

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF BROUSSARD, LA HELD ON
TUESDAY, May 25, 2021 AT 6:00 P.M.**

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) and Councilman Ray Gary (District 6), Councilman Jeff Delahoussaye (At Large)

Staff: Tina Emert (City Clerk), Callie Laviolette (Executive Assistant), Karen Fontenot (CFO), Gerald de Launay (City Attorney), Holly Cope-Lynn (Director of Tourism and Communications), Andrea Fontenot (Community & Business Development Coordinator), Mel Bertrand (City Manager), Walter Comeaux V (City Engineer), Capt. Zac Gerard (Police Dept), Rhonda Williams (Administrative Secretary Police) and Chief Bryan Champagne (Fire Chief)

1. OPENING

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance

1.2 Invocation

2. MINUTES

2.1 Acceptance of Minutes of the May 11, 2021 Special Meeting and the May 11, 2021 Regular Meeting

Motion by Councilman Bonin

Second by Councilman Delahoussaye

Discussion: No public comments.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

3. KAREN FONTENOT, FINANCIAL OFFICER

3.1 Approval of the April 2021 Financial Report

Motion by Councilman Gary

Second by Councilman Rabon

Discussion: Karen stated the monthly sales tax deposit is running 58% ahead and right now we are 28% above budget for the year. The last time sales tax revenues were the highest was in 2018. Karen stated she is looking at the bond refinancing again, because the market is better, and we will save approximately \$927,000 over the life of the bond.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

4. OTHER BUSINESS

4.1 Mayor-President Josh Guillory

Introduction to Council and Residents of Broussard

Mayor-President stated he is here just to re-connect with the council and the residents since COVID. He appreciates the leadership of everyone. He feels we have been working good together for the beautification and the park project and drainage. Guillory stated he will be meeting once a month with the Mayors of the Parish. One big issue everyone faces is drainage. Working together we can control what happens in the parish. Mayor Bourque also thanked Mayor-President Guillory for help with the extension of our water contract, which has saved us million of dollars, which also gives us plenty of time to see if we want to do something different in the future. Guillory stated he always picks up the phone if needed. We are not that big; we just have a heavy population.

4.2 Duplantis Design Group

Request for a zoning amendment for the property located at 800 Block of East Fairfield Road for the St. Etienne Development, LLC from Light Industrial to Single Family Residential

Mayor Bourque stated this item need to be changed to an introductory ordinance, because any permanent zoning change must be done as an ordinance. Moved by Councilman Delahoussaye

Second by Councilman Gary

To Amend the agenda changing this zoning amendment to an introductory ordinance.

Discussion: No public comments.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

Introduce Ordinance #21--696

An ordinance amending the zoning ordinance by adding the following maps to change the zoning from Light Industrial to Single Family Residential

Map F-12 Portion of Marteau Road and East Fairfield Drive

Map F-13 Portions of Marteau Road and East Fairfield Drive

Moved by Councilman Gary

Second by Councilman Delahoussaye

Discussion: Steve Hebert with the Billeaud Companies stated this is only changing a single tract from Light Industrial to Single Family Residential. This will be a residential development near Billeaud Elementary. Walter stated this is the right thing to do.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

4.3 Councilman David Bonin

Drainage

Councilman Bonin questioned the other council members with all of the rainfall in the past 2 weeks, if they have had any drainage issues in their district?

Councilman Rabon stated it came very close for 1 home in Ridgeview Subdivision and there was another one on East Broussard. Mayor Bourque stated that Ben spent some time with Councilman Rabon looking at this. Councilman

Delahoussaye questioned if there are any plans for the ditch behind his home?

Walter stated they will begin cleaning from the silt plugs and high points and work on getting the under brush cleaned out. Councilman Delahoussaye stated in 2016 there was 2 feet of water there and with this last rain there was 1 ½. Walter stated in the area of the Janin Farms, there is still areas under water in the swamp. This is something they will be doing a little at a time. In some areas they cannot start doing it now. Councilman Higginbotham questioned about the new construction in Cypress Meadows with all of the dirt on the roadway; how is this affecting the drainage? Walter stated with the new construction there is silt going in the drainage, but they are maintaining it. The areas with curb and gutter are being monitored. Councilman Higginbotham questioned if we run cameras thru the drains before we accept a subdivision? Mel stated yes. Ben stated the developers and home builders have been very cooperative. Councilman Bonin stated he is on the drainage committee and he feels we need to keep working on drainage. He is asking the council not to short-change the budget and keep it going. He is asking to keep financing whatever Mel and Daniel put together.

5. ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION

5.1 Introduce Ordinance #21-692

An ordinance amending the Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021

Moved by Councilman Delahoussaye

Second by Councilman Rabon

Discussion: Karen stated this ordinance that will amend the current budget. All of the figures will be put together for the Finance Meetings starting on June 7th.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

5.2 Introduce Ordinance #21-693

An ordinance proposing an Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022

Moved by Councilman Rabon

Second by Councilman Higginbotham

Discussion: Karen stated this ordinance for the proposed budget which will be handled the same way as the amended budget.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

5.3 Introduce Ordinance #21-694

An ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance by adding the following maps:

H12 – Portions of Old Spanish Trail (LA Highway 182)

H13 – Portions of Old Spanish Trail (LA Hwy 182) and Lake Talon Road

G14 – Portions of Louis Records Road and Lake Talon Road

G15 – Portions of Louis Records Road and Smede Highway (LA Hwy 182)

E3 -- Garber Road Area

E4 -- Garber Road Area

Moved by Councilman Gary

Second by Councilwoman Racca

Discussion: Gerald stated the only map that was changed for the Zoning Meeting was Map H-12, which has been re-done.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

5.4 Introduce Ordinance #21-695

An ordinance amending the 2020/2021 Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for \$329,370.00 for the Fairfield Marteau Road Intersection Project at Martial Billeaud Elementary

Moved by Councilman Bonin

Second by Councilwoman Racca

Discussion: Daniel stated this will be a right turn lane onto Marteau Road onto Fairfield. This will help the traffic coming out of the school. It will not inter with the school driveway. Mayor Bourque stated the target is to put this in a timeline to do

before the re-opening of school. Councilman Bonin questioned what about a turn lane on Fairfield to turn left on Marteau? Daniel stated that we would have to get with the traffic engineer because of the site. Councilman Higginbotham questioned, what about the other end of Marteau going onto Highway 92? Walter stated from Fairfield to the school there is not a lot of area to stack school traffic. If we want to go any further down, we have to do a traffic count. The right of way on Marteau is very constrained. He thinks eventually we will need to do something on Fairfield. Councilman Bonin stated we can do it now and see how it work.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

6 ORDINANCES FOR ADOPTION

6.1.1 Ordinance #21-691

An ordinance amending the 2020/2021 Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for \$300,000 to purchase the property located at 408 West Main Street

Motion by Councilman Bonin

Second by Councilman Gary

Discussion: Mr. John Harold Broussard addressed the council on behalf of the Broussard Economic Development Committee. Mr. Broussard read a letter in support of purchasing the property. This building is a significant landmark representing Broussard's history. The vote of the Broussard Economic Development Committee was unanimous to support this purchase.

Mr. Jerry Lynn with the Broussard Chamber of Commerce addressed the council. Mr. Lynn stated the Chamber is in full support of this purchase of the property and they will offer their assistance with any projects for the future.

Mr. Steven Hebert with the Billeaud Companies addressed the council. Mr. Hebert stated that on behalf of the Billeaud Companies, they support the purchase of this property.

Councilman Ray Gary addressed the council. He stated growing up he always had his eye on this beautiful home with the circle driveway. He feels this home is definitely a staple of this community. He feels it would best be served as a Welcome Center or a Gathering Place for the citizens. It would definitely be

beautiful at Christmas time all lit up and for Mardi Gras. He feels we should purchase this home because we should preserve this piece of history. Councilman Bonin stated he would be proud to have his name on this paperwork to buy this home. We need to preserve this home.

Mayor Bourque stated this home is on the National Registry. It is the oldest home in the city. This was the home of Valsin Broussard, the founding father of Broussard who also donate the land where we see Sacred Heart Catholic Church, St. Ceceilia School, and the former Railroad Depot. Valuing our culture is very important. We do have a rich and economic culture. We are spending a lot of money in downtown Broussard, this is good for Broussard. This home has been in the family for 150 years and he is proud that we are given the opportunity to purchase it.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Resolution #668-21

A resolution approving and awarding the low bid from Cade Frey Construction, LLC in the amount of \$382,485.00 for the 12" waterline on South Bernard from Highway 182 to Albertson Parkway

Motion by Councilwoman Racca

Second by Councilman Rabon

Discussion: Daniel stated this water line will run behind the Patriot Car Wash at 182 to Albertson Parkway. The line will be looped. Councilman Bonin questioned if the line will be in before the road is completed? Daniel stated they will try and get it done.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

7.2 Resolution #669-21

A resolution accepting the transfer of Lake Talon Road in the Highway 182 Industrial Park

Moved by Councilman Gary

Second by Councilman Regan

Discussion: Gerald stated this is to get the rest of the road titled to the City in Phase II. Councilman Bonin stated he thought this was already accepted. Mayor Bourque stated it was in two parts and the second part was not. This will able us to clean up the title of the property. Councilman Bonin questioned if the City paid for the road?

Mayor Bourque stated yes. Councilman Higginbotham questioned if the road meets the specs? Mel stated yes. Walter stated this is only a paperwork error and this does happen sometimes.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

8. ADJOURNMENT

- 8.1 Adjourn the meeting.
Mayor Bourque adjourned the meeting.



MAYOR RAY BOURQUE



TINA EMERT, CITY CLERK