

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF BROUSSARD, LA
ON Tuesday, Sept. 12, 2023
AT 6:00 P.M. AT 414 EAST MAIN STREET, COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present: Mayor Ray Bourque, Councilman David Bonin (District 2), Councilwoman Heather Girouard (District 4), Councilman David Forbes (District 5), Councilman Kody Allen (District 6) and Councilman Jeff Delahoussaye (At Large),

Staff: Tina Emert (City Clerk/Director of Administrative Services), Karen Fontenot (Chief Financial Officer), Susie Richard (Executive Assistant to the Mayor), Mel Bertrand (City Manager/Director of Public Works), Jamison Abshire (Director of Parks and Recreation), Ben Theriot (Code Enforcement Officer), Gerald deLaunay (Attorney At Law), Chief Vance Olivier (Police Chief), Tony Ashy (Assistant Police Chief), Chief Bryan Champagne (Fire Chief), Walter Comeaux (City Engineer), Daniel Hutchinson (City Engineer)

Absent: Councilwoman Angel Racca (District 1), Councilman Jesse Regan (District 3), Callie Laviolette (Chief Administrative Officer),
Millicent Norbert (Director of Tourism)

1. OPENING

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance

1.2 Invocation was done by Father Casey Dugas

2. MINUTES

2.1 Acceptance of Minutes of the August 22, 2023, Regular Meeting

Motion by Councilman Delahoussaye

Second by Councilwoman Girouard

Discussion: No public comments

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS: District 2 - David Bonin
 District 4 - Heather Girouard
 District 5 - David Forbes
 District 6 - Kody Allen
 At Large - Jeff Delahoussaye

ABSENT: District 1 - Angel Racca
 District 3 - Jesse Regan

3. OTHER BUSINESS

3.1 Monique Blanco Boulet

Candidate for Lafayette Mayor-President

Mrs. Boulet stated a poll was done when she first qualified to see what the issue is in government right now. The number one issue was corruption in government. She feels she can bring back transparency in decision-making. She will rebuild the trust in government bringing integrity, hope, and pride back to Lafayette Parish. She is the only candidate born and raised in Lafayette Parish. She has been married to her husband David for 30 years and they are the proud parents of 4 children. In 2014 she met with former Mayor Langlinais to build the Acadiana Planning Commission. She thought Langlinais would be against it, but he was happy to join, so they built the Acadiana Planning Commission from the ground up in 2015, with all of the cities in Lafayette Parish. As a former CEO she led Acadiana Rural fiber, to the home initiative. Another big concern of hers is crime in the parish. She will work with law enforcement experts and community leaders to address rising crime. She asked everyone for their vote and support on October 14th.

3.2 Kate Bailey Labue

Candidate for School Board District 7

Mrs. Labue stated she is the incumbent candidate. Her area was mainly south Lafayette and portions of Broussard. With the re-zoning she now serves south Lafayette and all of Broussard. She is an attorney who actively represents oil and gas operators. She previously served as a nonprofit executive director. She ran in 2019 because she was a parent of children in the school system. During her term they have done renovations to Ovey Comeaux High School, Corporal Middlebrook Elementary School, Katharine Drexel Elementary School, and Broussard Middle School. They also built Marital Billeaud Elementary and are currently looking at building 3 new schools, Carencro Heights, Prairie Elementary and Truman Elementary. She takes this job seriously and she wants to make sure the citizens are well served. Early voting starts Sept. 30th, and the election is October 14th. She asked for everyone's support and vote on October 14th.

3.3 Condemnation of 223 St Des Porres

Leonard Lezita Kelly Estate

Motion by Councilman Delahoussaye

Second by Councilwoman Girouard

Discussion: Ben stated he received numerous complaints about this property. It would take more than 50% of the value of the property to repair it. Tina stated all certified

letters sent to the property owner were returned undeliverable. Councilwoman Girouard stated that herself and Jeff went to view the property and met with the property owner in the back. There is a tree growing on this property that is growing over the fence into the neighbor's yard over her home. Councilwoman Girouard questioned if we can handle this issue with this condemnation or does it need to be handled separately? Mayor Bourque stated we never handled this in a condemnation. We would need Gerald's opinion on this. Gerald stated the tree needs to be handled under the nuisance ordinance. Ben stated the tree is dangerous because it is touching the back of Ms. Jacquet's house. The tree touches both properties. Ms. Cynthia Jacquet stated the home needs to be demolished, but something also needs to be done with the vegetation. Half of the tree is growing on her house. The neighbors are the ones who are cutting the grass. Nobody has seen about this property for 30 years. Ms. Jacquet stated it is a nuisance.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS: District 2 - David Bonin
 District 4 - Heather Girouard
 District 5 - David Forbes
 District 6 - Kody Allen
 At Large - Jeff Delahoussaye

ABSENT: District 1 - Angel Racca
 District 3 - Jesse Regan

3.4 Condemnation of 209 Gustave Street
 Howard and Agnes Broussard Estate
 Abigail Land Holdings, LLC
 Motion by Councilman Delahoussaye
 Second by Councilman Allen

Discussion: Ben stated all the windows on this home are broken. The grass has not been cut in awhile and there has been some drug activity going on at this home. Ben stated he reached out to some of the family members, and some want to sell it, and some do not want to. It would take more than 50% of the value of the home to get it renovated.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS: District 2 - David Bonin
 District 4 - Heather Girouard
 District 5 - David Forbes
 District 6 - Kody Allen
 At Large - Jeff Delahoussaye

ABSENT: District 1 - Angel Racca
 District 3 - Jesse Regan

3.5 Condemnation of 103 Loul Street (Purple Building facing Main Street)

Estate of Luvenia Lee

Motion by Councilman Delahoussaye

Second by Councilwoman Girouard

Discussion: Ben stated there is a lot of rot on the exterior of the building. There is no power to the building and the grass is also overgrown. The building inspector has stated in his report this building is to the point of no return. This is a commercial building so all new plumbing and electrical would have to be put in. The renovation costs would be more than what the building is worth. Melanie Piper, granddaughter of Luvenia Lee addressed the council. She is asking for more time to get their finances in order, to see what they are going to do with the building. Councilman Delahoussaye, questioned how long does she need, 30 days? Councilman Bonin questioned if they have plans on renovating the building? Melanie stated she would need a 30 extension and they do not know what they want to do with the building. Councilwoman Girouard stated she doesn't mind giving her 30 days, but she needs to come back to the council with a reasonable plan.

Therefore, Councilwoman Girouard moved and

Councilman Allen second to give the family a 30 extension and then they will come back to the council with a plan.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS: District 2 - David Bonin
 District 4 - Heather Girouard
 District 5 - David Forbes
 District 6 - Kody Allen
 At Large - Jeff Delahoussaye
ABSENT: District 1 - Angel Racca
 District 3 - Jesse Regan

3.6 Condemnation of 105 Alley I (yellow building facing Alley I): David Rabon

Motion by Councilman Delahoussaye

Second by Councilman Allen

Discussion: Ben stated this home has been boarded up for many years. The roof is rotten on the home. More than 50 % of the home's value would need to be renovated. Tina stated the homeowner has been notified by certified mail about this meeting but is not present.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS: District 2 - David Bonin
 District 4 - Heather Girouard
 District 5 - David Forbes
 District 6 - Kody Allen
 At Large - Jeff Delahoussaye

ABSENT: District 1 - Angel Racca
District 3 - Jesse Regan

4. RESOLUTIONS

4.1 Resolution #755-23

Accepting and awarding the responsive low bid for \$408,380.00 from Glenn Lege Construction for the FY 2023-2024 Street Overlay Project #2023053

Motion by Councilman Bonin

Second by Councilman Delahoussaye

Discussion: Mayor Bourque stated the streets in this project are Moulin Road, Stanton Street and Rosemont Drive.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS: District 2 - David Bonin
District 4 - Heather Girouard
District 5 - David Forbes
District 6 - Kody Allen
At Large - Jeff Delahoussaye

ABSENT: District 1 - Angel Racca
District 3 - Jesse Regan

5. ORDINANCES FOR ADOPTION

5.1 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 and Bercegeay Road

Motion by Councilman Bonin

Second by Councilman Allen

Discussion: No public comments.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS: District 2 - David Bonin
District 4 - Heather Girouard
District 5 - David Forbes
District 6 - Kody Allen
At Large - Jeff Delahoussaye

ABSENT: District 1 - Angel Racca
District 3 - Jesse Regan

5.2 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 Allen

Second by Councilwoman Girouard

Discussion: No public comments

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS: District 2 - David Bonin
 District 4 - Heather Girouard
 District 5 - David Forbes
 District 6 - Kody Allen
 At Large - Jeff Delahoussaye
ABSENT: District 1 - Angel Racca
 District 3 - Jesse Regan

Mayor Bourque stated he is very thankful for the 2 overlay projects the council has approved this year. One is happening now and the other one will be starting soon. Mel stated it should be starting in a couple of months.

Mayor Bourque also stated that National Night Out will be held on October 3rd at St. Julien Sports Complex. Everyone is invited to attend.

A Community Walk will be done in Cypress Meadows on September 27th from 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm. Everyone is also invited to attend.

Also, he would like to thank the council for the approval of property purchase for the new Police, Fire and Public Works Buildings. This is a monumental step for the city and congratulations go out to everyone that was involved in this.

6. ADJOURNMENT

6.1 Adjourn Meeting



MAYOR RAY BOURQUE



TINA EMERT, CITY CLERK