

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF BROUSSARD, LA
On Tuesday, February 20, 2024
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), Councilman Jeff Delahoussaye (At Large)

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

1. OPENING

- 1.1 Pledge of Allegiance
- 1.2 Invocation done by Pastor Moak with First Baptist Church

2. MINUTES

- 2.1 Acceptance of Minutes of the January 23, 2024, Regular Meeting

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

3. OTHER BUSINESS

3.1 Recognition of St. Cecilia Blue Jays Football

Mayor Bourque read aloud a proclamation recognizing the St. Cecilia Bluejays Football Team and declaring February 20, 2024 "St. Cecilia Catholic School Bluejays 7th and 8th Grade Football Team Day." The football team are the State Football Champs in Division II.

4. RESOLUTIONS

4.1 Resolution #776-24

A resolution accepting the donation of a 1984 Ford Firetruck from Robert Rhyne, Jr.
Motion by Councilman Delahoussaye
Second by Councilwoman Girouard

Discussion: Chief Champagne stated that Mr. Bobby Rhyne is donating this truck to the city. The truck will be used for school functions, a parade truck and fire prevention. This truck is operable to use for these functions only.

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 Resolution #777-24

A resolution approving the change of speed limit on Albertson Parkway from US Highway 90 to Highway 89 (Youngsville Highway) to 40 mph

Motion by Councilman Delahoussaye
Second by Councilman Allen

Discussion: Mr. Bob Schmidt, our traffic engineer has given his recommendation of the speed limit. Because the roadway had varying speeds on it, he is recommending changing the speed limit to 40 mph for the entire length of the roadway from Highway 90 to Highway 89. Walter stated over the years the road interconnected with other roads going from 50 mph to 35 mph. 50 mph is too high for a roadway in town. This is a good comprise.

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

4.3 Resolution #778-24

A resolution accepting the donation of a 1994 Pierce Pumper Firetruck from Lafayette-City Parish Consolidated Government

Motion by Councilman Allen

Second by Councilman Forbes

Discussion: Chief Champagne explained LCG is donating this truck to the city. They will be able to utilize this truck in the place of the other truck they had to send off for repairs. That truck has been in the shop since October 4th. They are currently working with legal to cover the repair cost under the warranty of the truck. Councilman Delahoussaye questioned, what will they do with the donated truck after their truck comes out the shop? Chief Champagne stated they will use it for a static display, where it doesn't cost much on insurance for them. It will be an extra truck when one of the other trucks goes out of service. The truck that is in the shop is 12 years old and has a 15-year warranty on it. Councilman Delahoussaye questioned if this is the same company from where the ladder truck was purchased? Chief Champagne replied no it is not.

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

5. ORDINANCE FOR INTRODUCTION

5.1 Ordinance #24-790

An ordinance amending the 2023/2024 Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for \$1,848,000.00 for the Eola Road Lift Station and Force Main Upgrade

Motion by Councilman Bonin

Second by Councilwoman Racca

Discussion: Daniel stated this is the lift station near the Post Office. We have been having problems with this lift station. We do have a DEQ Loan that will partially fund it in the amount of \$876,000. The city will have to pay \$972,000 towards the remaining balance of the project. They will be running a 12-inch force main to the old sewage

pond on Garber Road. We do also have problems with Broussard Street, but the Eola Road Lift Station is giving more problems, which need to be addressed first. Mayor Bourque stated he did get with Mel and Shane Zagar and they said the Eola Road Lift Station is the most critical one in need of repairs. The total project cost is \$1,848,000.00. The budget amendment will probably carry over until next year. Councilman Delahoussaye questioned if this was not in Capital Outlay? Mayor Bourque stated it was not, only the one going to the Old Spanish Trail Industrial Park was. Walter stated this lift station has a long force main. After this one is done, then we will do the Broussard Street lift station. Mayor Bourque stated after we use this remaining money, the window will be closed for the use of this money. Councilman Delahoussaye questioned how long before we start construction? Walter stated about 90 days, because the materials are not readily available.

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

5.2 Ordinance 24-792

An ordinance amending the 2023/2024 Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for \$546,000.00 for renovations of the Police Department Facility on 5801 Highway 90 East

Motion by Councilman Delahoussaye

Second by Councilwoman Girouard

Discussion: Brian Boudreaux the architect for the project addressed the council. Boudreaux explained these renovations will be for a new court room, added space for the clerks and a new space for evidence security. Mayor Bourque stated this item is for construction, and next month we will bring in another ordinance for \$200,000 for the IT cameras and security gate access control. Councilman Delahoussaye questioned if we didn't put money aside for this? Mayor Bourque stated this was part of our original target for expenses.

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

5.3 Ordinance #24-791

An ordinance approving the requested changes to the existing contract with Cliff Guidry for the Villas at Albertsons

Motion by Councilman Regan

Second by Councilman Delahoussaye

Discussion: Mr. Guidry approached the council and asked for amendments to be made to the agreement. He stated according to the agreement the total cost of the turn lane is on him. He is asking the council to allow him to only pay 10% of the cost. He has done a traffic study and there is only a 4-5% increase in traffic on that roadway. In reference to the Certificate of Occupancy he would like to be granted the Certificate of Occupancy for the first 50 units that are done. He has people waiting to move into them on April 1st. He did pay \$125,000 for the betterment of the sewer. He knows the water will have to go somewhere, because the sewer isn't ready, but he will gladly put in a small plant and get it pumped out. His traffic engineer Dean Tekell did the traffic study. He doesn't mind paying \$50,000 for the turn lane, because he has already paid \$125,000 for the betterment of the sewer. Councilman Regan stated he did a study of all the neighboring subdivisions on Albertson Parkway all the way to Highway 89. Most of these subdivisions have only one entrance for going in and out of the subdivision, with more homes which means more occupancy. There are no problems in these areas, therefore he doesn't feel there will be a problem in Mr. Guidry's area.

Councilman Regan moved to only holding Mr. Guidry 10% liable for the turn lane/ The 10% will be held in an escrow or by a bank letter of credit until December 31,2025. The city will have until that date to determine if a turn lane is needed. Mayor Bourque stated Mr. Guidry is a good builder and developer, but he signed the agreement with the city and also to do the traffic study. Bob Schmidt stated Dean recommended only a turn lane, whereas he doesn't think that will be long enough. Mayor Bourque stated we waited till Mr. Guidry made the payment for the sewer before the contractor was able to start the sewer project. Walter stated it could not be done till it was funded, plus there was 30 days of bidding and 60 days to prepare the documents. The contractor has mobilized. Mayor Bourque stated when they met, he stated 50 units was his first target. He can pump to the lift station now, but that will be at his own expense. Pumping further than 100 feet will be a problem. Walter stated in order to do that he will have to obtain an LDH Permit. Councilwoman Racca questioned how long will it take for the sewer project for him to be done? Councilman Delahoussaye stated it has been 5 months already and he thinks someone is dragging their feet. Councilman Regan stated he is comfortable releasing the units completed contingent on the sewer being temporarily pumped out until the development is full connected to the city. Gerald stated he needs clarification on the motion Councilman Regan made if the turn lane will be from St. Des Porres to Morgan Street or if it will be shorter. It will be based on the

city engineer's recommendation. Councilman Forbes amended the motion instead of 10% of the roadway being paid by the developer to 50%. Councilman Bonin stated in a year from now the cost for that turn lane will go up. There was no second to Councilman Forbes motion. Councilman Bonin moved for put the city only to be liable for only 30% of the turn land the developer 70%. There was no second to Councilman Bonin's motion. Councilwoman Racca stated she is confused why we are amending; we can stay with the original agreement. Councilwoman Racca motioned to give Mr. Guidry till December 31, 2025, to see if a turn lane is needed, as the only change to the agreement. There was no second to Councilwoman Racca's motion. Mr. Guidry stated he has 80 people working there right now. They have no problems getting in or out. There have been no accidents in that area. Councilwoman Girouard stated she doesn't believe 5% change in traffic warrants putting in a turn lane.

Therefore, the motion and votes were as follows:

Motion by Councilman Regan

Second by Councilwoman Girouard

to only holding Mr. Guidry 10% liable for the turn lane. The 10% will be held in an escrow or by a bank letter of credit until December 31,2025. The city will have until that date to determine if a turn lane is needed.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS: District 3 - Jesse Regan
 District 4 - Heather Girouard
 District 5 - David Forbes
 District 6 - Kody Allen
 At Large - Jeff Delahoussaye

NAYS: District 1 - Angel Racca
 District 2 - David Bonin

Moved by Councilman Delahoussaye

Second by Councilwoman Girouard

to allow Mr. Guidry to get a Certificate of Occupancy for the units that are completed and allow Mr. Guidry to put in the line to temporarily pump the units out till the sewer project is completed.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

NAYS: District 2 - David Bonin

6. ORDINANCES FOR ADOPTION

6.1 Ordinance #24-789

An ordinance amending the 2023/2024 Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for the purchase of police equipment in the amount of \$40,000 for the Police Building at 5801 Highway 90 East

Motion by Councilman Delahoussaye

Second by Councilman Bonin

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

7. ADJOURNMENT

7.1 Adjourn Meeting



MAYOR RAY BOURQUE



TINA EMERT, CITY CLERK