Council will vote." At this time Chairman read the item and asked for a motion and a second at this time Parish President wanted to say something, but he said, to the Chairman, "I didn't know you had asked already for a motion and I will wait after that is done. Chairman, Hoover asked again for a motion and a second. No one said anything. So it died for a motion and second. At this time Parish President wanted to say something to this matter, "As, Mr. Lemoine had said, we've had many conversations about Mr. LaCour. I understand some of the issues, but my decisions are not strictly based on Mr. Lemoine opinions, but on opinions of a number of people, both on an off the Commission that I felt comfortable with his re-appointment, I wanted that to go on record that I support the re-appointment."

Councilman, Paige, wanted to have a comment to. "Any Boards, any Directors, the basic objective is to serve at the will of the people of this Parish, it's not to serve favorable with the Director or any administrative position, there is going to be conflict and I understand the conflict and problem, that you had Mr. Lemoine, and I respect that, but when you consider these things we certainly can't basic upon a Director basically just to say they don't want to work with anyone, it's very distasteful to hear that in a since because we suppose to work and get along with anyone, and I know you had great difficulty with that and I probably don't even know all the conversations you had and troubles you've had, but when I sit here and have to vote on anybody serving on boards, I would hope that the Director and anybody serving on the board at some point or the other that you can agree to disagree and it seems to be a serious problem with this situation and I hope that now that Mr. Nowlin go and look for someone, possibly getting someone else to serve in that position, that can do a better job, possibly if it comes to that, I'm not saying he did or good job or poor job, I don't know that. It's just kind of distasteful to see a chairman or Director of any Board say they don't want to serve with others

commissioners and they serve for the will of the people of this Parish and that's just coming from me." At that time, Councilman de Graffenried, said, "I would second the motion, to put his name out to vote, we can do it because there was no action taken." At this time, Mr. Lemoine, replied, "I thought about this for a couple of weeks now, I get along with everybody, and this has went on for too long and it's too serious." At this time Chairman, Hoover, replied, "Mr. Lemoine, it's done, we're moving on, it died." at this time, Councilman, de Graffenried, was saying he was just seconding the motion, but it wasn't a motion given, you can't second a motion if no motion was given. This item died for no motion or second.

Confirmation of Ms. Jill Morgan Cox appointment to the Natchitoches Planning and Zoning Commission.

On motion by Councilman Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by, Councilman Chris Paige that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby confirms Ms. Jill Morgan Cox appointment to the Natchitoches Planning and Zoning Commission.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried	
Ayes:	Councilman Rachal	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	Motion Passed

Chairman, Hoover stated next agenda item:

First Introduction of proposed Ordinances.

A. Council to consider Introduction of Ordinance 026-2017 a zoning change from an I-A Industry-Agriculture District to an R-1 Residence District for single family residences on a 34.683 acre parcel situated in Sections 89 and 92, Township 9 North, Range 7 West, as shown on the attached map.

On motion by Councilman Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by, Councilman Russell Rachal that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby consider Introduction of Ordinance 026-2017a zoning change from an I-A Industry-Agriculture District to an R-1 Residence District for single family residences on a 34.683 acre parcel situated in Sections 89 and 92, Township 9 North, Range 7 West, as shown on the attached map.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood	
Ayes:	Councilman Rachal	
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	Motion Passed

B. Council to consider Introduction of Ordinance 027-2017 2017 Operating Budget Amendments.

On motion by Councilman Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by, Councilman Chris Paige that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby consider Introduction of Ordinance 027-2017 2017 Operating Budget Amendments.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover **Motion Passed**

Chairman, Hoover stated the next agenda was to enter into a Public Hearing.

Public Hearings:

- A.** Council to approve the Adoption Of Ordinance #025-2017 a budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2018 and ending December 31, 2018 and making appropriations for each Department, Project, and Account.

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by Councilman Doug de Graffenried, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby open the public hearing with the Natchitoches Parish Council to consider to approve Adoption Of Ordinance #025-2017 a budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2018 and ending December 31, 2018 and making appropriations for each Department, Project, and Account.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman de Graffernied
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood **Motion Passed**

At this time there was a short discussion between Ms. Miley and the Council because there was no big changes only thing is that she put in the increase to do the cost of living raise for 4 percent to all Parish employees except the Parish President. The Capital Outlay Budget was also included in the Budget for next year.

On motion by Councilman Russell Rachal, duly seconded by Councilman Rodney Bedgood, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby close the public hearing with the Natchitoches Parish Council to consider to approve Adoption Of Ordinance #025-2017 a budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2018 and ending December 31, 2018 and making appropriations for each Department, Project, and Account.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilman de Graffernied
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover
Ayes: Councilman Paige **Motion Passed**

Chairman, Hoover stated the next agenda

Action on Proposed Ordinances:

- A.** Council to approve the Adoption Of Ordinance #025-2017 a budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2018 and ending December 31, 2018 and making appropriations for each Department, Project, and Account.

On motion by Councilman Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by Councilman Chris Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby approve Adoption Of Ordinance #025-2017 a budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2018 and ending December 31, 2018 and making appropriations for each Department, Project, and Account. At this time Councilman de Graffenried wanted to amend and make the offer including in the Ordinance adjustments to line items for expenditures, whether by an increase or decrease, within any fund shall be restricted to not more than 10% cumulatively. Additional adjustment beyond the cumulative 10% shall require a budget amendment and council approval, seconded by Councilman Russell Rachal.

There was going to be further discussions on this matter and Parish President, wanted to say something concerning this amendment to the Budget. Councilman Paige, wanted to know, "Is this going to effect anything currently and will it effect things that have been on the table forever? We're not going to hastily and do anything here tonight."

Parish President, Nowlin wanted Councilman de Graffenried to run through it one more time to make sure he was understanding the amendment. Councilman, de Graffenried did. Parish, President gave an example to make sure he was understanding it correctly. Councilman, Paige, thought this amendment was interfering with every day operations. At this time Mr. Tubre was speaking on matters concerning Winn Rock, But Chairman, Hoover, stopped him and said she wanted to hear from the attorney concerning this, the Parish Attorney answered, Councilman, Paige's question, by saying, it didn't interfere with day to day operations, the Council has power over the Budget and the President is responsible for carrying out the day to day operations. Councilman Paige was afraid it was going to mess up the projects, but after he found out it wasn't concerning the Capital Outlay Budget, and it was concerning the Operating Budget, he said he would be quiet and he's clear. Ms. Miley wanted to let them know that the Capital Outlay comes from the Operating Budget, and it can interfere with the Projects, because she only have so much in that line item. At this time, again, Mr. Tubre, wanted to have a word, and it was concerning the Winn Rock again and there will not be enough money to cover Hampton Road being repaired.

After that discussion they called for the vote, it was already motioned by Councilman de Graffenried, and duly seconded by, Councilman Russell Rachal that the adjustments to line items for expenditures, whether by an increase or decrease, within any fund shall be restricted to not more than 10% cumulatively. Additional adjustment beyond the cumulative 10% shall require a budget amendment and council approval.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman de Graffernied
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover
Nayes: Councilman Paige

Motion Passed

Councilman, de Graffenried, reads 2nd motion: Any employee receiving a pay increase exceeding 4% since August 21, 2017 shall not benefit from the 4% cost of living adjustment.

Parish President, wanted to speak, "Madam Chair, I have to take exception to this amendment, but it's your decision. From time to time and under the authority granted by the Home Rule Charter people are evaluated, you have two types of increases you have cost of living adjustments and you have merit increases, promotions, and taking on additional duties, what this does is saying if you get a merit increase, you won't get a cost of living increase adjustment, that kind of destroys the incentive in way for somebody to really put out above and beyond, I think I understand, and think what's behind it, but the Council has the authority for all increases effecting Department Heads, but to get down to the lower levels of the organization is something that is not in the best interest of the Parish. It's your call." Councilman, Rachal, wanted to know has the President has given any merit increases. The President replied, "It's been a few." Councilman, Rachal, replied, "But, not everyone that has passed with a satisfactory, but they haven't been offered a merit increase is that correct?" Parish President, replied, "We're in the process right now of evaluating all employees, I'm thinking in the next 30 to 60 days it will be completed, I might identify other people, based on recommendation from their respective Department Heads, because of their performance, hired at a certain rate, and assuming a level of qualifications and experiences and after six (6) months or a year and we realize if we need to keep them, we have to do more than 1 and 1/2 percent a year Cola." Councilman, de Graffenried, stated, "So preparation for the 2018 Operating Budget, you haven't done employee evaluations, yet?" Parish President, replied, "We've done some, but we're not complete, No, Sir, but we have a lot of money in there for merit increases." Councilman, Rachal, replied, "So, there is a chance that someone that passes, gets a favorable evaluation, may not get a merit increase, and some may, and on top of that they'll get a Cola increase, as well. We don't know the impact of the Budget will be until you evaluate all these people. Is that correct?"

Parish President responded, "We have to live with whatever in the budget you adopt so any merit increase will have to come out of the money that's in the budget, we have the 4% of the budget and the small amount that can be used for merit increase, your point is well taken." Councilman, Rachal, replied, "If every employee gets a favorable evaluation, they will not be guaranteed a merit increase, correct?" Parish President, replied, "It's depends on what you called favorable, if favorable means you're doing the job you was hired to do, that's correct." There was a motion on the table by Councilman, Doug de Graffenried, and duly second, by Councilman Russell Rachal.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Nayes: Councilman Bedgood
Nayes: Councilwoman Hoover
Nayes: Councilman Paige

Motion Not Passed

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Councilman, de Graffenried, reads 3rd motion: Any employee who has received a pay increase exceeding 4% since August 31, 2017 shall not qualify for an increase in pay during the Fiscal Year 2018.

Parish President wanted to know the difference between 2nd motion, and this 3rd motion. Councilman, de Graffenried, replied, "Basically the same thing, but it stated it more definitively, you have one employee, you gave a big raise to at the end of the year and you did it in such a fashion that the Parish Council really didn't get a chance to comment on that or vote on it, or do anything, and the possibility that an employee can addition, to the raise that he was given, you know about Legislation Process than we do, has the possibility to get a 4% more on top of what he was given, now the other thing I'm going to say, is Businesses has stopped giving COLA raises, because you end up with somebody that is a bottle drink machine changer, and the COLA keeps going up and you have a person suddenly making a lot more money that the job dictates, so; real world has stopped COLA, and here we are throwing out 4% COLA's out. I would like to have something based on evaluation and merit, but we have to do the evaluations according to the Parish Employee Manual and we obviously haven't been doing that and this is our way of covering ourselves or catching up."

Councilman, Paige, responded, "I sit here so boldly, saying, No, de Graffenried, but if you talked in more common and plain language you can't call the individual name out, but you can certainly call the position, because the public needs to know and I do too. I have some speculations involving you're talking about, but I shouldn't be here speculating nothing, I think we need to know what you're talking about and who you're talking about, all in that simple direction of the position and not the individual name, Thank you, Sir, and I may might not sit here vote, NO, against you, I might just go along with you, if you talk straight."

Parish President responded, "If the Council, is referring to a Department Head, the Council was notified in enough time actions could have been taken if they disagreed with it, and if Council is talking about someone at a lower level than the Department Head, then I'm not even obligated to inform you of the increase, but I have on occasions a little out of the ordinary." Council, de Graffenried, replied, "I speak about a Department Head." Parish President, replied, "The Council did have due notice thereof." Councilman, de Graffenried, replied, "I understand." There were additional conversations concerning these amendments and being good stewards of the people's money and evaluations concerning employees increases. Then they wanted to know who was considered an administrative officer, and the Parish Attorney, replied the Parish has only one administrative officer and that the Parish Treasurer for non elected. Also, Council was afraid that after an employee gets the COLA, then they're going to get a increase midyear from an merit increase.

There was a motion on the table by Councilman, Doug de Graffenried,

and duly second, by Councilman Russell Rachal that any employee who has received a pay increase exceeding 4% since August 31, 2017 shall not qualify for an increase in pay during the Fiscal Year 2018.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman de Graffernied
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Nayes: Councilman Bedgood
Nayes: Councilwoman Hoover
Nayes: Councilman Paige

Motion Not Passed

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After all this was completed they had to vote on the Ordinance with those amendments. It was already offered by Councilman Doug de Graffenried and secondly, by Councilman Russell Rachal that Ordinance

Council to approve the Adoption Of Ordinance #025-2017 a budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2018 and ending December 31, 2018 and making appropriations for each Department, Project, and Account and adjustments to line items for expenditures, whether by an increase or decrease, within any fund shall be restricted to not more than 10% cumulatively. Additional adjustment beyond the cumulative 10% shall require a budget amendment and council approval.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman de Graffernied
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Nayes: Councilman Bedgood
Nayes: Councilwoman Hoover
Nayes: Councilman Paige

Motion Not Passed

The Budget wasn't passed due to confusion of Council. So they had to make a new motion from the opposing Council to revisit and vote again.

There was a motion on the table by Councilman, Chris Paige, and duly second, by Councilman Rodney Bedgood that to bring back to the table for another vote to Adopt Ordinance #025-2017 a budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2018 and ending December 31, 2018 and making appropriations for each Department, Project, and Account and adjustments to line items for expenditures, whether by an increase or decrease, within any fund shall be restricted to not more than 10% cumulatively. Additional adjustment beyond the cumulative 10% shall require a budget amendment and council approval.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilman de Graffernied
Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

So now since it's back on the table

There was a motion by Councilman, Doug de Graffenried, and duly second, by Councilman Russell Rachal to Adopt Ordinance #025-2017 a budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2018 and ending December 31, 2018 and making appropriations for each Department, Project, and Account and adjustments to line items for expenditures, whether by an increase or decrease, within any fund

shall be restricted to not more than 10% cumulatively. Additional adjustment beyond the cumulative 10% shall require a budget amendment and council approval.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes:	Councilman de Graffernied	
Ayes:	Councilman Rachal	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	Motion Passed

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Resolutions: None

Other Agenda Items:

Chairman, Hoover stated next agenda item is:

Council to consider changing Parish Council meeting dates to the following:

Change from January 15, 2018 (Martin Luther King Day) to January 22, 2018

On motion by Councilman Russell Rachal, duly seconded by, Councilman Rodney Bedgood that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby Change from January 15, 2018 (Martin Luther King Day) to January 22, 2018.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes:	Councilman Rachal	
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood	
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	Motion Passed

Chairman, Hoover stated next agenda item is:

Change from February 19, 2018 (President's Day) to February 20, 2018

On motion by Councilman Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by, Councilman Russell Rachal that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby Change from January 15, 2018 (Martin Luther King Day) to January 22, 2018.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood	
Ayes:	Councilman Rachal	
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	Motion Passed

Chairman, Hoover stated next agenda item is:

Council to consider to approve allowing Head Start centers to close on Friday, February 1 so that the teachers can participate in training. They participated in the first part of this training in August, and the February 1st date will be the second part. All Parish Pre-schools will be closed that day for the training. Head Start will make up the day later in the year.

On motion by Councilman Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by, Councilman Russell Rachal that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby approve allowing Head Start centers to close on Friday, February 1 so that the teachers can participate in training. They participated in the first part of this training in August, and the February 1st date will be the second part. All Parish Pre-schools will be closed that day for the training. Head Start will make up the day later in the year.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

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Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood	
Ayes:	Councilman Rachal	
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried	
Absent:	Councilman Paige	
Abstain:	Councilwoman Hoover	Motion Passed

Chairman, Hoover stated next agenda item is:

Council to consider introducing Ordinance 028-2017 to Authorize the Parish President on behalf of the Parish of Natchitoches to enter into an execute a Professional Services Agreement wit Archon Information Systems, L.L.C D/B/A CivicSource for the administration of an online auction and sale of adjudicated properties program.

On motion by Councilman Russell Rachal, duly seconded by Councilman Doug de Graffenried, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does consider introducing Ordinance 028-2017 to Authorize the Parish President on behalf of the Parish of Natchitoches to enter into an execute a Professional Services Agreement wit Archon Information Systems, L.L.C D/B/A CivicSource for the administration of an online auction and sale of adjudicated properties program.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes:	Councilman Rachal	
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffernied	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Absent:	Councilman Paige	
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood	Motion Passed

Chairman, Hoover stated next agenda item is:

Council to consider re-appointing Mr. William E. Dowden, III to Natchitoches Parish Fire District 4.

On motion by Councilman Doug de Graffenried, duly seconded by Councilman Russell Rachal, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does approves re-appointing Mr. William E. Dowden, III to Natchitoches Parish Fire District 4.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes:	Councilman de Graffernied	
Ayes:	Councilman Rachal	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Rachal	
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood	Motion Passed

Chairman, Hoover stated next agenda item is:

Council to consider re-appointing Mr. Marc Custis to Natchitoches Parish Fire District 4.

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by, Councilman Rodney Bedgood that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby approves re-appointing Mr. Marc Custis to Natchitoches Parish Fire District 4.

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On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes:	Councilman Paige	
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood	
Nayes:	Councilman de Graffenried	
Nayes:	Councilman Rachal	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	Motion Passed

Chairman, Hoover stated next agenda item is:

Visitors for Non Agenda Items.(3 minutes)

Denise Brou and Linus Brou

Mr. Linus Brou begin to say , "A couple years ago I got a letter in the mail detailing Natchitoches Parish Roads, I tried to get one for this year and nobody could give me one, I don't want the complete Budget, all I want is how much is going to the roads, waterway commission, and schools, Is that available for this year and next year." The chairman, replied, "It's public information; so that should be made available for you." Ms. Miley, replied, "I didn't get a request for that." Mr. Brou, replied, "I asked Mr. Kees and he showed me a big book and told me that was the budget, and I told him that's not what I want. I just need what each department on how much they get." Parish President, replied, "All that information is in that budget, sir, and it's broken down by pages and pull that out, or you just want a summary of some sort." But at that time Mr. Brou, was talking about the taxes from the Tax Commission. He wanted to know if he could get that and it was said to him the Parish could supply him with the Highway Budget, but he has to get the Cane River Waterway and School budget from the Tax Commission. He asked how much money was in the Highway Department budget for 2018? Parish Treasurer answered, 2.9 million projected for 2018. At that time, Councilman, Paige, told Mr. Brou, that if it's anything that he needs he can get with Ms. Miley, Parish Treasurer, and if he doesn't get it, just come right back to the podium, and you tell us, she didn't give you that information, and someone in Baton Rouge would care about this, but I think she will give you everything you need. Mr. Brou, then continued by talking about the condition of the roads and he asked how many men were on the road crew. Or Does the Parish have a road crew? and his question was answered by saying 13 people for 800 miles of road. Mr. Brou asked was there a supervisor for the Crew and does he follow up on their work and he continue to say they wasn't doing a very good job. At this time, Councilman, Paige wanted to know about the 3 minutes time limit, and said, he wasn't in favor of it and everyone should be treated fairly, and that rule should be done away with. Chairman, Hoover replied, "You're taking up his time, now by interrupting." Councilman, Paige then asked the attorney about the suspending of the time that she had talked about at another meeting that was held. The Parish attorney replied, that Mr. Brou, was interrupted and his time should be re-started. The timer wasn't even on. The time then was placed on, but it was not followed. Mr. Brou,

continued again, saying when they call to get pot holes fixed, the Highway department only fixes a spot one at the time, and doesn't complete the job, they will fix a hole in one spot, and leave the other part exposed, and they come down a couple days again, and fix another spot, there are many spots, they have sunken spot, that will be a big pothole very soon. The City is fixing the new subdivision road, but is tearing up the parish roads. Mr. Brou continued to talk about the road conditions. Mrs. Denise Brou, wanted to talk about the roads also and she passed out a handout so everyone can follow along with her, she wanted to give out to the ones that vote, she wanted to read from her handout, this handout will be included as part of the minutes. The handout was talking about the condition of the roads. and that when the new subdivision came they

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tore the road up, not the people living on the road, and she said the man who built the new subdivision lives back there too, and he has to drive on that same torn up road to get to his house. More discussion was done, but a copy of Mrs. Brou summary will be included in the minutes.

Alan Wilkes, who lives on Northwood Lane spoke and he has lived out there since 2004, he said they have a unique situation out there. The solution is the Parish and City should work together to solve this problem.

Thomas W. Tubre wanted to let the people know that Rick Nowlin and his office have mislead the Council and totally mislead the people of the State of Louisiana concerning a contract with the State of Louisiana. It's going to cost the Parish more than a \$115,000 to fix Hampton Road. They have placed powered Winn Rock on Hampton Road. Mr. Tubre wasn't at the mike and the podium, so Councilman, Chris Paige, told him, he needed to go down to the podium and to the mike and don't worry about the 3 minute. Mr. Tubre said ok, he could relax. Mr. Tubre whole discussion was concerning Hampton Road and that Mr. Nowlin, mislead the Council and the people of the State of Louisiana. A copy of his information will also be included in the minutes. Mr. Tubre became excited at one point when talking to Parish President, and the Parish President, said he wasn't talking about this because Mr. Tubre has him in litigation's concerning this and he doesn't think it's wise to get into a detailed discussion concerning this matter.

John Hodgeson from Pardee road wanted to know about the tax on the loggers and why it was being put into the General Fund and what is was designed to do, it was designed to be put on the roads and not the General Fund, "What was other Parish's doing, Are they putting it in General Fund or Highway ?, asked, Mr. Hodgeson." Parish President replied, "All money that is received for the Parish from the State Transportation funds go into the Parish Transportation Fund., he asked Ms. Miley to correct him if I'm wrong." Ms. Miley, responded, "The General Fund will be bankrupt and you would have a road fund, it wouldn't matter how much the road fund, because there wouldn't be anyone here to pay the bills." The President, replied, "The Parish Transportation Fund goes directly to the Highway Department the money we're talking about is not the same money, the loggers tax is different, the Transportation funds come from Baton Rouge from the fuel tax, not the loggers."

On motion by Councilman Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by Councilman Doug de Graffenried, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adjourn.

On a roll call vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Rachal
Ayes: Councilman de Graffenried
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood
Ayes: Councilman Paige
Ayes: Councilwoman Hoover

Motion Passed

Since there was no other business the meeting was adjourn:

Attest:

Chairman

Sheryl Frederick,
Council Clerk

Patsy Ward Hoover,