

SPECIAL MEETING UNION PARISH POLICE JURY

Farmerville, Louisiana
December 19th, 2023

The Union Parish Police Jury met this date in special session in the Police Jury meeting room, Courthouse Annex, Farmerville, Louisiana with the following present: Curtis Moses, Nathan Pilgreen, Ben Bridges, L.W. Nolan, Brenda Abercrombie and A.J. Ford, Jr. Absent: DeWayne Ramsey, Johnny Buckley and Ceis Nyegaard. Also present was James Buckley, Assistant District Attorney. The President called the session to order and welcomed all guests. Mr. Nolan offered the invocation and Mr. Pilgreen led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

President Abercrombie welcomed everyone to the meeting. President Abercrombie asked if anyone in the audience would like to register for public comment. At this time the public was given the opportunity to comment on any item shown on the agenda.

A lengthy discussion was held regarding the Industrial Tax Exemption Application #20210539-ITE for Foster Farms.

Vince Lucas, Foster Farms, addressed the jury. Mr. Lucas stated that he wants to better Foster Farms and the Community. He has been with the Farmerville plant for approximately three (3) months. He did not know the protocol for the tax exemption and he apologized for not meeting with the jury sooner.

Mr. Pilgreen inquired about the percentage of the request. Foster Farms asked for an 80% tax exemption. Previously the jury approved a 50% exemption in 2017. Dean Baugh, Louisiana Economic Development, addressed the jury and said that the exemption now is 80/20.

Mr. Bridges asked if there was anything Foster Farms could do to put the work release inmates back to work. Mr. Lucas answered and said he is here regarding a tax exemption and this matter should not be a quid pro quo. Mr. Lucas stated that the discussion regarding inmates should come at a later date.

Motion Mr. Pilgreen, seconded by Mr. Moses to approve the Industrial Tax Exemption Application #20210539-ITE for Foster Farms. Motion carried with the following Roll Call Vote:

MEMBERS:	YEAS:	NAYS:	ABSENT:	ABSTAINING:
Curtis Moses	x			
Nathan Pilgreen	x			
Dewayne Ramsey			x	
Johnny Buckley			x	
Ben Bridges		x		

Ceis Nyegaard x
L.W. Nolan x
Brenda Abercrombie x
Andrew J. Ford, Jr. x

Motion carried with a vote of 5 YEAS, 1 NAY and 3 ABSENT.

In accordance with Ordinance 549, time for public comment was given.

Johnny Creed addressed the Jury regarding the Industrial Tax Exemption Application vote.

There being no further business to come before the Jury, the President declared the meeting adjourned upon motion by Mr. Nolan, seconded by Mr. Ford on this the 19th day of December, 2023.

s/ Paula H. Strickland

**PAULA H. STRICKLAND
SECRETARY-TREASURER
UNION PARISH POLICE JURY**

s/ Brenda Abercrombie

**BRENDA ABERCROMBIE
PRESIDENT
UNION PARISH POLICE JURY**