

**MINUTES OF THE  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF BROUSSARD, LA  
ON Tuesday, August 22, 2023,  
AT 6:00 P.M. AT 414 EAST MAIN STREET, COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

- Present:** Mayor Ray Bourque, Councilwoman Angel Racca (District 1), Councilman David Bonin (District 2), Councilman Jesse Regan (District 3), Councilwoman Heather Girouard (District 4), Councilman Kody Allen (District 6) and Councilman Jeff Delahoussaye (At Large),
- Staff:** Tina Emert (City Clerk/Director of Administrative Services), Callie Laviolette (Chief Administrative Officer), Karen Fontenot (Chief Financial Officer), Susie Richard (Executive Assistant to the Mayor), Mel Bertrand (City Manager/Director of Public Works), Millicent Norbert (Director of Tourism), Jamison Abshire (Director of Parks and Recreation), Ben Theriot (Code Enforcement Officer), Oscar Reed (Attorney At Law), Chief Vance Olivier (Police Chief), Daniel Hutchinson (City Engineer), Justin Denais (Deputy Fire Chier)
- Absent:** Councilman David Forbes (District 5), Walter Comeaux (City Engineer), Tony Ashy (Assistant Police Chief) Chief Bryan Champagne (Fire Chief)

**1. OPENING**

- 1.1 Pledge of Allegiance
- 1.2 Invocation was done by Pastor Father Casey Dugas

**2. MINUTES**

2.1 Acceptance of Minutes of the August 8, 2023, Regular Meeting

Motion by Councilman Regan

Second by Councilman Allen

Discussion: No public comments

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS:            District 1 -     Angel Racca  
                     District 2 -     David Bonin  
                     District 3 -     Jesse Regan  
                     District 4 -     Heather Girouard  
                     District 6 -     Kody Allen  
                     At Large -     Jeff Delahoussaye

ABSENT:        District 5 -     David Forbes

### 3. FINANCIAL REPORT

#### 3.1 Approval of the July 2023 financial report

Motion by Councilman Allen

Second by Councilwoman Girouard

Discussion: Karen stated the report was emailed to the council. There is no Sales Tax reported for July therefore she doesn't have a budget variance to report on at this meeting. Next month there will be.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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### 4. OTHER BUSINESS

#### 4.1 Cynthia Spadoni

Candidate for District Court Judge – Division L

Mrs. Spadoni was raised in Forked Island. She is married and has 2 young daughters. She first served as an attorney under Judge Durwood Conques. She has worked in a law firm and was 1st Assistant District Attorney in Orleans Parish. She worked for 15 years in Lafayette Parish in the District Attorney's office and is currently working at the Iberia Parish District Attorney's office. She is the only candidate who has practiced civil and criminal law. The system is important to her. She promises to do a good job. She humbly requested the support of everyone on October 14<sup>th</sup>.

#### 4.2 Ken Stansbury

Candidate for Parish Council Member District 3

Mr. Stansbury stated he is married with 3 kids, who are all in college. He is currently a Financial Officer. He is also in the Louisiana National Guard, and he currently serves on the Youngsville City Council. His district runs east of Verot School Road to the Parish line. His district covers Broussard, Youngsville, and South Lafayette. He feels serving the City of Youngsville as a council member has helped him prepare for this seat. He will empower solutions to the problems. He will also work with Lafayette and Youngsville. He loves partnerships and he feels he has the experience to move this district forward in the Parish. He asked for support from everyone on October 14<sup>th</sup>.

4.3 Stacy Romero w/Broussard Chamber of Commerce

Re-cap of Independence Day Celebration

Stacy gave a re-cap of the largest annual community event. They began planning on July 5, 2022, for this year's event. This was the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July event. We hosted approximately 21,300 guests. 75% of those were local and 25% were visitors that traveled from 14 states. The event cost \$74,367 to host. The Chamber had \$55,000 to host the event and the remaining balance was paid by soliciting sponsorships. The return was huge. 1.28 million was spent near St Julien Park on that day, putting us in the #1 spot for taxable revenues in the parish around that day. She thanked the Mayor and Council, the Fire and Police Department, the City Workers and the BEDC Board. She read an email from a visitor who attended the event, stating how great this event was. She looks forward to planning these events. Nov 2<sup>nd</sup> will be Music on Main with the Chee Weez and Dec 2 will be the Christmas Parade and Noel a' Broussard. Mayor Bourque thanked Stacy and her team for putting on such a great event.

5. RESOLUTIONS

5.1 Resolution #754-23

A resolution in support of the Acadiana Criminalistics Laboratory District Capital Outlay Request for funds to construct and equip a new Acadiana Criminalistics Laboratory; Committing to provide matching funds in the amount of \$30,611 should said Capital Outlay Request be funded by the State of Louisiana and local matching funds be required; providing for the effective date thereof; and otherwise providing with respect thereto

Motion by Councilman Delahoussaye

Second by Councilman Bonin

Discussion: District Attorney Don Landry and Kevin Ardoin with the Crime Lab addressed the council. Don stated he formerly served as city Attorney for many years, and he is originally from Broussard. He stated the city is doing great things, with such a great Mayor and Council and Chief. Mr. Ardoin stated they have great people and a great criminal lab also, but they don't have a great building. They were operating out of the basement of the tower at the Lafayette airport. Now they are in an old metal building, which they have been in for 34 years. This resolution will allow them to get Capital Outlay funds to build a 40,000 square foot facility next to their current facility. Working together with all other departments this commits to matching funds from each department. Fund requirements would be a 25% match. When they went to the legislature for the funding, they said to get the match from municipalities. The fund match is based on the 2019 cases and the City of Broussard's share would be \$30,611. They are here tonight to ask for the city's support by adopting this resolution. Councilman Regan questioned where the new building will be built? Ardoin stated it will

be at 5004 Admiral Doyle in New Iberia. Chief Olivier questioned if this is a one-time fee? Ardoin stated yes, based on the 2019 cases

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ABSENT:        District 5 -    David Forbes

## 6. ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION

### 6.1 Ordinance #23-779

An ordinance amending the 2023/2024 Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures to increase authorized expenditures for the purchase of property on Highway 90

Motion by Councilman Delahoussaye

Second by Councilman Allen

Discussion: Mayor Bourque stated that over the last several years we have been trying to find better accommodation for the police department to work out of. They have worked with planners, but the cost of a new building would be 9 million dollars. So, we started searching for a new avenue. A complex off Highway 90 at 5801 and Bercegeay Road has come available. They have worked with the council committee on this property that will work for the police, fire, and public works. It will serve as a police station, fire department, fire admin building, and a public works headquarters consolidated on one piece of property. The police department building is 23,600 on 1.41 acres. The 3 other buildings are 60,600 square feet combined on 10 acres for a total of 11.65 acres. We have done our due diligence and inspections. The purchase price of all the properties is 5.3 million. We are coming out way ahead and keeping up with the Broussard growth. Chief Olivier stated he is very excited about this. It is currently hard for our officers to work sharing offices. This will be overall good for retention and recruitment. We will have more space than we need, but it is needed. They will also have enough room to host classes. Deputy Chief Denais stated they are also very excited about this. Currently the station on Main Street does not have adequate living quarters and this will be a big asset for them. Currently the Main Street and First Street Station overlap. This new building will replace the Main Street building and will cover the St. Martin area. This will be a huge upgrade with response and office space. He thanked the mayor and council for this huge investment. Mel echoed what Deputy Chief Denais said. Currently they have no place to store their equipment on the Southside. This will enable them to also be directly underneath the water tower.

They can also store equipment there and this will enable them to get to emergencies quicker on that side. Mayor Bourque thanked the leadership package and the council for going to see the facility. Everyone pulled together on this project.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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                     At Large -     Jeff Delahoussaye  
ABSENT:        District 5 -     David Forbes

## 6.2 Ordinance #23-780

An ordinance amending the zoning ordinance adding the following maps:

Map F-8, Portions of Frances Drive, Merlene Drive, Vida Drive and N. Girouard Rd

Map G-8, Portions of Frances Drive, Merlene Drive, Vida Drive and N. Girouard Rd.

Map F-9, Portions of Frances Drive and Vida Drive

Motion by Councilman Regan

Second by Councilman Allen

Discussion: No public comments

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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                     At Large -     Jeff Delahoussaye  
ABSENT:        District 5 -     David Forbes

## 7. ORDINANCES FOR ADOPTION

### 7.1 Ordinance #23-778

An ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances to add Sections 42-50 to 42-53 relating to the prohibition of certain public conduct.

Motion by Councilman Bonin

Second by Councilman Delahoussaye

Discussion: None

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS:            District 1 -     Angel Racca

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District 6 - Kody Allen  
At Large - Jeff Delahoussaye  
ABSENT: District 5 - David Forbes

**ADJOURNMENT**

5.1 Adjourn Meeting

  
MAYOR RAY BOURQUE

  
TINA EMERT, CITY CLERK