

**FINANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
April 4th, 2017
5:15 P.M.**

Present: Derek Kennedy, Jerry W. Taylor and John Watley. Absent: Glenn Hutto. Also present were Charles Sawyer, Richard Phelps, Mike Jones, Lane Rugg and Nathan Futch.

Mr. Kennedy called the meeting to order. Mr. Watley led the group in prayer.

Motion Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Watley and declared adopted by unanimous roll call vote of the Committee to approve the agenda.

Motion Mr. Watley, seconded by Mr. Taylor to approve the minutes of the December 6th, 2016 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Taylor addressed the committee regarding the demonstration of the Asphalt Zipper. There is a lease/purchase program available. The payments would consist of five payments for \$44,318.80. The first payment is not due until one year from purchase. The purchase of this machine would allow us to go out and immediately do some roadwork to show the public that we are trying. We are looking at the six foot machine with which you would have to make three passes to do one section of road. Purchasing this equipment would show the voters that if we had the additional funds to purchase additional equipment we could accomplish so much more. The Road Department needs good equipment to work with and it would mean a lot to the public to see the parish doing something to improve the roads. Next year the price for the Asphalt Zipper will increase by \$30,000 because of new emission requirements.

The Secretary-Treasurer will contact the auditor and see if the equipment can be purchased out of Road Maintenance. **No action taken.**

Mr. Taylor has contacted five surrounding parishes concerning their pay scale. After conferring with the different parishes, Mr. Taylor has come up with a proposed pay scale. If it were applied to our employees the ones that should see a reduction in pay would be frozen. To implement this it would cost the parish approximately \$77,000 a year. A second proposal was looked at and in that scenario the pay was reduced to match pay scales in other parishes. That would cost the parish only \$40,000.

For 2016, between the Landfill and the Road Department, thirteen new employees were hired. Out of those thirteen only three are still employed. Most of the ten left for better paying jobs. The employees need some sort of incentive for getting more certification. They need to know that they will get paid more if they have a CDL license. Mr. Kennedy points out that it is costing too much money to pay for physicals and train these employees. The turnover is costing the parish money. Ultimately, this is what we are trying to fix. Another incentive the employee receives is insurance.

Mr. Taylor suggests to the committee that if we can't implement the raises as suggested maybe we can do so on a smaller scale. **No action taken.**

There being no further business to come before the committee, Mr. Kennedy declared the meeting adjourned upon motion by Mr. Watley and duly seconded by Mr. Taylor on this the 4th day of April, 2017.

Derek Kennedy, Chairman
Paula Strickland, Secretary-Treasurer