

**MINUTES OF THE  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF BROUSSARD, LA  
ON Tuesday, July 9, 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 Kody Allen (District 6),
- 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), Millicent Norbert (Director of Tourism), Mark Rigsby (Communications Coordinator), Mel Bertrand (City Manager/Director of Public Works), Gerald deLaunay (City Attorney), Chief Vance Olivier (Police Chief), Tony Ashy (Assistant Police Chief), Bryan Champagne (Fire Chief), Justin Denais (Deputy Fire Chief), Dennis Mouton (Deputy Fire Chief), Walter Comeaux (City Engineer),
- Absent:** Councilman David Forbes (District 5), Councilman Jeff Delahoussaye (At Large), Jamison Abshire (Director of Parks and Recreation), Ben Theriot (Code Enforcement Officer)

**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 June 26, 2024, Regular Meeting and June 26, 2024, Public Hearing
  - 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

**ABSENT:**

District 5 - David Forbes  
At Large - Jeff Delahoussaye

**3. FINANCIAL REPORT**

**3.1 Approval of May 2024 Financial Report**

Motion by Councilman Bonin

Second by Councilwoman Girouard

Discussion: Mayor Bourque stated the Sales Taxes are 3% higher than they were in 2023. They are e 16% higher than 2022 and 2% ahead of budget.

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

**4. OTHER BUSINESS**

**4.1 Mr. Josh Borill.....re: Update on Capital Outlay Reimbursement**

Mr. Borill gave a brief background on himself. He works for State Capital Solutions. He has worked 20 years at the Capital, and he has been a lobbyist for 12 years. He stated the City of Broussard is very well represented in Baton Rouge. He explained to the council, the handout he gave them about the Capital Outlay for 2024 for the city. Priority 1 and Priority 5 have been signed by the governor. Priority 1 if it is bond approved, then we will get the cash money. Priority 5 is trailing money that they need to try and get moved up. Lake Talon Road is not in Priority 1, but we will receive \$250,000 because it is in HB782—Cash. Mr. Borill stated he spoke to Representative Barras, and he informed him that he will meet with the Bond Commission in September for approval of Priority 1.

Mayor Bourque stated at one time, weren't there so many projects piled up. Mr. Borill stated yes, they want to try and clean up what they had a few years ago. Two years ago, they started on this. Last year they overhauled HB782 and then John Bell Edwards made some cuts. The bond commission has to protect our projects. Good leadership will push to get it approved with the bonding commission. Should the funds become available the Treasury Department will reach out to us.

#### 4.2 PIAL Rating Report for the City

Mayor Bourque stated that Deputy Chief Denais will do a presentation on this tonight for us. We have received our PIAL rating. Chief Champagne stated he is so happy to share these results with the council tonight. Everyone worked together to get us down to a Class 2. Deputy Chief Denais went over the presentation which included the Operations/2023 Review/PIAL Rating/Questions and Answers as follows:

- Operations: All staffing is city funded. They operate like a full-time department with 48 part-time employees with the exception of 1 full-time secretary/inspector. They also have 42 total volunteer members, of which 20 of those volunteers are also part-time.
- Operations/Apparatus: They have 4 engines, 1 ladder truck, 1 rescue truck, 1 tanker truck and 1 brush truck and specialty apparatus', utvs, a boat and squads.
- Types of Response: They respond to medical, fire, rescue, hazmat and public service calls. In 2023 they had 975 calls, of which 103 were fires, 497 were medicals/wrecks, 56 were hazmat, 199 good intent and 120 false alarms. The majority of those calls, 706, were in the city limits. The majority of these calls were during the day, when the part-timers were working.
- Response Time: The average response time is 7 minutes. For the city in 2023, the average response time was 3.45 seconds.
- Incident Response Heat Map: According the calls, the majority of calls are in the south area of the city, near Station 3 where that area is growing.
- Rating: The point system for engine companies, we have increased from a 4.5 to a 5.88 out of 6. The deployment analysis for response we have increased from 7.58 to 8.10 out of 10.00. The company personnel we have increased from 6.17 to 6.35 out of 10, plus we have 24- hour coverage. Training we have increased from 6.24 to 8.82 out of 9.00. Every employee in the department is Firefighter I Certified. Facility Training has increased from 4.25 to 31.67 out of 35 points. The water supply system has increased from 17.68 to 22.71 out of 30. Walter stated they have funded over 4.5 million in water system improvements. You have to have a good water system along with firemen to accomplish this. It goes hand in hand. The fire hydrants increase has gone from a 6.2 to 7.0 out of 7.0, plus we also increased with .50 bonus points.

Mel stated we just recently approved the geo modeling to be put on the water wells and the water tower rehab. Walter added that we went through a drought, and we did have problems with LUS at the time, but it made us look at being self-reliant. LUS has approved their system. Our system is in better shape and we are growing, but we need storage capacity. Mel stated the main thing is we are advancing in our system toward technology. We need to keep growing

and prioritize what we need to do. Mayor Bourque stated we need to stay ahead of the growth. Mayor Bourque stated that we can say that we are the only other city that is a Class 2, besides the City of Lafayette.

In fire prevention we increased from a 0 to 1.87 out of 2.2. They did implement a Fire Prevention Bureau. Ultimately, they have 3 inspectors annually. In public fire safety education, they have increased from .97 to 1.10 out of 2.00. They have added a community outreach coordinator.

Summary of Results out of 106.00 points, we scored 84.01. A Class 2 is reached at 80.00 points. Our Class 2 Rating will go into effective for the City of Brossard on August 1, 2024.

Deputy Chief Denais thanked everyone for their support on this. Without the funding and the help from the Mayor and Council, the Administration and Mel and his department, this would not be possible. He is looking forward to the next rating in 5 years.

Mayor Bourque acknowledged the Fire department for always appearing at Community Outreach Events. They are always supporting our community. He personally thanked them for that.

## 5. ADJOURNMENT

### 5.1 Adjourn Meeting



**MAYOR RAY BOURQUE**



**TINA EMERT, CITY CLERK**