

**MINUTES OF THE  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF BROUSSARD, LA  
ON Tuesday, October 10, 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 David Forbes (District 5), 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), Tony Ashy (Assistant Police Chief), Walter Comeaux (City Engineer), Daniel Hutchinson (City Engineer), Chief Bryan Champagne (Fire Chief)

**1. OPENING**

- 1.1 Pledge of Allegiance
- 1.2 Invocation done by Father Casey Dugas with Sacred Heart Church of Broussard.

**2. MINUTES**

2.1 Acceptance of Minutes of the September 26, 2023, Regular Meeting

Motion by Councilman Delahoussaye

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

### 3. OTHER BUSINESS

#### 3.1 Blake Migues

Candidate for Louisiana Senate District 22

Mr. Migues stated he has been a State Representative for 8 ½ years. He has a wife and 3 kids. He works and lives in Senate District 22. His wife is a former teacher at Katherine Drexel. For the past 8 years as a State Representative, he has fought for the second amendment rights, teachers in the education system, protecting innocent life and the homeowners' insurance crisis, just to name a few. In 2018 when the funds were allocated for the BP Oil Funds they were invested in mega projects. Five years later we can see those dollars being spent on Highway 90 improvements. He is looking forward to seeing Highway 90 repaired through Iberia and St. Mary Parish and Lafayette Parish. He currently has an open-door policy and will continue to have that. He can also be easily reached by phone. He continued to say that last year 48,000 residents left the state of Louisiana. People are currently not moving to Louisiana, because the job opportunities are not good here and that is one thing that he will work on. He promised not to forget where he came from. He asked for the council's support, and he promised to help improve the city if he is elected.

#### 3.2 Jeremy Hidalgo

Candidate for School Board District 9

Mr. Hidalgo stated since the re-apportionment, Broussard is no longer in District 9; therefore, the residents of Broussard cannot vote for him. Mr. Hidalgo gave a re-cap of what was funded and completed when he served on the school board from 2015-2020; the completion of the new Southside High School, the funding of the planned Billeaud Elementary School as well as the expansion of Milton Elementary School. He knows the city has boundaries, but there are no boundaries when everyone plays a key role of working together and shopping together for the betterment of our community.

#### 3.3 Charles Sharma

Health Fair

Mr. Sharma stated that himself and members of the Mardi Gras crew he belongs to will provide a Health Fair to provide options for the citizens of Broussard. There will be vendors there that will provide free health screenings. They are working with the Broussard Fire and Police Department and Acadian Ambulance along with other local businesses for support. It will be held Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 am – 11:30 am at PSC Supply on Albertson Parkway.

#### 3.4 Jason Richard and Angela Richard

Condemnation of 400 East Third Street  
Motion by Councilwoman Racca

Second by Councilman Bonin

Discussion: Attorney Reed stated the property owner was not properly served notification for the last meeting. On Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> a 10-day notice for this hearing with a certificate of mailing was sent to the property owner. The time frame given to them will be 30-day notice before the property is demolished, which will fall in November. Councilwoman Racca stated that she has tried to reach out to the family members, but she has had no luck.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

3.5 Leonard Lezita Kelly Leonard

Condemnation of 223 St. Des Porres

Motion by Councilman Delahoussaye

Second by Councilwoman Girouard

Discussion: Attorney Reed stated this property was also not properly served for the notification for the last meeting. They were also sent on Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> a 10-day notice for this hearing with a certificate of mailing. The time frame is also giving them a 30-day notice before the property is demolished, which will also fall in November.

Councilwoman Girouard recommended we proceed with this demolition.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS:            District 1 -    Angel Racca  
                     District 2 -    David Bonin  
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                     District 6 -    Kody Allen  
                     At Large -    Jeff Delahoussaye

3.6 Estate of Luvenia Lee

Condemnation of 103 Loul Street

(Purple building with Yellow Trim Facing Main Street)

Motion by Councilman Delahoussaye

Second by Councilman Regan

Discussion: Ms. Leah Flugence, great granddaughter to Ms. Lee approached the council.

She stated it is the families' decision not to demolish the building. They would like to renovate it and restore it. She has a lot of vision to do something for the youth in this community. This will help to get the youths off the streets. Her first phase is to renovate the property and clean it up. She is asking for the council to allow her till January 1<sup>st</sup> to get this done. Mayor Bourque stated she will have to hire a general contractor to do the renovations. Ms. Flugence stated she knows a lot needs to be done, but she knows there is money available out there from non-profits and for grants. She has hope and she feels they can benefit a lot from this. Councilwoman Girouard questioned what steps have they done so far? Ms. Flugence stated she is in the process of finding someone to renovate the property. This is a decision they made, and they will have teams come together to do this. Councilwoman Girouard questioned Ben if the bones are good enough on the building? Ben stated he never inspected the inside of the building. He stated they would probably be better off tearing down the building and starting from scratch. Councilwoman Girouard questioned when was the last time someone went inside? Ms. Flugence stated she doesn't know. Councilwoman Girouard stated they may have a heartache when they find out it is not feasible to repair the building. Ms. Flugence stated she is pretty sure it can be.

Councilman Regan moved to amend the original motion and give them 2 weeks to allow an inspection to be done of the inside of the building by our inspector and have him report back to us at the October 24<sup>th</sup> meeting and allow them 30 days to figure out if it will be feasible to renovate the property, which will give them till Nov. 28<sup>th</sup>. Second by Councilman Delahoussaye and he also added the property needs to be cleaned up, grass mowed and trees down within those two weeks.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS:            District 1 -    Angel Racca  
                     District 2 -    David Bonin  
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                     At Large -    Jeff Delahoussaye

### 3.7 Gery Marcombe

Condemnation of 411 Avenue D

Motion by Councilman Delahoussaye

Second by Councilwoman Racca

Discussion: Mayor Bourque stated 2 weeks ago we requested an internal inspection of the property be done. Ben stated the site has been cleaned and accessed. They are in the process of doing the remodeling. Ben stated they will be required to get electrical and re-model permits. He stated it is possible that it can be remodeled. Councilwoman Racca questioned Ms. Marcombe if she is willing to do the renovations in a sufficient

amount of time? Ms. Marcombe stated, yes. Councilwoman Racca questioned Ms. Marcombe how long does she need? She stated 90 days to complete it will be sufficient. Mayor Bourque suggested if the request is granted, Ben can report back to the council about this once he does an inspection. Councilman Regan amended the original motion granting Ms. Marcombe a total of 90 days to renovate the property and having an inspection done in 30 days once all permits are purchase, with a progress report given to the council on November 14<sup>th</sup>. The motion was second by Councilwoman Racca. The condemnation will come back to the council on January 9, 2024, if all the renovations have not been done.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS:            District 1 -     Angel Racca  
                     District 2 -     David Bonin  
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                     At Large -     Jeff Delahoussaye

### 3.8 Jamie Abshire

Broussard Sports Complex Year to Date Report

Jamie gave thanks to his Sports Manager Dwayne Derise and Brian Guilbeau who is Director of Maintenance and also his other staff who could not be here tonight. They have been having a lot of special activities at the park. Out of 52 weeks, they have had 35 special event weekends. From January through July, they have had 18 baseball tournaments and 6 softball tournaments including lacrosse, soccer, and football. By the end of the year, we should end up with 39 special events. We have had 234,407 attendees at the Broussard Sports Complex so far this year, with 16,486 hotel rooms occupied and a direct impact of 7.7 million in Sales Tax revenues drawn from activities at the park. The events compared to 2022 are up this year.

## 4. ORDINANCES FOR ADOPTION

### 4.1 Ordinance #23-781

An ordinance amending the 2023-2024 Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures to increase the authorized expenditures for the West Fairfield Road Extension Project

Motion by Councilman Regan

Second by Councilman Forbes

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

4.2 Ordinance #23-782

An ordinance amending the 2023-2024 Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures to increase the authorized expenditures for the Main Street Improvements – Phase 3-A Project

Motion by Councilman Bonin

Second by Councilman Forbes

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  
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District 6 - Kody Allen  
At Large - Jeff Delahoussaye

4.3 Ordinance #23-783

An ordinance amending the 2023-2024 Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures to increase the authorized expenditures for the West Fairfield Road and North Larriviere Intersection Project

Motion by Councilman Forbes

Second by Councilman Regan

Discussion: Walter stated they are done wrapping up the engineering for this to go to bid. Daniel will start the advertising in a month or two. Walter stated it might not be till after the beginning of the year, because it is not good to bid around the holidays.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS: District 1 - Angel Racca  
District 2 - David Bonin  
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District 5 - David Forbes  
District 6 - Kody Allen  
At Large - Jeff Delahoussay

## 5. RESOLUTIONS

### 5.1 Resolution #764-23

A resolution approving and awarding the low bid for Main Street improvements Phase 3A

Motion by Councilman Bonin

Second by Councilwoman Racca

Discussion: No public comments.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS:            District 1 -    Angel Racca  
                     District 2 -    David Bonin  
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                     At Large -    Jeff Delahoussaye

### 5.2 Resolution #765-23

A resolution approving and awarding the low bid for the West Fairfield Road Extension Project

Mayor Bourque stated before the council moves to adopt this, he is requesting the council table this item, due to the fact there is a paperwork problem that needs to be resolved and it will be done before the next meeting.

Motion by Councilman Delahoussaye

Second by Councilwoman Girouard to table adopting this resolution until the next meeting.

Discussion: No public comments.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS:            District 1 -    Angel Racca  
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                     At Large -    Jeff Delahoussaye

5.3 Resolution #766-23

A resolution re-appointing Toby Armentor and William Reed to serve as the College Board Members for a term of 3 years and appointing Joseph Prudhome to the Civil Service Board as the Police Department Board Member for a term of 1 year all effective October 28, 2023.

Motion by Councilman Regan

Second by Councilman Bonin

Discussion: Chief Olivier stated Office Currie Rankin took another position and has decided to resign his position on the Civil Service Board. Joseph Prudhome was elected by his peers unanimously for that seat. This is a volunteer board that does not get paid.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS:            District 1 -     Angel Racca  
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Mayor Bourque stated before the meeting is dismissed, he would like to bring up another matter. Last week the city purchased the property for the Public Service Complex to house the Police, Fire and Maintenance Department. Because the other party is from out of state, documents were not signed at the same time by both parties. Therefore, he had a proclamation drawn up for himself and the council to sign recognizing the purchase of these properties and how we got here. Mayor Bourque read the proclamation aloud as follows:

As the City of Broussard continues to grow, there comes a need to expand city department facilities to meet the increasing demand for public services, which allows police officers, firefighters, and city workers to perform their duties efficiently and effectively.

I, along with the honorable members of the Broussard City Council, and with support from the Broussard Police Department and its chiefs, the Broussard Fire Department and its chiefs, and the Broussard Public Works Department and its director, have jointly and unanimously, in the good faith interest of the city, purchased properties within city limits for a Broussard public service complex.

The 11.6-acre complex will be comprised of four buildings located at 5801 Highway 90 East, 102 Bercegeay Road, 106 Bercegeay Road, and 110 Bercegeay Road. The properties have a combined total of 35,100 square feet of office space and a combined total of 35,000 square feet of warehouse space.



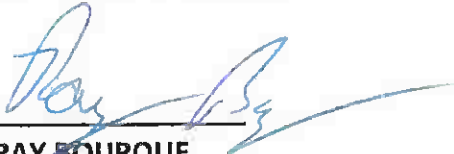
The buildings and properties will serve as the Broussard Police Station, Broussard Fire Department Administration Building and Fire Station #2, Broussard Public Works Department Operational Headquarters, and Broussard City Staff Training Facility.

In recognition of the city's progress through the purchase, I hereby proclaim the acquisition of the properties for a Broussard public service complex FINAL on this 10<sup>th</sup> day of October 2023.

Signed by: Mayor Ray Bourque, Councilwoman Angel Racca,  
Councilman David Bonin, Councilman Jesse Regan,  
Councilwoman Heather Girouard, Councilman David Forbes  
And Councilman Jeff Delahoussaye

## 6. ADJOURNMENT

### 6.1 Adjourn Meeting



**MAYOR RAY BOURQUE**



**TINA EMERT, CITY CLERK**