

## **BUDGET BRIEFING – PARISH**

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 2025; 9:00 A.M.**

**705 West University Avenue, Council Auditorium, Lafayette, Louisiana**

**City Marshal (Parish portion), City Court (Parish portion), District Court, District Attorney, Adult Correction, Parks, Arts, Recreation & Culture (Parish portion), Parish/Volunteer Fire Departments, Registrar of Voters, Assessor, County Agent, Justices of the Peace and Constables, Coroner, Health Unit, Juvenile Detention, Animal Shelter, Library**

**Councilmembers in attendance:** AB Rubin (Parish District 5 – Finance Chair), Ken Stansbury (Parish District 3 – Finance Vice-Chair), Bryan Tabor (Parish District 1), Donald Richard (Parish District 2), and John Guilbeau (Parish District 4)

**Administration staff members in attendance:** Mayor-President Monique Boulet, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Rachel Godeaux, Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Karen Fontenot, Budget Manager Denise Deville, Chief Budget Analyst Deosha Matthews, Senior Budget Analyst Jason Gilbert, Financial Analyst Laura Grettner, City Marshal Reginald Thomas, City Court Division B Judge Douglas Saloom, City Court Division A Judge Roy Boustany, District Court Administrator Karen Ardoin, District Court Deputy Administrator Cathy Touchet, 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Attorney (DA) Don Landry, DA's CFO Pat Elliott, Lafayette Parish Correctional Center (LPCC) Warden/Major of Corrections Kenny Benoit, LPCC Budget Manager Carissa Touchet, Parks, Arts, Recreation & Culture (PARC) Director Timothy Sensley, Lafayette Fire Chief Robert Benoit, Lafayette Parish Registrar of Voters Charlene Menard, Lafayette Parish Assessor Justin Centanni, County/Extension Agent Charles Hebert, Lafayette Parish Coroner Dr. Kenneth Odinet, Chief Investigator Keith Talamo, Louisiana Department of Health Region 4 Medical Director Dr. Tina Stefanski, Juvenile Detention Home (JDH) Administrator Alonzo Thomas, Lafayette Animal Shelter & Care Center (LASCC) Manager Shelley Delahoussaye, Lafayette Public Library Director Danny Gillane, and staff members representing these and other departments/agencies

**Council staff members in attendance:** Joseph Gordon-Wiltz (Clerk of the Council) and Jeremy “Rich” Richardson (Associate Clerk for Operations & Citizen Advocacy)

### **(9:04) COMMENCEMENT:**

Parish Finance Chair AB Rubin called the budget briefing to order. He then asked Bryan Tabor to offer the invocation and John Guilbeau to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Rubin welcomed attendees to the departmental budget review, noting procedures for public comment, seating arrangements, and decorum (no food/drink; devices silenced). Public comments limited to departmental budgets; other matters should be directed to the Administration. Budget posted online at [www.LafayetteLA.gov](http://www.LafayetteLA.gov). Council may take one of three actions: general amendment, separate amendment, or mark for wrap-up discussion. Amendments tied to specific districts will generally be offered by that district's Councilmember; general amendments by the Chair.

**PARISH \*\*GENERAL AMENDMENT BY RUBIN – To create a capital line item for Parish Council replacement computer within Fund 1050; Wrap-Up item #18, as provided by Finance\*\***

**PARISH \*\*GENERAL AMENDMENT BY RUBIN – To create Tourism appropriation to fund the 2026 Police Jury Association of Louisiana Region 3 meeting; Wrap-Up item #19, as provided by Finance\*\***

Guilbeau wanted to get clarification from Clerk of the Council Joseph Gordon-Wiltz if the source of funds is identified when offering a general amendment, to which he responded in the affirmative.

### **CITY MARSHAL (PARISH PORTION):**

#### **Operating Expenses**

Page 163 – Ken Stansbury sought clarification from City Marshal Reggie Thomas if there were any methods being used to decrease the amount of overtime, to which CAO Rachel Godeaux responded that some of the funds for overtime pay used to cover details at City-Parish parks were moved over to the PARC accounts

#### **► Comments from the Public**

- *No citizens signed in to address the Council.*

### **CITY COURT (PARISH PORTION):**

#### **Operating Expenses**

- *No action was taken in this section.*

#### **► Comments from the Public**

- *No citizens signed in to address the Council.*

### **DISTRICT COURT:**

#### **Operating Expenses**

- *No action was taken in this section.*

#### **2026 Capital**

- *No action was taken in this section.*

#### **Manning Table**

- *No action was taken in this section.*

#### **► Comments from the Public**

- *No citizens signed in to address the Council.*

## **DISTRICT ATTORNEY:**

### **Operating Expenses**

- *No action was taken in this section.*

### **Manning Table**

- *No action was taken in this section.*

### **► Comments from the Public**

- *No citizens signed in to address the Council.*

## **ADULT CORRECTION:**

### **Operating Expenses**

Page 166 – **PARISH \*\*SEPARATE AMENDMENT BY RUBIN – To increase line item 2620-1171-540000-000000 JAILER SERVICES on page 166 (currently proposed at \$900,000) by \$1,100,000 to total \$2,000,000\*\*** Tabor objected.

**PARISH \*\*SEPARATE AMENDMENT BY RUBIN – To increase line item 2620-1171-600000-000000 BUILDING MAINTENANCE on page 166 (currently proposed at \$450,000) by \$250,000 to total \$700,000\*\*** Tabor objected.

Guilbeau weighed in on the cost of maintenance for an older building and suggested that more assessment and expedition in the construction of the new administration building be taken out so that progress can begin on the construction of a new jail. Guilbeau offered suggestions of possible state and national entities investing in the process.

Mayor-President Boulet informed the Council that \$17.5M was moved from capital outlay to help fund the construction of the new administrative building to be constructed before a new jail. She clarified that the new jail would cost \$100-120 million and would need to be funded by the Parish, unless they partner with the state.

Page 167 – Finance anticipated that costs for medical services within the jail would increase since the parish is responsible for funding per inmate instead of the 80/20 split invoice they have been receiving from the Sheriff. Warden Benoit identified methods of lowering costs.

**PARISH \*\*WRAP-UP REQUEST BY RUBIN – Adult Correction to provide more information on line item 2620-1171-709070-ZZ0095 CONTR SERV-SAAS COST\*\***

### **2026 Capital**

Page 419 – **PARISH \*\*WRAP-UP REQUEST BY RUBIN – Follow-up on guidance for capital**

appropriation amendment that will be required for Adult Correction in the amount of \$1,000,000; further, Guilbeau requested a copy of the agreement between the City of Lafayette and the Lafayette Sheriff for this contribution\*\*

► **Comments from the Public**

- *No citizens signed in to address the Council.*

**PARKS, ARTS, RECREATION & CULTURE (PARISH PORTION):**

**Operating Expenses**

**PARISH \*\*WRAP-UP REQUEST BY RUBIN – PARC/Finance to clarify the funding source for Geaux Mow contracts in the running analysis to determine the benefit of reducing Geaux Mow contracts in favor of creating two (2) new maintenance positions\*\***

**5-Year Capital**

- *No action was taken in this section.*

**2026 Capital**

- *No action was taken in this section.*

► **Comments from the Public**

- *No citizens signed in to address the Council.*

**PARISH/VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS:**

**Operating Expenses**

- *No action was taken in this section.*

**2026 Capital**

- *No action was taken in this section.*

► **Comments from the Public**

- *No citizens signed in to address the Council.*

**REGISTRAR OF VOTERS:**

## Operating Expenses

Page 166 – PARISH **\*\*GENERAL AMENDMENT BY RUBIN** – To adjust expense accounts in anticipation of FY26 election costs; 08-14-2025 Amendment #32, as provided by Finance\*\*

PARISH **\*\*GENERAL AMENDMENT BY RUBIN** – To correct line item that was zeroed out by mistake (Housekeeping amendment); 08-14-2025 Amendment #33, as provided by Finance\*\*

## Manning Table

- *No action was taken in this section.*

### ► **Comments from the Public**

- *No citizens signed in to address the Council.*

## **ASSESSOR:**

## Operating Expenses

- *No action was taken in this section.*

### ► **Comments from the Public**

- *No citizens signed in to address the Council.*

## **COUNTY AGENT:**

## Operating Expenses

- *No action was taken in this section.*

### ► **Comments from the Public**

- *No citizens signed in to address the Council.*

## **JUSTICES OF THE PEACE & CONSTABLES:**

## Operating Expenses

- *No action was taken in this section.*

## Manning Table

- *No action was taken in this section.*

► **Comments from the Public**

- *No citizens signed in to address the Council.*

**CORONER:**

**Operating Expenses**

- *No action was taken in this section.*

**2026 Capital**

- *No action was taken in this section.*

**Manning Table**

- *No action was taken in this section.*

► **Comments from the Public**

- *No citizens signed in to address the Council.*

**HEALTH UNIT:**

**Operating Expenses**

- *No action was taken in this section.*

**Manning Table**

- *No action was taken in this section.*

► **Comments from the Public**

- *No citizens signed in to address the Council.*

**JUVENILE DETENTION:**

**Operating Expenses**

- *No action was taken in this section.*

**2026 Capital**

- *No action was taken in this section.*

## **Manning Table**

- *No action was taken in this section.*

## **► Comments from the Public**

- *No citizens signed in to address the Council.*

## **ANIMAL SHELTER:**

### **Operating Expenses**

- *No action was taken in this section.*

### **2026 Capital**

- *No action was taken in this section.*

## **Manning Table**

- *No action was taken in this section.*

## **► Comments from the Public**

- *No citizens signed in to address the Council.*

## **LIBRARY:**

### **Operating Expenses**

Page 328 – **PARISH \*\*GENERAL AMENDMENT BY RUBIN – To adjust the salary and benefits for (1) Director’s Executive Secretary due to Equity Pay Adjustment; 08-14-2025 Amendment #34, as provided by Finance\*\***

Page 396 – **PARISH \*\*GENERAL AMENDMENT BY RUBIN – To amend the project name within the Library’s FY26 Proposed Capital Appropriations; 08-14-2025 Amendment #35, as provided by Finance\*\***

### **5-Year Capital**

- *No action was taken in this section.*

## **Manning Table**

- No action was taken in this section.

► **Comments from the Public**

- *No citizens signed in to address the Council.*

**PARISH \*\*GENERAL AMENDMENT BY RUBIN – To adjust Director’s Reserve accounts to proper account (Housekeeping amendment); 08-14-2025 Amendment #36, as provided by Finance\*\***

Chair Rubin invited citizens to attend the Public Hearing for Citizen Input to address any matter related to the proposed budget, which will be held on Tuesday, August 19, 2025 at 5:15 p.m. He declared the conclusion of this morning’s briefing and stated that the next budget briefing will be held on Thursday, August 28, 2025 at 1:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m., and 3:00 p.m. for the Wrap-Up budget briefings for the Parish Council, Joint Councils, and City Council, respectively.

There being no further business, the briefing was adjourned at 11:27 a.m.