

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF BROUSSARD, LA
On Tuesday, March 12, 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 done by the Cub Scouts Pack 455, Arrow of Light Den
- 1.2 Invocation done by Deacon David Tilley with First Baptist Church

2. MINUTES

- 2.1 Acceptance of Minutes of the February 20, 2024, Regular Meeting
Motion by Councilman Delahoussaye
Second by Councilwoman Girouard
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 Approval of the January 2024 financial report

Motion by Councilman Regan

Second by Councilman Forbes

Discussion: Mayor Bourque stated the collections in January were 11% above budget, which brings us to 4% above budget for this year. This puts our year to date budget 5% above 2023 and 21% above 2022.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

4. OTHER BUSINESS

4.1 Francis Touchet

Superintendent of Lafayette Parish School System

Mr. Touchet introduced himself to the council. His goal is to make sure relationships are built with area municipalities. He stated everyone will have full access to himself and his team. He has been in the school system for 33 years. He has 3 recommendations as superintendent: 1) safety of our kids making sure they go to school and home safely 2) good community development and 3) addressing the attendance problem with the kids and adults.

4.2 Proclamation declaring March 19, 2024, as "Main Street Day" at the Capitol

Millicent stated that Tuesday, March 19, 2024, is "Main Street Day" at the Capitol.

Mayor Bourque read aloud the proclamation that Millicent will deliver to the Capitol on March 19th.

4.3 Condemnation of 308 East Monroe Street

Motion by Councilwoman Girouard

Second by Councilman Delahoussaye

Discussion: Ben stated the home was inspected in April 2023. At that time the owner was notified about the condition of the home. Ben stated he met with the owner then and she stated she was going to remodel the home. Ben showed the council pictures of the home in April 2023 and pictures that were taken of the home recently. The only thing that moved was a pile of trash. Our building code inspector is recommending the

home be brought up to code or demolished. He did notify the property owner to come to the meeting tonight, but they have not shown up. Councilwoman Girouard stated it has been over a year and the owner has not made any progress, therefore she is suggesting we moved forward on this.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

4.4 Report on traffic signal construction project at the intersection of North Larrivierre and Fairfield

Daniel stated they have received the plans back for the project. They will start advertising next week and hope to open bids on April 17th. There will be some electrical that may take up to 90 days to do. Securing of the right of way has been finalized. Walter also stated at this time the supply chain is not bad. Councilman Bonin questioned if we could upgrade the intersection in the future? Walter stated this intersection, warrants flashing lights and down line field signalization. After lengthy discussion we have decided to go with the full signalization. They are looking into the future for a north bound turn lane on Larriviere Road. It has been designed for this. Total estimated cost is \$374,000. Just the flashers would have been \$150,000; but we would not have been able to use them again once they would have been taken down. Councilman Regan questioned what will it look like? Daniel stated it will be similar to the diagram they were given. Walter stated getting the right of way was the delay.

5. RESOLUTIONS

5.1 Resolution #779-24

A resolution approving the MWPP (Municipal Water Pollution Prevention)
Environmental

Audit Report for 2023

Motion by Councilman Delahoussaye

Second by Councilman Bonin

Discussion: Mel stated we adopt this report each year.

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 Resolution #780-24

A resolution approving the substantial completion of the 2022/2023 Street Overlay Project

Motion by Councilwoman Racca

Second by Councilman Allen

Discussion: Daniel stated this was the first overlay project. The work was completed awhile back. They were waiting for the striping which delayed the project.

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 Resolution #781-24

A resolution approving the Act of Dedication of Servitudes in Whispering Meadows Phase III

Motion by Councilman Forbes

Second by Councilman Delahoussaye

Discussion: Mel stated everything has been addressed in this development.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

6. ORDINANCE FOR INTRODUCTION

6.1 Ordinance #24-793

An ordinance amending the 2023/2024 Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for \$217,000.00 for equipment at the Police Department Facility on 5801 Highway 90 East

Motion by Councilman Delahoussaye

Second by Councilwoman Girouard

Discussion: Mayor Bourque stated the council was provided a list of the equipment in their packets. Chief Olivier can answer any questions anyone may have.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

7. ORDINANCES FOR ADOPTION

7.1 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 Delahoussaye

Second by Councilwoman Racca

Discussion: This will be another force main going to the sewer pond. Walter stated it was identified by Mel's staff as needing to be upgraded. All the city sewer flows to this lift station. This will give the city 2 force mains going to the sewer pond.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

7.2 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 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

7.3 Ordinance #24-791

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

Motion by Councilman Delahoussaye

Second by Councilwoman Girouard

Discussion: Mr. deLaunay stated after studying the portion of the agreement dealing with the traffic, the outcome needs to consist of state regulations. This would entail the ruling on transfer of things. He would like to get more information on this and get an opinion from the Attorney General that the agreement does not violate State law, including laws prohibit gratuitous alienation of property by public entities.

He is not suggesting delaying the approval of the occupancy and the sewer, the only issue is regarding the traffic. He does not want the city to violate applicable laws.

Councilman Delahoussaye questioned how long will it take to get an opinion? Gerald stated he can ask for an expedited decision. He stated we can act on the ordinance and approve it contingent of the attorney general's opinion on the traffic situation.

Councilman Regan stated he would like to move on the ordinance now and contingent on the Attorney General's opinion for the traffic. Councilman Bonin stated he would like to wait and fix it all at one time. Councilwoman Girouard stated she would like to go with the suggestion of Councilman Regan. Mayor Bourque stated basically Mr. Guidry will get the occupancy and sewer now if it is approved.

Moved by Councilman Regan

Second by Councilman Allen

To amend the ordinance approving the occupancy request and the sewer request now and approve the traffic situation as written in the agreement contingent on the attorney general's opinion.

Discussion: Mr. George Breaux questioned what is the largest use of public money on a private development? He stated currently at St. Etienne and Albertson Parkway it is a short turn. It is hard to turn from Albertson Parkway onto St. Etienne. (should be St. Des Porres, because St. Etienne does not intersect with Albertson Parkway). He stated if the

city approves this, then it will only open up future use of public money on private development. Will this development bring any money back into the city?

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

NAY: District 5 - David Forbes

Moved by Councilman Delahoussaye

Second by Councilman Regan

To approve the contract be amended to allow issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy prior to final completion and approval of the development by the City, to reduce the Developer's liability relating to modifications to Albertson's Parkway, and to allow immediate connection to the City's sewer and water infrastructure. Also accepting the agreement to the provision of the Amended Agreement modifying Section 5-Traffic of the original agreement relating to the cost of traffic infrastructure improvements (turn lane), is conditioned upon obtaining an opinion from the Louisiana Attorney General that said agreement does not violate State law, including laws prohibit gratuitous alienation of property by public entities.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

NAY: District 1 - Angel Racca
 District 2 - David Bonin
 District 5 - David Forbes

8. ADJOURNMENT

8.1 Adjourn Meeting



MAYOR RAY BOURQUE



TINA EMERT, CITY CLERK