

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF BROUSSARD, LA HELD ON
TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2020 AT 6:00 P.M.
HELD REMOTELY FROM VARIOUS LOCATIONS**

Present: Mayor Ray Bourque, Councilwoman Angel Racca (District 1), Councilman David Bonin (District 2), Councilman Jesse Regan (District 3), Councilman Michael Rabon (District 4), Councilman Kenny Higginbotham (District 5), Councilman Ray Gary (District 6) and Councilman Jeff Delahoussaye (At Large)

Staff: Tina Emert (City Clerk), Karen Fontenot (CFO), Don Landry (City Attorney), Mel Bertrand (City Manager), Annie Perret (Executive Assistant), Holly Cope-Lynn (Director of Tourism and Communications), Daniel Hutchinson (City Engineer), Brannon Decou (Chief of Police), Bryan Champagne (Fire Chief, Justin Denais (Deputy Fire Chief)) and Jeremy Hidalgo (COO)

1. OPENING

- 1.1 Pledge of Allegiance
- 1.2 Invocation
- 1.3 Announcement of agenda items to be voted on

2. MINUTES

2.1 Acceptance of minutes of the April 28, 2020 regular meeting
Motion by Councilwoman Racca
Second by Councilman Higginbotham
To accept the minutes of the April 28, 2020 Regular Meeting.
Final Resolution: Motion Approved
YEAS: Angel Racca
David Bonin
Jesse Regan
Michael Rabon
Kenny Higginbotham
Ray Gary
Jeff Delahoussaye

3. RESOLUTIONS

3.1 Adopt Resolution #625-20

Moved by Councilman Regan

Second by Councilman Gary

To adopt Resolution #625-20, a resolution ratifying the organization of the Broussard Economic Development Corporation and to provide for the appointment of Robin LeBlanc, CPA to fill the unexpired term of Jerry Lynn, Division "B" expiring on December 31, 2022.

Discussion: Don stated there are certain members on the Economic Development Board that need to be replaced every so often. Mayor Bourque stated that Robin LeBlanc comes highly recommended. She has a business in Broussard and is very active in town.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS: Angel Racca
 David Bonin
 Jesse Regan
 Michael Rabon
 Kenny Higginbotham
 Ray Gary
 Jeff Delahoussaye

3.2 Adopt Resolution #629-20

Moved by Councilman Gary

Second by Councilman Delahoussaye

To adopt Resolution #629-20, a resolution giving preliminary approval to the issuance of not to exceed Fourteen Million Dollars (\$14,000,000) of Sales Tax Revenue Refunding Bonds of the City of Broussard, State of Louisiana, for the purpose of refinancing outstanding debt of the Issuer; providing certain terms of said bonds; making application to the State Bond Commission for approval of said bonds; hiring professionals in connection therewith; and providing for other matter in connection therewith.

Discussion: Karen stated this will refinance one of the rec bonds. It will for 21 years. Jeff questioned how much will the savings be? Karen stated \$50,000-\$55,000 each year for a about a 1 million savings over 21 years.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS: Angel Racca
 David Bonin
 Jesse Regan
 Michael Rabon
 Kenny Higginbotham

Ray Gary
Jeff Delahoussaye

3.3 Adopt Resolution #631-20

Moved by Councilman Gary

Second by Councilman Delahoussaye

To adopt Resolution #631-20, a resolution approving the Huval Sewer Extension as being substantially complete.

Discussion: Mark Savoie gave a brief history on the project. The bids on this project were opened in March 2019. It did take quite an amount of time to complete. The pump station is currently operational, and the businesses have connected to it. We started using it on 4-2-2020. The final inspection was done on 4-9-2020 and everything was good with one exception, the final dress up. Councilman Gary questioned when will the final dress up be done, because he is receiving slack from the business owners? Mark stated we are waiting till we get a good rain. Councilman Gary questioned what took the project so long? Mark stated there were a multitude of things. Councilman Higginbotham stated there is still work in front of the businesses to be done. Mark stated accepting the substantially completion would start the 45-lien period and after the punch list is done, then the contractor would get the retainage payment. Don stated if this resolution does not pass tonight, it will have to be brought back up again. The Mayor questioned Mark what is his recommendation? Mark stated the city is using the sewer lines and pump stations. Mayor Bourque stated he is the engineer of record and he put this on the agenda, so is it his recommendation to approve the lift station as being substantially complete? Mark stated he is making the recommendation, but if it is important to the council, they can do as they wish. Councilwoman Racca questioned how much longer will it be before it is completed? Mark stated they just need to do some more dressing up. Councilwoman Racca requested he keep the council informed of the final progress. Councilman Higginbotham questioned if it will be sodded or seeded? Marks stated it was not in the contract. Mel stated the project is currently substantially complete. It really only needs one more dress up.

Final Resolution: Motion Failed

YEAS: Angel Racca
Jeff Delahoussaye

NAYS: David Bonin
Jesse Regan
Michael Rabon
Kenny Higginbotham
Ray Gary

4. ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION

4.1 Introduce Ordinance #20-643

Moved by Councilman Delahoussaye

Second by Councilman Regan

To introduce Ordinance #20-643 amending the 2019/2020 Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for Capital Outlay in the amount of \$750,000 to purchase the property at 117 Nova Drive, Lot #14 Highway 90 Postal Subdivision.

Discussion: Don stated this will enable us to keep moving on the process of purchasing the property. We are waiting on the buy/sell agreement. Councilman Regan stated himself, Councilman Delahoussaye and the Mayor contacted a real estate agent after weighing out how much renovations would cost to each of their buildings that is much needed. They did find this parcel on Main Street. It connects to Main Street and Highway 90 and it will also connect to the future Downtown Development. He feels this will be a good purchase for the future Fire and Police needs. Councilman Bonin questioned the CFO if we are making this purchase with cash, because he concerned with the current pandemic? Karen Fontenot stated we will do a cash payment on the land. There is no issue with that. Chief Decou thanked the Mayor and Council for addressing this issue. He feels this will be a good building for them to grown into.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS: Angel Racca
David Bonin
Jesse Regan
Michael Rabon
Kenny Higginbotham
Ray Gary
Jeff Delahoussaye

4.2 Introduce Ordinance #20-644

Moved by Councilman Delahoussaye

Second by Councilman Rabon

To introduce Ordinance #20-644, amending the Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2020.

Discussion: Karen stated this is to introduce the current budget as amended.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS: Angel Racca
David Bonin
Jesse Regan
Michael Rabon
Kenny Higginbotham

Ray Gary
Jeff Delahoussaye

4.3 Introduce Ordinance #20-645

Moved by Councilman Bonin

Second by Councilman Gary

To introduce Ordinance #20-645, An ordinance proposing an Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021.

Discussion: Karen stated this will be to start the process of the proposed 2020/2021 Budget. Councilman Gary stated himself, Councilman Delahoussaye and Councilwoman Racca will start working on the budget. He stated that due to COVID-19, he hopes everyone can get everything they want, but he does not see that happening, but they will do their best.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS: Angel Racca
David Bonin
Jesse Regan
Michael Rabon
Kenny Higginbotham
Ray Gary
Jeff Delahoussaye

5. ORDINANCES FOR ADOPTION

5.1 Adopt Ordinance #20-638

Moved by Councilwoman Racca

No second

To adopt ordinance #20-638, of the City Council, amending the 2019/2020 Operating Budget for Street Department Capital Outlay for the purchase of a vac truck.

Discussion: Councilman Delahoussaye stated he wanted to table this matter in order to get more info about potential financing. Karen stated we were originally looking at financing it. We can do 3, 5 or 7 years. The lowest interest rate 2 months ago was 3.05, but it may be lower now. She would recommend doing the 3 year financing, but the we can also postpone this. Mayor Bourque stated this council could take more time on this if needed. The council agreed to table this matter and re-look at it at budget time.

Final Resolution: There was no second to the motion, so the motion failed.

5.2 Adopt Ordinance #20-640

Moved by Councilman Gary

Second by Councilman Regan

To adopt Ordinance #20-640, an ordinance of the City Council, amending Chapter 26, Fire Prevention and Protection, Article II, Sec. 26-54, Sec. 26-55, and Sec. 26-58 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Broussard, LA.

Discussion: Deputy Chief Denais stated this will allow for the Fire Chief's position to be filled in the event that something happens to him.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS: Angel Racca
 David Bonin
 Jesse Regan
 Michael Rabon
 Kenny Higginbotham
 Ray Gary
 Jeff Delahoussaye

5.3 Adopt Ordinance #20-641

Moved by Councilwoman Racca

Second by Councilman Rabon

To adopt Ordinance #20-641, an ordinance of the City Council, amending the 2019/2020 Operating Budget of the Broussard Fire Department for the purchase of two (2) fire trucks, totaling one-million, ninety-nine thousand six-hundred two dollars and 28/100 (\$1,099,602.28) and the purchase of fifty-three (53) air packs and spare bottles, totaling three-hundred fifty thousand dollars and no/100 (\$350,000.00), for a total budget amendment of one-million, four-hundred forty-nine thousand six-hundred two dollars and 20/100 (\$1,449,602.20).

Discussion: DC Denais stated this will allow for the purchase of 2 fire truck and 53 air packs. This replace a 1996 and 2001 Fire Truck. Councilman Higginbotham questioned if these trucks will be donated to another department? DC Denais stated no; the trade in value has already been figured into the purchase price. Councilman Bonin questioned the CFO if we will finance these trucks? Karen stated yes. Councilwoman Racca thanked Chief Champagne, Deputy Chief Denais and Assistant Chief Mouton for the countless hours they spent gathering the information on the purchase of these truck which will help in keeping the city safe.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS: Angel Racca
 David Bonin
 Jesse Regan
 Michael Rabon

Kenny Higginbotham
Ray Gary
Jeff Delahoussaye

5.4 Adopt Ordinance #20-642

Moved by Councilwoman Racca

Second by Councilman Regan

To adopt Ordinance #20-642, an ordinance of the City Council, amend the Zoning Ordinance to add the following maps: Map E-8, Portions of West Main Street (LA Hwy 182); Map F-9, Portions of East Main Street (LA Hwy 182), East Second Street, South Eola Road, Sugar Drive, Albertsons Parkway, Padre Drive and Ridgeview Drive and Map G-9, Portions of Albertsons Parkway, South Girouard Road, Celebrity Drive, East Main Street (LA Hwy 182) and Highway 90 East.

Discussion: Don stated this was brought up at the last meeting and there was no opposition on this zoning.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS: Angel Racca
 David Bonin
 Jesse Regan
 Michael Rabon
 Kenny Higginbotham
 Ray Gary
 Jeff Delahoussaye

6. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourn Meeting

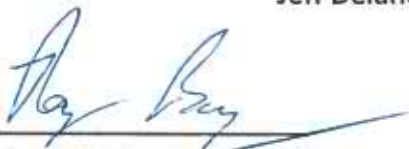
Motion by Councilman Delahoussaye

Second by Councilman Higginbotham

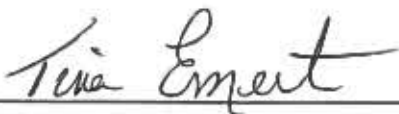
To adjourn the meeting

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS: Angel Racca
 David Bonin
 Jesse Regan
 Michael Rabon
 Kenny Higginbotham
 Ray Gary
 Jeff Delahoussaye



Mayor Ray Bourque



Tina Emert, City Clerk