

OCTOBER 28, 2024

NEW IBERIA, LOUISIANA

IBERIA PARISH COUNCIL
SPECIAL FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

The Special Finance Committee Meeting was called to order by Finance Chairman Scott Ransonet at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Those members recorded as PRESENT were as follows:

Francis "Tommy" Pollard, Sr., Michael R. Landry, Lloyd Brown, Warren P. Gachassin, Jr., Natalie Broussard, Scott Ransonet, Brock Pellerin, Brian P. Napier (entered meeting at 6:06 p.m.), Lady Fontenette Brown (entered the meeting at 6:07 p.m.), Caymen Crappell, and Chad Maturin.

Those members recorded as ABSENT were as follows:

Marcus "Bruce" Broussard, Dustin Suire, and James P. Trahan.

Others in Attendance:

Parish President M. Larry Richard, CAO Milton "Bo" Belanger, Budget Officer Michelle Suire, and Director of Public Works Jean Romero.

BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED

1. Initial review and discussion of the 2025 Proposed Budgets, as follows:

a. General Fund Budget - Public Works Administration

Budget Officer Michelle Suire stated there is a 2.5% increase in salaries and 10% increase in the Insurance line item. She further gave explained the difference was due to a change in policy coverage for new employees.

Budget Officer Michelle Suire stated the budget consists of usual expenses for 2025. There is no plan to purchase equipment during this period.

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised the total Public Works Administration expenditures were, as follows:

- \$226,015 for FY 2023
- \$288,365 for FY 2024
- \$261,001 for FY 2025

b. Road District No. 10 Maintenance Fund

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised that revenue streams, as follows:

- Severance taxes
- Parish roads transportation fund, which is based on population and miles
- User fees
- Investment income main revenue stream for severance taxes
- Road District and General Fund

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised that total expenditures were, as follows:

- \$1,473,741 for FY 2023
- \$1,698,263 for FY 2024
- \$1,415,785 for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised of the fund balances, as follows:

- 2024 beginning fund balance of \$885,544
- 2024 surplus of \$431,668
- 2024 ending fund balance of \$453,876
- 2025 deficit of \$378,085
- 2025 ending fund balance \$75,791

Councilman Warren P. Gachassin, Jr. asked if the \$20,000 was for road striping.

Director Jean Romero stated those funds were allocated for bridge inspections.

Councilman Warren P. Gachassin, Jr. requested that Director Romero confirm whether these funds are for bridges that are not part of the off-road system bridge system inspections.

Director Romero advised there are several bridges that need to be inspected annually and these funds will be used for the off-road system bridge system inspections. He further stated that last year it cost \$12,000 to have all bridges inspected throughout the Parish.

Councilman Warren P. Gachassin, Jr. questioned whether the \$71,250 is for the transfer of the Public Worker Director pay?

Budget Officer Michelle Suire confirmed that the \$71,250 was for the transfer of pay for the Public Worker Director.

Councilman Warren P. Gachassin, Jr. also questioned whether the cost were being split indirectly.

Budget Officer Michelle Suire confirmed that the costs are being split between Roads and Solid Waste.

c. Parishwide Drainage Fund

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised that Iberia Parish received ad valorem property taxes for Parishwide Drainage, as follows:

- 4.00 mills for FY 2023
- 3.91 mills for FY 2024
- 3.91 mills for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised there is tornado debris income, state shared revenue, investment income, Mosquito Control Drainage transfer and Capital Lease for equipment to be leased in 2025 as revenue.

Budget Officer Michelle Suire stated there is a 2.5% increase in salaries and 10% increase for group insurance. There are no major changes other than indirect cost allocation. Equipment purchases will consist of two (2) trucks and the lease purchase of a grapple truck. The principle and interest will pay for the equipment.

Councilman Warren P. Gachassin, Jr. questioned whether the boom truck will be used strictly from drainage. He further mentioned

there is an aging wash truck and wanted to know if they obtained a price for replacement.

It was confirmed that a lease would be in the best interest of Iberia Parish Government.

Parish President M. Larry Richard recommended they obtain information for the lease and/or lease purchase of a wash truck.

Director Romero stated the lease and lease purchase of a wash truck would essentially be the same price, approximately \$6,000 per month and at the end of the lease, they would take the truck.

President Richard stated that if we can avoid the spending of the repairs, Iberia Parish would come out ahead because they would repair it and bring a brand new one, so you are never without a truck.

Councilman Caymen Crappell stated that he would like to share information regarding the lease of a wash truck. He further stated that he will get with Director Gene Romero regarding prices.

Councilman Warren P. Gachassin, Jr. questioned if Director Romero knew what was needed to repair the truck we have now.

Director Romero stated that there are turbo issues with the diesel truck they have now.

Councilman Warren P. Gachassin, Jr. enquired as to what is needed for repairs of the truck.

Director Romero stated that one truck is \$10,000 to repair and the other truck is \$10,000 to repair as well.

Councilman Warren P. Gachassin, Jr. requested Director Romero determine how much is needed prior to final budget adoptions.

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised that the total expenditures were, as follows:

- \$3,198,408 for FY 2023
- \$3,727,076 for FY 2024
- \$5,216,094 for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised of the fund balances, as follows:

- 2024 beginning fund balance of \$6,801,608
- 2024 surplus of \$75,571
- 2024 ending fund balance of \$6,887,179
- 2025 deficit of \$1,451,459
- 2025 ending fund balance \$5,425,720

d. Solid Waste Sales Tax Fund

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised that the main revenue stream, as follows:

- Half-cent sales taxes
- Tornado income
- Investment income

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised that for Household Waste Day, the budget remains the same amount of \$2,000 and Administration Indirect Cost Allocation had a 2.5% increase.

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised total expenditures were, as follows:

- \$3,703,347 for FY 2023
- \$3,809,239 for FY 2024
- \$4,997,140 for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised that for Landfill No. 2, there is a 2.5% increase in salaries and 10% increase for the Insurance line item.

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised of the fund balances, as follows:

- 2024 beginning fund balance of \$4,032,595
- 2024 deficit of \$862,296
- 2024 ending fund balance of \$3,170,300
- 2025 deficit of (\$411,020)
- 2025 ending fund balance of \$2,759,280

e. Road Sales Tax

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised that the main revenue stream, as follows:

- Quarter-cent sales tax interest
- Investment income

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised that Non-Division consists of Collection which is the portion the School Board takes out and transfers into Road District.

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised that the total expenditures were, as follows:

- \$-0- for FY 2023
- \$20,000 for FY 2024
- \$3,840,000 for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised of the fund balances, as follows:

- 2024 beginning fund balance of \$-0-
- 2024 deficit of \$2,786,000
- 2024 ending fund balance of \$2,786,000
- 2025 deficit of \$976,000
- 2025 ending fund balance of \$3,762,000

f. General Fund Budget

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised that Iberia Parish received ad valorem property taxes, as follows:

- 4.12 mills for FY 2023
- 4.04 mills for FY 2024
- 4.04 mills for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire stated that Indirect Cost Allocation funds were increased 2% for all departments budgeted expenditures. She further stated that the ARPA Fund balance is being carried over to FY 2025 and ARPA Broadband will be completed this year.

Budget Officer Michelle Suire stated that all projects were combined together for purposes of consolidating this line item.

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised that the American Rescue Plan Act and Evacuation Center totals were, as follows:

- \$20,821 for FY 2023
- \$117,710 for FY 2024
- -0- for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised that the Non Department totals were, as follows:

- \$6,727,146 for FY 2023
- \$4,943,417 for FY 2024
- \$9,990,747 for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised that the total Governing Body expenditures were, as follows:

- \$385,098 for FY 2023
- \$407,986 for FY 2024
- \$434,679 FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire stated there is a 2.5% increase in salaries and 10% increase for group insurance. Equipment purchases consist of new chairs and printers.

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised that the total District Court expenditures were, as follows:

- \$261,423 for FY 2023
- \$296,751 for FY 2024
- \$303,668 for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire stated there is a 2.5% increase in salaries and 10% increase for group insurance.

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised that the total District Attorney expenditures were, as follows:

- \$425,405 FY 2023
- \$452,234 for FY 2024
- \$540,534 for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire stated there is an increase for group insurance and expenditures.

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised that the total Clerk of Court expenditures were, as follows:

- \$46,297 for FY 2023
- \$52,000 for FY 2024
- \$52,000 for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire stated there was a decrease in Clerk of Court revenues.

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised the total Ward Courts expenditures were, as follows:

- \$46,371 for FY 2023
- \$73,877 for FY 2024
- \$73,258 for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire stated there was a decrease in Ward Courts revenues.

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised that the total President expenditures were, as follows:

- \$516,955 for FY 2023
- \$625,729 for FY 2024
- \$668,433 for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire stated there is a change in employment status from part-time to full-time.

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised the total Registrar of Voters expenditures were as follows:

- \$42,953 for FY 2023
- \$43,948 for FY 2024
- \$71,078 for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire stated there will be an increase to include a Civil Service position and additional travel and training.

Councilman Warren P. Gachassin, Jr. stated there will also be an additional increase for equipment due to adding early voting locations.

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised the total Elections expenditures were, as follows:

- \$22,308 for FY 2023
- \$85,000 for FY 2024
- \$80,000 for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire stated that \$60,000 will be carried over to FY 2025. The balances for communications, supplies and furniture line items will be carried over for Delcambre and Loreauville early voting locations.

Director Segura advised the total Financial Administration expenditures were, as follows:

- \$580,399 for FY 2023
- \$598,487 for FY 2024
- \$836,231 for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire stated that two (2) additional positions will be added to the Finance Department. She further stated that there was an increase in Advertisement & Subscriptions line item.

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised the total Purchasing expenditures were as follows:

- \$123,341 for FY 2023
- \$131,632 for FY 2024
- \$216,984 for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised there is an increase for Purchasing to hire an additional employee including salary and benefits and Travel & Training expenditure line items.

Director Segura advised that the total Human Resources expenditures were, as follows:

- \$142,689 for FY 2023
- \$171,233 for FY 2024
- \$201,174 for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised there is an increase in the Professional Fees line item to contract for a Policy Handbook and Supplies line item for a new chair and printer.

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised that the total Mapping expenditures were, as follows:

- \$10,900 for FY 2023
- \$19,896 for FY 2024
- \$28,402 for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised there is an increase in Maintenance Contracts and Advertisement & Subscriptions with a decrease in revenue from Fire District from 15% to 10%.

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised the total County Agent expenditures were, as follows:

- \$36,284 for FY 2023
- \$45,000 for FY 2024
- \$45,000 for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised the total LGAP 2020 2021 expenditures were, as follows:

- -0- for FY 2023
- -0- for FY 2024
- -0- for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised the total LGAP 2022 2023 expenditures were, as follows:

- \$122,265 for FY 2023
- \$130,819 for FY 2024
- \$137,461 for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised the total Governmental buildings expenditures were, as follows:

- \$20,821 FY 2023
- \$711,983 for FY 2024
- -0- for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised the total Sheriff/Police expenditures were, as follows:

- -0- for FY 2023
- \$174,800 for FY 2024
- -0- for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised the total Jail Administration expenditures were, as follows:

- \$24,412 for FY 2023
- \$300,000 for FY 2024
- \$24,000.00 for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised the total Inspection Administration expenditures were, as follows:

- \$176,129 for FY 2023
- \$1,288,208 for FY 2024
- \$199,258 for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised that a Building Inspector and Computer Software, Advertisement & Dues line items were increased.

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised the total Coroner expenditures were, as follows:

- \$226,628 for FY 2023
- \$199,607 for FY 2024
- \$199,259 for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised the total Storm Water Management expenditures were, as follows:

- \$10,775 for FY 2023
- -0- for FY 2024
- -0- for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised the total Emergency Management expenditures were, as follows:

- \$134,563 for FY 2023
- \$136,034 for FY 2024
- \$198,878 for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised there is an increase for a full-time Director in Emergency Management.

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised the total Homeland Security expenditures were, as follows:

- -0- for FY 2023
- -0- for FY 2024
- -0- for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised the total SHSP 2022 expenditures were, as follows:

- -0- for FY 2023
- -0- for FY 2024
- -0- for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised the total SHSP 2023 expenditures were, as follows:

- -0- for FY 2023
- \$28,947 for FY 2024
- -0- for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised the total SHSP 2024 expenditures were, as follows:

- -0- for FY 2023
- \$28,947 for FY 2024
- -0- for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised the total Nuisance expenditures were, as follows:

- \$29,575 for FY 2023
- \$31,970 for FY 2024
- -0- for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised the total PW Administration expenditures, were as follows:

- \$226,015 for FY 2023
- \$288,365 for FY 2024
- \$261,964 for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised the total Roads expenditures were, as follows:

- \$548,765 for FY 2023
- -0- for FY 2024
- -0- for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised the total Bridges expenditures were, as follows:

- \$216,086 for FY 2023
- \$220,007 for FY 2024
- \$218,828 for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised the total Sewerage expenditures were, as follows:

- \$248,194 for FY 2023
- \$53,077 for FY 2024
- \$4,946,415 for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised the total Health Unit expenditures were, as follows:

- \$267 for FY 2023
- -0- for FY 2024
- -0- for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised the total Welfare expenditures were, as follows:

- \$10,740 for FY 2023
- \$13,240 for FY 2024
- \$13,240 for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised the total Recreation expenditures were, as follows:

- \$1,000 for FY 2023
- \$500 for FY 2024
- \$500 for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised the total Special Recreation Facilities expenditures were, as follows:

- \$210,509 for FY 2023
- \$231,542 for FY 2024
- \$236,614 for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised the total Public Housing expenditures were, as follows:

- \$30,831 for FY 2023
- \$7,615 for FY 2024
- \$19,268 for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised the total Economic Development expenditures were, as follows:

- \$6,221,407 for FY 2023
- \$8,513,859 for FY 2024
- \$14,204,745 for FY 2025

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised the total Bond Redemption expenditures were, as follows:

- \$432,473 for FY 2023
- \$440,014 for FY 2024
- \$437,657 for FY 2025

g. Administration adjustments

Budget Officer Michelle Suire advised of the fund balances, as follows:

- Salary increase adjustment of 2.5%
- 2024 beginning fund balance of \$6.4 million
- 2024 surplus of \$775,748
- 2024 ending fund balance of \$7.2 million
- 2025 surplus of \$74,023
- 2025 ending fund balance \$6.6 million

A motion was made by Ms. Natalie Broussard, seconded by Mr. Michael R. Landry, that the Finance Committee adjourn.

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

YEAS: Francis "Tommy" Pollard, Sr., Michael R. Landry, Lloyd Brown, Warren P. Gachassin, Jr., Natalie Broussard, Scott Ransonet, Brock Pellerin, Brian P. Napier, Lady Fontenette Brown, Caymen Crappell, and Chad Maturin.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Marcus "Bruce" Broussard, Dustin Suire, and James P. Trahan.

And the motion was declared adopted this 28th day of October, 2024.

Finance Chairman Scott Ransonet declared the Special Finance Committee Meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THE FOREGOING TO BE EXACT AND TRUE:

Clerk of the Council