

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATCHITOCHE PARISH COUNCIL**  
**PARISH OF NATCHITOCHE, STATE OF LOUISIANA**  
**TAKEN A REGULAR MEETING HELD, MONDAY,**  
**July 23, 2018**  
**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, July 23, 2018 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 Rodney Bedgood who stated that the Parish was ready for the transaction of business.

The invocation was given by Councilman Doug de Graffenried and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilman Russell Rachal.

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

Absent: None.

Chairman, Bedgood 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 in the Council's packages and asked were there any questions or comments. Chairman, Bedgood wanted to let Mr. Townsend he appreciate all the good work that has been done due to all the good weather with no rain.

Chairman, Bedgood, 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.

Councilwoman, Hoover, wanted Ms. Harris to give a report on a text they received from the Head Start Director concerning the roof on MLK. Ms. Harris stated this would be covered later in the meeting when they'll be talking about Head Start.

Chairman, Bedgood, then recognizes Parish Treasurer Debbie Miley She mail all the reports in the Council packages, and reports for Head Start. Vendors list for July-July 18 was \$570,319.66 and Credit Card transactions, all checked written from June 19-July 18 for vendors was \$1,134,555.86 And they got a comparison of every line item.

Councilman Rachal wanted to know about the Highway fund he sees that salaries and raises was reduced and temporary was increased he wanted to know about that. Parish Treasurer, replied, "Mr. Earl is having to stay the other six months and he gets paid as a temporary person, so I have to move money from the regular salary line to the temporary line." Councilman, Rachal wanted to know in the next 5 months, if additional money is needed, Do we know where this money is going to come from?" Ms. Miley, replied, "No, Sir, not at this time, depends on what may come up we have almost used all the Capital Outlay Money, which are in the different funds that are listed. We're down to about \$600,000 so it's less than what we came into this year and we keep using it, we can have a problem with the Budget next year." Councilman, Rachal also asked about Solid Waste, "With about \$61,000 close to \$62,000 in the budget on hand, at the end of the year, with such a low balance where does the money come from to raise that balance?" Ms. Miley, replied, "That's an In-house transferred from fund 114 which is a Sales Tax and we will have to transfer some money because of payroll and stuff at the end of the year, that 114 was inadvertently left out of you-all packets but you got that today, so you

would have the 114 with at 50% so we're on target, but it's also going down compared to this year." Councilman Rachal, asked, "The youth, they are up. The Women are down, the men are about the same, if any of these, shall change what impact it will have on the General Fund? It will use the General Fund money if the male, women, and youth continue to go up." Parish President wanted to know about FEMA, "Have we received all of the money from the Disaster Recovery yet? Ms. Miley, replied, "I'm having a meeting with FEMA tomorrow and we're going over the Harvey stuff, and they haven't finished paying us, when they do, it should increase Highway about \$15,000, but I didn't put in all in there in the fund, because, I'm not sure we're going to get all at once or this year."

Councilwoman, Hoover, had some questions. Councilwoman, asked, "Ms. Miley, I still have some problems with the proposed Budget Revisions, I was told last time we were getting a new system that will make it a little more simpler, I'm still trying to understand what is "Others", when I look and see \$30,000 others, I'm just lost." Ms. Miley, asked, What fund, are you looking under? Councilwoman, answered on page 3 of 4. Ms. Miley begins to example, "In fund 499 other can be such as the adobe in the accounting system, The Voters League, deposit tickets, Mr. Ellzey for a purchase of some software he bought, The Chamber, which is \$25.00, and an administration fee of \$350.00 and I'm really not sure what that is for at this time, LA WorkForce, late fees, Those are the kind of things that goes into other, that is what is going into General Funds Other." Councilwoman, Hoover, asked, "The total for the Voters and Civic League was, How Much from that \$30,000, when you're talking about that Others?" Ms. Miley, replied, "You got and then the Parish President, replied about \$21,000. And Councilwoman, Hoover, replied, "So you have the \$21,000 from the voters League and the remaining of that will be." Ms. Miley replied, "Miscellaneous stuff like we had to send the retirement packets things to superb Internet." Councilwoman, Hoover wanted a calculator to see what was the difference when you take the \$21,000 from the \$30,000. Councilwoman, stated, "So you will have \$9,000 left after the \$21,000 for the others, Is that correct?" Ms. Miley replied, "Yes, ma'am." Ms. Carolyn Roy, asked "What Voters and Civic League are they talking about." Parish President replied, "That was the legal fees the Parish incurred when defending from the lawsuit that was filed from the Voters and Civic League, concerning the Head Start Director and the Federal Judge from Alexandria dismissed the case on April 27. The Parish won the case, but still had to pay for our defense cost." Ms. Carolyn Roy, replied, "So it was \$21,000?" The Parish President, replied, " I think it was a little more, but I can get those exact figures for you." Councilwoman, Hoover, I have just one other question, " What is Other Insurance?" Ms. Miley, replied, "When we pay our Insurance bill we have to pay it from a line so we pay it from there and then split it up by all the other funds so that line carries from \$100,000 to \$200,000 worth of debt until we split it out and then all your retirees and everyone that works here we transfer in from payroll their part into that line and it all comes back out to be zero or very little maybe the retirees don't pay us until the first of January and that's your 599 line." Ms. Miley asked, any other questions, and Councilwoman, Hoover, said, "I'm sorry, yes, Under Health and Welfare, I'm looking at seed money for \$21,000." Ms. Miley, replied, "That's when remember last year we had to give, General Fund had to give to those funds and they had to pay us back, so I just kept the same amount, because I'm not sure what payroll will be or SCP or CSBG and they always pay once a month, and this way keeps us from going into a deficit, but they do pay us back."

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

Parish President begins to talk on the:

**PARISH PERSONNEL:**

Parish Receptionist: The Parish has advertised for a part-time receptionist for the administration. Today is the last day to apply for the position. The application will be reviewed and interviews will be conducted with qualified applicants. They have about 30 plus applicants.

Councilwoman, Hoover, asked, "Why do we need another receptionist, I know it's your call." Parish President, replied, "Ms. Hoover, back in 2013 we had a full time receptionist and when I got familiar with the budget situation, I thought we could get by without one and we have been doing it for the past 5 years, now my Executive Assistant first was Ms. Vance and now Mr. Kees they have been doing their jobs plus answering the phones and doing the filing and other stuff, it's got the point now things are backed up and bogging down, we have money for some temporary help in the General Fund, I would like to keep this person on, further on down the road. Sometimes when I'm out of the office and Mr. Kees is out of Office and Ms. Frederick is busy on something else we need somebody. Right now when Mr. Kees is not at his desk, Ms. Frederick and the ladies from the Live Oak is answering the phones, but there might not be anyone in the office to greet people when they walk in. The Parish had a receptionist for many years, and we tried to do without it, but it's got to the point where it's beginning to cost us problems."

Councilman, Rachal, responded, "Back to my question earlier, this line item temporary, that also cover this position we're talking about here?" Parish President, replied, "I don't know, if that was in a different department?" Ms. Miley, replied, "We were talking about Highway, General Fund has for temporary 3500, right now, that's all they have in there, it has that in case we needed someone."

**CAPITAL PROJECTS:**

Hampton Road Improvements: Is on the agenda to be voted on tonight.

Coco Bed Road Improvements: Notice of Proceed was issued having a start date of July 9, 2018, and completion within 60 calendar days.

Federal Highway Funding: The Parish filed 3 applications online on July 18, 2018, for the rehabilitation of Bermuda Road, Harmony Road and Pardee Road. The federal government will evaluate all applications received and announce the grant awards in mid-December.

With regard to the Bermuda Road application, the Parish attended the July 17th meeting of the Cane River Waterway Commission to request its participation in the project. Following discussion of the project, the CRWC adopted a resolution agreeing to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Parish concerning the project and to contribute one-half of the local matching funds, up to \$182,000, if the project is funded by the FHWA.

Ms. Janice Perry wanted to thank Mr. Nowlin and the Council, the Construction company and everybody for Coco Bed Road, after 50 years the road is finally going to be done on the part that haven't been done in those many years.

Chairman, Bedgood then stated the next agenda item is to adopt the minutes of the regular meeting of the Natchitoches Parish Council held Monday, June 18, 2018.

On motion by Councilwoman Patsy Ward Hoover, 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, June 18, 2018.

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

Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Rachal	
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried	
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	<b>Motion Passed</b>

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

Mr. William D. Musslewhite to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District No. 3 Board.

On motion by Councilwoman Patsy Ward Hoover, duly seconded by, Councilman Russell Rachal that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby re-appoint Mr. William D. Musslewhite to Fire District No 3 Board.

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

Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Rachal	
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried	
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	<b>Motion Passed</b>

Council to consider re-appointment of Mr. Mark C. Swafford to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District No. 3 Board.

On motion by Councilwoman Patsy Ward Hoover, duly seconded by, Councilman Rodney Bedgood that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby re-appoint Mr. Mark C. Swafford to Fire District No 3 Board.

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

Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood	
Ayes:	Councilman Rachal	
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	<b>Motion Passed</b>

Council to consider re-appointment of Mrs. Mary Ann Motter to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District No. 3 Board.

On motion by Councilman Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by, Councilwoman Patsy Hoover that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby re-appoint Mrs. Mary Ann Motter to Fire District No 3 Board.

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

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

Council to consider re-appointment of Mr. Bubba Ivy to the Natchitoches Parish Fire District No. 7 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 re-appoint Mr. Bubba Ivy to Fire District No 7 Board.

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

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

Council to consider re-appointment of Mrs. Vanessa Stanfield to the Natchitoches Parish Children and Youth Planning Board.

On motion by Councilwoman Patsy Ward Hoover, duly seconded by, Councilman Rodney Bedgood that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby re-appoint Mrs. Vanessa Stanfield to the Natchitoches Parish Children and Youth Planning Board.

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

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

Council to consider re-appointment of Ms. Deanna L. Fowler 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 re-appoint Ms. Deanna L. Fowler 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: Councilwoman Hoover  
Ayes: Councilman Bedgood  
Ayes: Councilman Paige **Motion Passed**

Council to consider re-appointment of Mrs. Merry Byers to the Natchitoches Parish Children and Youth Planning Board.

On motion by Councilwoman Patsy Ward Hoover, duly seconded by, Councilman Russell Rachal that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby re-appoint Mrs. Merry Byers to the Natchitoches Parish Children and Youth Planning Board.

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

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

Council to consider re-appointment of Mrs. Jennifer Johnson Karle to the Natchitoches Parish Children and Youth Planning Board.

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by, Councilman Rodney Bedgood that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby re-appoint Mrs. Jennifer Johnson Karle to the Natchitoches Parish Children and Youth Planning Board.

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

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

Council to consider re-appointment of Ms. Barbara Leach to the Natchitoches Parish Children and Youth Planning Board.

On motion by Councilman Doug de Graffenried, duly seconded by, Councilman Russell Rachal that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby re-appoint Ms. Barbara Leach to the Natchitoches Parish Children and Youth Planning Board.

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

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

Council to consider re-appointment of Mr. Lesh Nettles Brown to the Natchitoches Parish Port Commission.

On motion by Councilman Doug de Graffenried, duly seconded by, Councilman Russell Rachal that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby re-appoint Mr. Lesh Nettles Brown to the Natchitoches Parish Port Commission.

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

Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried	
Ayes:	Councilman Rachal	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	<b>Motion Passed</b>

Chairman, Bedgood stated the next agenda Item is First Introduction of Proposed Ordinances.

**First Introduction of proposed Ordinances.**

To consider and take action with respect to Introducing an ordinance 015-2018 creating Sales Tax District No. 2 of the Parish of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

Parish President explained, "We have District 1 a Sales Tax in Parish now for our Solid Waste Program and a small amount going to the Highway Department as it available. This new Ordinance for this Sales tax creating Sales Tax District No. 2 would be for the entire Parish of Natchitoches less the City of Natchitoches and the Town of Campti which they are already at their max tax rate if the Council create this District and later we'll call an election for it, then call for an additional Sales Tax that can be for our roads and bridges the first thing is to Introduce and the second thing is to have a public hearing and a vote to adopt it and then call for an election. 2016 there was a sales tax, but it wasn't approved by the voters and in the last two years the tax situation has changed in the State the max the Parish can get is 1/2 cents." Councilwoman, Hoover asked, "Is the for Introduction Only?" The clerk told her yes. Chairman, Bedgood asked for an offer and he waited and ask if anyone was going to offer and there was no offer so this dies for no offer.

Chairman, Bedgood stated the next agenda Item

Council to consider Introducing Ordinance 016-2018 for Budget Revision for the 2018 Operating Budget.

Ms. Miley, stated, "Those was mailed in you all packets."

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 Introduce Ordinance 016-2018 for Budget Revisions for the 2018 Operating Budget.

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

Ayes:	Councilman Rachal	
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried	
Abstain:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	<b>Motion Passed</b>

During the roll call, the Parish President asked the Clerk, No one offered for item A for the Sales Tax and the Clerk told him, No.

Chairman, Bedgood stated the next agenda item:

**Public Hearings:**

- A. Council to consider adopting Ordinance 008-2018 for Budget Revision to the Operating Budget for Government Building -Handicap Ramp and Bathrooms at Courthouse.
- B. Council to consider adoption of Ordinance Number 009-2018 creating Road District No. 1 of the Parish of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, describing the territory to compose the district and the boundaries thereof, and providing for other matters in connection therewith.
- C. Council to consider adoption of Ordinance Number 010-2018 creating Road District No. 2 of the Parish of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, describing the territory to compose the district and the boundaries thereof, and providing for other matters in connection therewith.
- D. Council to consider adoption of Ordinance Number 011-2018 creating Road District No. 3 of the Parish of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, describing the territory to compose the district and the boundaries thereof, and providing for other matters in connection therewith.
- E. Council to consider adoption of Ordinance Number 012-2018 creating Road District No. 4 of the Parish of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, describing the territory to compose the district and the boundaries thereof, and providing for other matters in connection therewith.
- F. Council to consider adoption of Ordinance Number 013- 2018 declaring the intent of the Parish of Natchitoches to terminate the use of a certain parcel of property by the Shady Grove Community Center and to return the property to the Shady Grove Missionary Baptist Church in accordance with the property transfer agreement dated March 2 1981 between the Shady Grove Missionary Baptist Church and the Parish of Natchitoches, and to authorize the Parish President to execute all documents in connection therewith, upon advice of Parish counsel.
- G. Council to consider adoption of Ordinance 014-2018 to authorize the Parish President to execute the Quit Claim Deed on behalf of the Parish of Natchitoches.
- H. Council to consider to adopt Ordinance 006-2018 for a reduction of speed on the Clark Loop Road 637 from the current speed to 15 mph.

On motion by Councilwoman Patsy Ward Hoover, duly seconded by Councilman Chris Paige, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby open the public hearing to hear any and all comments or objections relative to the adoption of the following items:

- A. Council to consider adopting Ordinance 008-2018 for Budget Revision to the Operating Budget for Government Building -Handicap Ramp and Bathrooms at Courthouse.
- B. Council to consider adoption of Ordinance Number 009-2018 creating Road District No. 1 of the Parish of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, describing the territory to compose the district and the boundaries thereof, and providing for other matters in connection therewith.
- C. Council to consider adoption of Ordinance Number 010-2018 creating Road District No. 2 of the Parish of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, describing the territory to compose the district and the boundaries thereof, and providing for other matters in connection therewith.
- D. Council to consider adoption of Ordinance Number 011-2018 creating Road District No. 3 of the Parish of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, describing the territory to compose the district and the boundaries thereof, and providing for other matters in connection therewith.
- E. Council to consider adoption of Ordinance Number 012-2018 creating Road District No. 4 of the Parish of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, describing the territory to compose the district and the boundaries thereof, and providing for other matters in connection therewith.
- F. Council to consider adoption of Ordinance Number 013- 2018 declaring the intent of the Parish of Natchitoches to terminate the use of a certain parcel of property by the Shady Grove Community Center and to return the property to the Shady Grove Missionary Baptist Church in accordance with the property transfer agreement dated March 2 1981 between the Shady Grove Missionary Baptist Church and the Parish of Natchitoches, and to authorize the Parish President to execute all documents in connection therewith, upon advice of Parish counsel.
- G. Council to consider adoption of Ordinance 014-2018 to authorize the Parish President to execute the Quit Claim Deed on behalf of the Parish of Natchitoches.
- H. Council to consider to adopt Ordinance 006-2018 for a reduction of speed on the Clark Loop Road 637 from the current speed to 15 mph.

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

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

**Motion Passed**

Discussion for A.

- A. Council to consider adopting Ordinance 008-2018 for Budget Revision to the Operating Budget for Government Building -Handicap Ramp and Bathrooms at Courthouse.

Councilman, de Graffenried wanted to know the original budget for this project. Parish President begins to explain, "I think the budget for the ramp was about \$50,000 and the budget for the bathroom was \$50,000, I'm not sure about the bathroom. The two bids that came in for the bathrooms was over \$130,000. That was more than the Parish could afford we still have to comply with the ADA and we had to go back and do the redesign and now he feels comfortable that the two items the bathroom and the Handicap ramp would come in at the price we're asking for the \$100,000." Councilwoman, Hoover replied, "You talked them down from a \$130,000 to what?" Parish President, replied, "It will be still around the line of \$100,000 but we're splitting it, allowing the Handicap ramp a little more and we're cutting down on the designs of the bathroom from a total remodel to replacing the doors from 32 to 36 inches, and adding grab bars, and changing out some of the hardware on the sink. The handicap ramp we changed the design and structure of it We change the design to produce a lower cost." Councilman, Doug de Graffenried, responded so you had a \$100,000 in the budget for the two jobs and it came back in for \$130,000 and that was too high what is the final number?" Parish President, stated, "It will still be the \$100,000." It was 50 to 50 but now it's 70/30." Councilman, de Graffenried, responded, "And that takes a budget revision?" Ms. Miley replied, the ramp is looking to be around \$70,000 and I put \$50,000 in the budget and I can't move anything around for 10 percent to make it \$70,000 so you have to give me permission to do a budget revision."

The Parish Attorney, explained, "The total amount for this part of the project is not changing, but with the 10 percent rule that was adopted with the budget, it's unusable, but the total is not changing the money is there, but just putting it from one line item to the other." Councilman, Rachal replied, "So, by passing this it will be the same \$100,000 but not over it?" Parish President, replied, "Yes, sir."

Chairman, Bedgood stated the next agenda item:

**Discussion for B**

- B. Council to consider adoption of Ordinance Number 009-2018 creating Road District No. 1 of the Parish of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, describing the territory to compose the district and the boundaries thereof, and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

Parish President, responded, "The proposal for creating these four Road Districts later a resolution to call election later for ad vorlem tax strictly to repair roads and bridges the four districts are based upon the 10 existing taxing wards used for the other property taxes in the parish, we tried to get as much as the Council District in the Road District as we could but

realizing that the Council Districts can change every time there is a new census, so there has to be some flexibility trying to equate dollars across the Districts for improvements. We pointed out also that at the eventual election the results will be tabulated by District by District so if one District passes the tax the money can only be used for that District only and if the others Districts doesn't pass it then they will not be able to use that money from those who passes the tax."

Councilwoman, Hoover asked, "They want to get that money, but they still will have work done for the District 40 money, right?" Parish President replied, "Yes and that money will still be used for priorities throughout the Parish."

Councilman, Rachal wanted to ask, "Doesn't the law allows us to have an Advisory Council or Board made up of the residents in these Districts to determine which roads needs to be fixed."

Parish President, responded, "I would like to see the Council, if these passes to create a 3 person advisory in each District to provide input from residents there and what their desires are on the roads, I would think the ultimate decision rest with the Administration we have to make sure that things are falling into criteria as the condition of the roads and the residents on the road, public safety." Councilman, Rachal, replied, "We've had this discussion before, the law would allow for that right for us to come up with an Advisory Commission?" Parish President, replied, "We can come up with an Advisory Commission the law and the Home Rule Charter both allows for an Advisory Commission, they don't have any administrative authority, they're only providing input." Councilman, Rachal replied, "What, I'm looking at, it's giving the people a chance to tell us what is on their minds and we can go from there." Parish President responded, "Exactly for example for District 3 you can pick someone from the Robeline-Marthaville area Provencal and Bellwood area and someone from the Kisatchie area something like that, I'm not suggesting that particular layout but something like that for the Advisory Road Committee."

Scott Stetson, made a comment by saying, "Mr. Nowlin these questions comes from a conversation we had earlier in the year, Mr. Rachal correct me if I'm wrong, but it really comes down to transparencies on the Commissioners that are here and forwarding the opportunity to buy into the contracting process when it comes to these road Districts, you're moving in the right direction, proposing Road Districts, but without that level of transparencies and seeing how the money is spent making sure that we have something that's sustainable over time, my perception is if we get buy in from the communities from people who lives in the road Districts and allow them the opportunity to create the contracts so we can know the vendors who awards the bids to what we want for the roads, so if that makes sense."

Parish President replied, "Yes, that makes sense anything that comes out of it should be made available to the Council from the Advisory Committee."

Chairman, Bedgood began to read all of the other agenda items that related to the Road Tax since they are relating to the same thing and he then asked for discussion on them:

- C. Council to consider adoption of Ordinance Number 010-2018 creating Road District No. 2 of the Parish of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, describing the territory to compose the district and the boundaries thereof, and providing for other matters in connection therewith.
- D. Council to consider adoption of Ordinance Number 011-2018 creating Road District No. 3 of the Parish of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, describing the territory to compose the district and the boundaries thereof, and providing for other matters in connection therewith.
- E. Council to consider adoption of Ordinance Number 012-2018 creating Road District No. 4 of the Parish of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, describing the territory to compose the district and the boundaries thereof, and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

Mr. John Hodgeson came up to speak about Road District 4 he wanted to know if Pardee road was in that District. Chairman, Bedgood said, no, it will be in Road District 2, but Pardee road is in Councilman Bedgood District 4.

Chairman, Bedgood stated the next agenda item:

- F. Council to consider adoption of Ordinance Number 013- 2018 declaring the intent of the Parish of Natchitoches to terminate the use of a certain parcel of property by the Shady Grove Community Center and to return the property to the Shady Grove Missionary Baptist Church in accordance with the property transfer agreement dated March 2 1981 between the Shady Grove Missionary Baptist Church and the Parish of Natchitoches, and to authorize the Parish President to execute all documents in connection therewith, upon advice of Parish counsel.

Parish President, Nowlin, replied, "You know we've been working for two years with the people with the Community Center to get some improvements to the Center and it just haven't happened. We had a deed with the Church if it ceases to be a Community Center it will revert back to the church."

- G. Council to consider adoption of Ordinance 014-2018 to authorize the Parish President to execute the Quit Claim Deed on behalf of the Parish of Natchitoches.

Parish President gave a summary on this by saying, "The property that was sold belonging to the Parish on 714 Forth Street it was sold to CDC in Shreveport and later to the Natchitoches Parish Sheriffs Office, but when the transaction between the seller from the Parish to CDC is wasn't recorded by the Police Jury, this is simply saying we're giving up any title to the property because we was paid in full."

- H. Council to consider to adopt Ordinance 006-2018 for a reduction of speed on the Clark Loop Road 637 from the current speed to 15 mph.

**No Discussion.**

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 close the public hearing to hear any and all comments or objections relative to the adoption of the above list agenda Public Hearing items:

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

Ayes:	Councilman Rachal	
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	<b>Motion Passed</b>

Chairman, Bedgood stated the next agenda item:

**Action on Proposed Ordinances:**

- A. Council to consider adopting Ordinance 008-2018 for Budget Revision to the Operating Budget for Government Building -Handicap Ramp and Bathrooms at Courthouse.

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 adopt Ordinance 008-2018 for Budget Revision to the Operating Budget for Government Building - Handicap Ramp and Bathrooms at Courthouse.

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

Ayes:	Councilman Rachal	
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	<b>Motion Passed</b>

- B. Council to consider adoption of Ordinance Number 009-2018 creating Road District No. 1 of the Parish of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, describing the territory to compose the district and the boundaries thereof, and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

On motion by Councilman Doug de Graffenried, duly seconded by Councilman Russell Rachal, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby Ordinance Number 009-2018 creating Road District No. 1 of the Parish of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, describing the territory to compose the district and the boundaries thereof, and providing for other matters in connection therewith

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

Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried	
Ayes:	Councilman Rachal	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood	
Nayes:	Councilman Paige	<b>Motion Passed</b>

- C. Council to consider adoption of Ordinance Number 010-2018 creating Road District No. 2 of the Parish of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, describing the territory to compose the district and the boundaries thereof, and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

On motion by Councilman Doug de Graffenried, duly seconded by Councilman Russell Rachal, that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby Ordinance Number 010-2018 creating Road District No. 2 of the Parish of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, describing the territory to compose the district and the boundaries thereof, and providing for other matters in connection therewith

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

Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried	
Ayes:	Councilman Rachal	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood	
Nayes:	Councilman Paige	<b>Motion Passed</b>

- D. Council to consider adoption of Ordinance Number 011-2018 creating Road District No. 3 of the Parish of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, describing the territory to compose the district and the boundaries thereof, and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

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 Ordinance Number 011-2018 creating Road District No. 3 of the Parish of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, describing the territory to compose the district and the boundaries thereof, and providing for other matters in connection therewith

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

Ayes:	Councilman Rachal	
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood	
Nayes:	Councilman Paige	<b>Motion Passed</b>

- E. Council to consider adoption of Ordinance Number 012-2018 creating Road District No. 4 of the Parish of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, describing the territory to compose the district and the boundaries thereof, and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

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 Ordinance Number 012-2018 creating Road District No. 4 of the Parish of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, describing the territory to compose the district and the boundaries thereof, and providing for other matters in connection therewith

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

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

- F. Council to consider adoption of Ordinance Number 013- 2018 declaring the intent of the Parish of Natchitoches to terminate the use of a certain parcel of property by the Shady Grove Community Center and to return the property to the Shady Grove Missionary Baptist Church in accordance with the property transfer agreement dated March 2 1981 between the Shady Grove Missionary Baptist Church and the Parish of Natchitoches, and to authorize the Parish President to execute all documents in connection therewith, upon advice of Parish counsel.

On motion by Councilman Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by, Councilman Chris Paige that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt Ordinance Number 013-2018 declaring the intent of the Parish of Natchitoches to terminate the use of a certain parcel of property by the Shady Grove Community Center and to return the property to the Shady Grove Missionary Baptist Church in accordance with the property transfer agreement dated March 2 1981 between the Shady Grove Missionary Baptist Church and the Parish of Natchitoches, and to authorize the Parish President to execute all documents in connection therewith, upon advice of Parish counsel.

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

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

- G. Council to consider adoption of Ordinance 014-2018 to authorize the Parish President to execute the Quit Claim Deed on behalf of the Parish of Natchitoches.

On motion by Councilman Russell Rachal, duly seconded by, Councilman Chris Paige that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt Ordinance 014-2018 to authorize the Parish President to execute the Quit Claim Deed on behalf of the Parish of Natchitoches.

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

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

- H. Council to consider to adopt Ordinance 006-2018 for a reduction of speed on the Clark Loop Road 637 from the current speed to 15 mph.

On motion by Councilwoman Patsy Ward Hoover, duly seconded by, Councilman Russell Rachal that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby adopt Ordinance 006-2018 for a reduction of speed on the Clark Loop Road 637 from the current speed to 15 mph.

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

Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Rachal	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood	
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried	<b>Motion Passed</b>

Chairman, Bedgood stated the next agenda items:

Ms. Carolyn Roy had a question concerning the next step with the Road Districts. Mr. Nowlin, replied, "The road Districts are now created and the Parish Council by creating the Districts will serve notice for the calling of the election the election call is issued some 28 to 60 days after the creation of the Districts; so I will anticipate that the Council may consider calling the election at the August Council meeting and setting the millage rate that will be voted on and approved by the voters during the election. The election will be in December probably when we'll have the run off for the Secretary of State.

**Resolutions:**

- A. Council to consider a Resolution to authorize Parish President to sign all necessary documents concerning FEMA Public Assistance Non-Federal Share Match Program.

On motion by Councilman Rodney Bedgood, duly seconded by, Councilwoman Patsy Ward Hoover that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby authorize Parish President to sign all necessary documents concerning FEMA Public Assistance Non-Federal Share Match Program.

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

Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Rachal	
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	<b>Motion Passed</b>

- B. Council to consider a Resolution authorizing the Parish President to notify a legal firm to "opt in" on the lawsuit settlement, and to execute any documents in connection therewith, upon advice of counsel.

Parish President begins to explain this Resolution by saying, "You know we get paid by the Federal Government for our Forest land within the Parish in 2015 -2017 the Federal Government authorized taxes to be paid to the parishes and counties across the Nation they didn't appropriate enough money to do so. Cane County, Utah took the Federal Government to court and when it turned out the Federal Judge ruled that the recent change in the law did not require appropriation it simply say it had to be paid so he ruled in favor of the plaintiff, Cane County and ordered the Federal Government to pay the difference of what

they should have paid and what the county actually got paid in 2015-2017. They also claimed this as a class action matter to the entire nation, so the attorneys that is representing Cane County offer to represent the entire class of properties across the 50 states. The bottom line is the attorney's have met with the Federal people in Washington for a payout for 2015 and 2016, I set in our a 2 hour conference call with around 800 other people they agreed on an amount for 2015 and 2016 and they are negotiating 2017 once they agree on that figure that money would be divided up and pro-rated among the Counties, and everyone will get what they originally supposed to have gotten. When I say pro-rated, of course the attorney's are going to take their fees for doing this, the attorney's has requested 30% fee and it will be up to the Federal Judge to actually decide on what they will get, but I want be surprised it wouldn't be in that neighborhood; so if we approve this and become part of the Class Act lawsuit, we would get 70 percent of the difference between what we got that we should have gotten or if we don't approve this then we can go out and get our own attorney on our own, I think we need to join the group 70 percent of something is better than a 100 percent of nothing. Thank goodness for Cane County."

Ms. Janice Perry asked a question what was all this and the Parish President again summarized it by saying the Federal Government owes Parishes and County's money from 2015-2017 on Payments in Lieu of Taxes on Forrest land and the Parish would have to pay 30 percent of attorney fees, and the money will go back to its original purpose. He feels we the parish should piggy back from those that already have done the work. There was also discussion from Councilman Paige and the Parish Attorney. Parish Attorney said the 30 percent may or may not come out of the Parish's share since they are asking for the attorney fees separately.

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 authorize the Parish President to notify a legal firm to "opt in" on the lawsuit settlement, and to execute any documents in connection therewith, upon advice of counsel.

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

Ayes:	Councilman Rachal	
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	<b>Motion Passed</b>

C. Council To Consider Approving A Resolution 032-2018 Expressing The Opposition Of The Parish Of Natchitoches To The Open Burning Of Hazardous Materials At The Clean Harbors Colfax Facility Located In Grant Parish And Requesting The Ladeq To Take Immediate Steps To Prevent Any Such Open Burning Of Hazardous Materials.

On motion by Councilman Russell Rachal, duly seconded by, Councilwoman Patsy Ward Hoover that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby Approves a Resolution 032-2018 expressing the opposition of the Parish Of Natchitoches to the open burning of hazardous materials at the clean harbors Colfax Facility located in Grant Parish and requesting the LADEQ to take immediate steps to prevent any such open burning of hazardous materials.

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

Ayes:	Councilman Rachal	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood	
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	<b>Motion Passed</b>

D. Council to consider awarding the contract to the lowest bidder for the Hampton Road Construction Project the Bid has been reviewed and tabulated by Pan American Engineers, LLC.

Parish President gave a brief summary of this said Red River Waterway is paying for the construction of the road and the Parish is responsible for the Engineering part of the road and his recommendation was to award it to W.L. Bass Construction, Inc. for the amount of \$1,350.924.45.

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by, Councilman Russell Rachal that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby award the Contract to the lowest bidder W.L. Bass Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$1,350.924.45.

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

Ayes:	Councilman Paige	
Ayes:	Councilman Rachal	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood	
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried	<b>Motion Passed</b>

Chairman, Bedgood stated the next agenda items:

**Other Agenda Items:**

Council to consider approving raise of \$321.36 for Parish Council Clerk.

Councilman, Rachal wanted to know was that \$321.36 total or a week or what. Chairman, Bedgood, replied a month. At this time Scott Stetson had some questions he wanted to know was that \$321 a pay period or over a year, and Councilwoman Hoover, replied, over a month. Mr. Stetson, replied, "How many other employees have the opportunity to receive merit increases through the years. Councilwoman, Hoover, asked, "What did you say your name is?" Mr. Stetson told her Scott Stetson. At this time Chairman, Bedgood replied, I think everyone has gotten a little raise, haven't they? Councilwoman, Hoover said, exactly."

Councilman, Paige, replied, "Ms. Frederick is our only employee, and she's the only employee, that we can give a raise to, all the other employees in Parish Government you need to talk to Mr. Nowlin, if you have questions about them, but this particular individual is under us."

Mr. Scott Stetson, replied, "Under the professional development side of the house she's directly under the Council lead way for any type of merit increases or compensations." And Councilman Paige, replied, exactly." Councilman Paige stated she's been here about 8 years, but was corrected to 5 years." Mr. Stetson, replied, "From my memory she received a 4 percent COLA investment at the first of year, is that correct?" Councilwoman, Hoover, replied, "That's correct." Parish President, replied, "All employees received the COLA increase I don't know if it was from January 1 or February." Mr. Stetson replied, what's the compensation of the 321 it will be about \$4,000 and Councilman de Graffenried, replied, "\$3800." and Mr. Stetson, replied, that is about 8 percent, then, I ask that because with my employer, I've been informed by the laws you can't give a compensation lump over 6.99 percent, it might not apply to you all, I don't know, I just want all employees get the same opportunities." Ms. Carolyn Roy, asked, "What would the annual salary be?" At this time Chairman, Bedgood asked Ms. Miley could she tell us, and she asked Ms. Creamer to respond. Ms. Creamer wanted to know what exactly the question was and at this time Ms. Perry wanted to know what all this had to do with anything. and Ms. Creamer replied, she currently salary is \$42,848. per year and with the increase it would be \$46,704. Councilman, Rachal wanted to know if the Council had a planning review of employee within a year telling her about what we expect of her for the whole year?" Chairman, Bedgood replied, "No, the Council haven't, but I as Chair has."

On motion by Councilman Chris Paige, duly seconded by, Councilwoman Patsy Ward Hoover that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby approve raise of \$321.36 a month for Parish Council Clerk.

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

Ayes:	Councilman Paige	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Nayes:	Councilman Rachal	
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood	
Nayes:	Councilman de Graffenried	<b>Motion Passed</b>

Chairman, Bedgood stated the next agenda items:

Council to consider selection of LGAP project and authorization of Parish President to submit LGAP application for funding.

Parish President, responded, "The Parish was recently notified by the State, they have some money available for local government assistance Projects and the Community Water Enrichment Fund the submission of the LGAP application is in September and the other one CWEF is due in November. I thought in the past, we applied for money for road projects, but it's limited to the roads, it's any public infrastructure when the Grant application it's assembled by Parishes and the State will the Parishes to get some recommendations. Asking the Council for any projects they recommend or any road constructions. The Parish is in competition with other Parishes, our Parish would

not receive the full amount of the Grant, the Grant is for \$125,000. There was discussion with the Parish Attorney and she feels we should ask for the full amount for the benefit of the Parish to see exactly what we could receive from it.

On motion by Councilman Russell Rachal, duly seconded by, Councilwoman Patsy Ward Hoover that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby authorize Parish President to submit LGAP application for funding.

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

Ayes:	Councilman Rachal	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood	
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	<b>Motion Passed</b>

Chairman, Bedgood stated the next agenda items:

Council to consider authorizing the Parish President to execute an agreement with 4K Farms & Trucking, LLC in connection with the disposal of waste tires received by the Parish Solid Waste Department.

On motion by Councilwoman Patsy Ward Hoover, duly seconded by, Councilman Rodney Bedgood that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby authorize the Parish President to execute an agreement with 4K Farms & Trucking, LLC in connection with the disposal of waste tires received by the Parish Solid Waste Department.

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

Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Rachal	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood	
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried	<b>Motion Passed</b>

Chairman, Bedgood stated the next agenda items:

Council for discussion only: Head Start Program renewal application.

Parish President begins to speak on the "Parish operates its Head Start Program under a five-year federal grant that ends on June 30, 2019. The Parish would have to apply for a new grant sometime near the end of 2018. In view of the significant effort and expense to prepare the application, the Parish should evaluate its operations of the program to determine what is in the best interest of the program and the Parish. The program educates 309 three and four-year old children in Natchitoches and DeSoto Parishes. Five centers are located in Natchitoches Parish and one in DeSoto Parish. The major challenge is the facility on the main campus, which is the MLK center on MLK Drive, the main building is own by the Natchitoches Parish School Board and they let us use it without paying any rent. The Parish doesn't have enough money to fix it and the estimate that replacing the roof will cost in excess of \$150,000.

The Parish cannot expend Government Buildings funds for repairs as it does not own the building. The Parish cannot use Head Start money to fix the roof, but the parish can use up to \$5,000 to make repairs on the building without Regional approval. The roof continues to leak all through the year and Mr. Winston crew or others continue to repair it. The other facilities have problems like parking lot problems and others. I just ask if the Council can begin to think about what we should do if it's in the best interest of the program and the Parish to continue to operate the Head Start program or allow others in the area to take over the program. I think the Head Start program is going to be here for a long time to come I think it's more the question should the Parish continues to run the program or someone else in the Parish runs the program and that's the decision of the Council, which eventually they would have to make. The application is quite extensive, it will take staff a couple hundred man hours and a consultant and their fee is around \$25,000 to prepare the application with the time and the consultant fee, you're talking around \$50,000 dollars, you're talking about a 2.3 million Grant per 5 years the application fee is not that great but it's still an expense you need to go with your eyes wide open."

Chairman, Bedgood said he hear the School Board is definitely interested in it.

Councilman Paige, replied, "First off, It's not up to the Council to decide it's to the Federal Government they would come in and review the applicants, we just can't say, we don't want Head Start and give to somebody it don't work that way. Second off, the Old Highway Department I've sat here and we give go off giving it other elected officials and others in this Parish but I think that's a prime piece of property that you can possibly build a Head Start building over there. I think that Dallas had given us a check before the Head Start Program to purchase in the building they're in now around \$400,000 or maybe \$300,000 Ms. Harris correct me if I'm wrong, but we had to send it back because they couldn't determine who exactly who ever own it. The School Board, the Besse Board, Baton Rouge, or whomever and the children are still in limbo with the building that is not a permanent structure, I think if hearts and minds and attitudes are for these children we need to take the initiative to build a building over there on that property, but it's going to take work to get it done, I think just like everything else if you're determined to get it done, it can get done, we have a new Head Start Director and I think she has the vigor to work to help as well, it's going to take some trips to Dallas and other places, I think that what needs to start the process of looking at trying to build that building and have a permanent structure for our kids' safety, it's a bigger enough area to do it and that has been the purpose of my putting on the block of selling it like all the rest, to possibly would build a Head Start building one day."

Ms. Carolyn Roy asked where was the area, he was talking about. Parish President replied, "It's on the corner of Trudeau and MLK, it's over 3 acres, I've had a number of discussions with Mrs. Metoyer and she's going to investigate to see if there is any money available to build a new Head Start facility but I

asked her find any Federal assistance, we're in a very tough situation here and we definitely need a new facility for the safety of the children, the staff and everybody else. Mr. Paige the point about the new facility is well taken, but it's just the point we're having this discussion to see if there is some money available."

Chairman, Bedgood stated the next agenda items:

Council to consider authorizing the Parish President to dispose of all surplus items currently being stored in the courthouse jail cells, the old Hwy. Department Building and the storage facility, including furniture, computers and peripheral equipment, books and household materials salvaged from houses that were demolished under the FEMA program. Automobile and Scrap Metal from Head Start.

On motion by Councilman Russell Rachal, duly seconded by, Councilman Rodney Bedgood that the Natchitoches Parish Council, in regular and legal session, does hereby authorize the Parish President to dispose of all surplus items currently being stored in the courthouse jail cells, the old Hwy. Department Building and the storage facility, including furniture, computers and peripheral equipment, books and household materials salvaged from houses that were demolished under the FEMA program. Automobile and Scrap Metal from Head Start.

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

Ayes:	Councilman Rachal	
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood	
Ayes:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried	<b>Motion Passed</b>

Councilman, Paige wanted to know about the files that was kept up there and Ms. Harris and Ms. Miley, replied, "It's not the records it's just the old computers and things." The hard drives will be cleaned from all the old computers.

Chairman, Bedgood read the next agenda items.

**Visitors for Non Agenda Items. (3 minutes)**

At this time the Head Start Director approached the podium and said, "Briefly, I just want to give you some of our accomplishments in the Head Start Program since I've taken over, I've been working really closely with Ms. Debbie and Ms. Harris, you know it's really a good Program, we do have a lot of facility issues, but I feel if we can continue to work as a group and we have an open line of communication we probably could get us a better facility in the next couple of years, I know it's not going to happen overnight, it's going to take a lot of money and a lot of communications back and forth between us and our Program Specialists. We really need to work together to get to keep this program, it's really good for our community. We partnered with the local School Board to do dual

enrollment, which I mentioned before because there were times in reaching our disabilities numbers which is a requirement for Head Start our enrollment stayed pretty much at our 85 percent except for our flu season, that was something that we couldn't control. Our efforts for In-Kind has increased we have an incline in parental engagement, we have Fall carnivals and Spring carnivals, we had a literacy night, which was a huge success. We have an increase in Community Satisfaction with phone calls and just visits, pop in on parents. Community Leaders said they love the way the program is going. We have also partnered with the Lions Club for them to do our child's screenings, free and the Out Patient Medical Center will be doing our dental screening, just the screenings and not the exam for free. We also partnered with the NSU Family and Child Network they will be providing our mandated beginning of the year training for free through donations from entities in the community, it's a lot that we're doing is not a cost from Head Start and we can take that money and use it on other Head Start things. Also, through our fundraiser efforts, we are able to sponsor 30 individuals, including myself, to attend the Head Start conference in New Orleans to participate in the Louisiana Head Start Conference, and it's also our Regional Conference, not only myself, teachers, staff, and parents are attending, but we're also presenting so I think that's a big thing, when you go and present, it says a lot about our program."

Linwood "Woody" Delphin he's an electrician, he wanted to talk on Bermuda Road concerning the road tax he wanted to know exactly what are the steps. Parish President, Nowlin, explained the Council has approved to call the election to put it on the ballots for the people to decide whether they want it or not. If the people vote for it, it would be Effective 2019 and you wouldn't see anything until the first quarter of 2020. Mr. Woody, explained I'm not looking at that part right now, I'm talking about when they come and fix the road they don't use a compressor they don't blow that dirt out that you see settled on the road so when they put that asphalt in there all they're doing is making it so they don't work it, it's going to jump right out." The last meeting we had the next day they put the white stuff down Bermuda and Shell Beach Road and all the long, if it rains, but it hasn't yet, but when it does it will be coming up soupy and you then you'll have more holes again, so they're not doing an effective job, if you would blow that stuff out and put something down that would stick, you wouldn't have to come out as much."

Ms. Janice Perry wanted to comment on the Head Start Program, the reason I want to comment on it because I'm glad she said we're keeping Head Start because I've had so many people come up to me and say, we're going to lose Head Start they wasn't aware that if the Council decides not to renew the application that there will be somebody possibly to take the Head Start and it will still remain opened to their children and we have to understand we serving people." I'm so glad it was clarified that if the Council doesn't take the program that someone else will and they people will have their jobs and the centers would be opened."

Parish President, replied, "In that case the Federal Government would come to evaluate those who submitted the application and decide which one would be better to serve."

Councilwoman, Hoover replied, "What happens is whoever gets it, they would decide whether they would hire those persons or not that is at Head Start."

Mr. Johns Hodgeson wanted to ask Parish President about the Loggers fee severance tax, but it's still going into the General Fund. He wanted to know if he had to go to the Legislator on getting that money for roads. Parish President, replied, "If the budget is voted on by these five people to say that then we'll do it." Mr. Hodgeson, replied, to the Council, "It's you all jobs to get it done."

Parish President wanted to express his concern about the Sales Tax, "I just want to thank everyone for passing the Road tax this would allow around 2 millions dollars a year to the Parish Highway Department will go a long ways. The reason for the Sales Tax would allow everyone to participate in the road improvement program just say half the people who owns property in the Parish doesn't pay any property tax, the Property tax is mostly paid by the businesses and the large utility companies and pipeline company in the Parish 20 to 25 percent paid by business and residents of those only half the people pays property tax a lot of people are opposed to voting for a property tax without a sales tax on the ballot, it was told to me to have other people to participate, the old saying: "have some skin in the game". I just wanted you to understand why that tax was proposed. A half cent sales tax is going to be hard, but please keep in mind the State just did away with a one penny sales tax and added back 0.45 so people is going to be paying 55 hundreds of a tax a little bit half a cent less than Sales Tax than they would have. If the half cent is put on the people it would actually bring them back to where they were now. So we can tax that half cent and generate a little over another million dollars. I really wanted you to understand that, and I know the Ordinance didn't get a motion, when it was Introduced, if it's the will of the Council, I'll accept it, I hope someone would reconsider, but if you don't, will move on from there, we'll do everything to get the property tax to pass, but I just wanted to explain why it was there and I'm going to support it to the fullest. Thank you."

Chairman, Bedgood read the next agenda item to Adjourn.

**Adjourn**

On motion by Councilwoman Patsy Ward Hoover, duly seconded by Councilman Chris Paige, 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:	Councilwoman Hoover	
Ayes:	Councilman Paige	
Ayes:	Councilman Rachal	
Ayes:	Councilman de Graffenried	
Ayes:	Councilman Bedgood	<b>Motion Passed</b>

Since there was no other business the meeting was adjourn:

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rodney Bedgood, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sheryl Frederick,  
Council Clerk