

#7

EXTRACT OF THE OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF ST. BERNARD, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN AT A REGULAR MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE ST. BERNARD PARISH GOVERNMENT COMPLEX, 8201 WEST JUDGE PEREZ DRIVE, CHALMETTE, LOUISIANA ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2025 AT SEVEN O'CLOCK P.M.

On motion of XXXX, seconded by XXXX, it was moved to **adopt** the following resolution:

RESOLUTION SBPC #2429-01-25

A RESOLUTION TO CONVENE AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE ACTIONS OF PARISH GOVERNMENT AND THE RELATED CONDUCT OF ANY PARISH OFFICIAL, OFFICER, DEPARTMENT, OFFICE, AGENCY, OR CONTRACTOR WITH REGARD TO THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE LOUISIANA INTERNATIONAL TERMINAL.

WHEREAS, on November 16, 2024, the Advocate published an article wherein the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans was quoted as saying "We're working with the leaders in St. Bernard on a daily basis to try and solve their problems and the new CEO also is starting to do that, that hasn't been done in the past at this level."; and,

WHEREAS, when the content of this article was raised as an issue for discussion at the November 19, 2024 Council meeting, it was openly denied that St. Bernard Parish Government was engaged in any such communication with the Port of New Orleans; and,

WHEREAS, during the Capital Improvements update at the November 19, 2024 Council meeting, Ray Lauga alluded to an entity, now known to be the Port of New Orleans, who wanted to tie in to the St. Bernard Parish sewerage and wastewater system in exchange for a monetary payment to make up for a \$4,000,000 deficiency in the funding for the Riverbend Oxidation Pond Consolidation project; and,

WHEREAS, during the December 3, 2024 Council meeting when this matter was brought up for discussion, the Administration denied that there was any negotiation with the Port of New Orleans; and,

WHEREAS, the Council chairman has received independent documentation confirming that certain employees of St. Bernard Parish Government have been in active negotiations with the Port of New Orleans to facilitate the development of the Louisiana International Terminal; and,

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WHEREAS, the active negotiations with the Port of New Orleans have included transferring a water intake line to the Port of New Orleans, re-routing water service lines to allow the re-routing of St. Bernard Highway to accommodate the Louisiana International Terminal, and allowing the Port of New Orleans to tie in to the St. Bernard Parish sewerage and wastewater system in exchange for certain monetary compensation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the St. Bernard Parish Council, the Governing Authority, convenes an investigation into the actions of parish government and the related conduct of any parish official, officer, department, office, agency, or contractor with regard to the proposed development of the Louisiana International Terminal.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, for the purpose of the investigation described above, the Council may subpoena witnesses, administer oaths, take testimony and require the production of evidence in accordance with Section 2-08 of the Home Rule Charter.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, for the purpose of the investigation that the Council and Administration take the appropriate actions to retain the Office of the District Attorney to provide legal assistance in this investigation.

The above and foregoing having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereupon resulted as follows:

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

The Council Chair, Mr. McCloskey, cast his vote as **XXX**.

And the motion was declared **adopted** on the 7th day of January, 2025.

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CERTIFICATE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of a motion adopted at a Regular Meeting of the Council of the Parish of St. Bernard, held at Chalmette, Louisiana, on Tuesday, January 7, 2025.

Witness my hand and the seal
of the Parish of St. Bernard on
this 7th day of January, 2025.

ROXANNE ADAMS
CLERK OF COUNCIL