

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF BROUSSARD, LA HELD ON
TUESDAY, February 22, 2022, 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), Councilman Ray Gary (District 6) and Councilman Jeff Delahoussaye (At Large)
- Staff:** Callie Laviolette (Chief Administrative Officer), Tina Emert (City Clerk/Director of Administrative Services), Karen Fontenot (Chief Financial Officer), Holly Cope-Lynn (Chief Communications Officer), Mel Bertrand (City Manager/Director of Public Works), Walter Comeaux (City Engineer), Chief Vance Olivier (Police Chief), Chief Bryan Champagne (Fire Chief), Ben Theriot (Code Enforcement Officer), Gerald de Launay (City Attorney) and Tony Ashy (Assistant Police Chief)
- Absent:** Daniel Hutchinson (City Engineer)

1. OPENING

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance

1.2 Invocation

Councilman Gary asked everyone to keep Ms. Lovenia Lee in their prayers. She passed away last week.

2. MINUTES

2.1 Acceptance of Minutes of the February 8, 2022, Regular Meeting

Motion by Councilman Gary

Second by Councilman Regan

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 January 2022 Financial Reports

Motion by Councilwoman Racca

Second by Councilman Rabon

Discussion: Karen explained right now some departments are running ahead of budget. Police is 2%, Fire is 4%, Streets is 4%, Water is 7% and Sewer is 4%. Police and Fire is because of fuel cost and the other 3 departments are mainly because of material costs. Sales Tax Revenues are 16% ahead of budget overall, which is helping with the increases we are facing in project costs.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

4. OTHER BUSINESS

4.1 Authorizing the Mayor to execute the contract with the Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office for Litter Removal Services, effective March 1, 2022, and ending February 28, 2023

Motion by Councilman Gary

Second by Councilman Higginbotham

Discussion: Matt Stuller addressed the council. Matt stated he has a dual interest in Broussard as being a citizen and working with Parish Proud. He thanked everyone for all of their help with the litter situation in the city. A plan is being implemented to dial 311 if someone sees anyone littering. They will in turn send a letter to the license plate holder of the vehicle. As of last Tuesday, LCG has increased the fine cost for littering. Stuller stated he supports this contract, and he is requesting the council to stand united and vote for the control of litter. Mayor Bourque thanked Mr. Stuller for the work he is doing for a cleaner parish. Our people are strained in the summer months with litter and grass cutting. The Sheriff crews will be a big help. Mel stated this will definitely help us.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS: Angel Racca
David Bonin
Jesse Regan

Michael Rabon
Kenny Higginbotham
Ray Gary
Jeff Delahoussaye

4.2 Ms. Sharon Norbert

Condemnation of property located at 200 St. Des Porres

Motion by Councilman Rabon

Second by Councilman Gary

Discussion: Mr. Rodney Richard stated he inspected the interior along with the exterior of the building. All of the roofing materials are rotten and over spanned. The roof is caving in. The walls are also rotten and need to be replaced. The building also needs to be re-wired along with the plumbing that needs to be re-done. If the building repair costs exceeds 50%, then the building needs to be brought up to code. Also, the a/c needs to be completely replaced along with the grease trap. Mr. Richard stated they would like to tear the building down to the cinder blocks and re-build it according to the current building code. Mr. Richard agreed to let them keep the cinder block structure up after they demolish the interior, but he feels they must come back with plans on what they want to do with the inside structure. Councilman Gary questioned; how long will it take them to come back with the plans? Ms. Norbert addressed the council. She stated she is demolishing the interior and she will bring the electrical and plumbing up to code. The contractor who came look at it, could not prepare the plans for the future use of the building, until the building is completely gutted out. Ms. Norbert stated she would like to use the site as a future health site for COVID testing or health screenings. She stated she does have money and investors. Mr. Richard stated he would like a timeline plan to be set up. Mayor Bourque also informed Ms. Norbert to be cautious on what she plans on re-opening there. The building has been closed so long, the codes had changed, and the amount of parking may not be sufficient enough for what she wants to do. She will need to look into the parking regulations. Gerald stated we can move forward to condemn the property and if leaving the cinder blocks up is satisfactory, she can then come back with her plans to see if it is approved. Mr. Richard stated he feels the council should put a time limit on draftsman. It has already been 45 days since this was brought to the council. Councilman Rabon questioned Ms. Norbert if 90 days will be long enough? She stated yes that will be fine.

The council agreed to give Ms. Norbert 60 days to complete the demolition down to the cinder blocks and 30 days to get a complete set of plans drawn up and given back to the city for approval.

Motion by Councilman Gary

Second by Councilman Higginbotham

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

4.3 Councilman David Bonin

Discussion on creating an "Old Town Special Overlay District"

Councilman Bonin stated the city has gotten to be a large city. We have implemented some restrictions and the necessity for zoning. We now need to look at the old part of town. We need to prepare an ordinance dealing with old part of town, addressing drainage and traffic and construction when people want to build or remodel in that area. Councilman Higginbotham questioned what area is David talking about? David stated in his district and Angels' district and everything south of the railroad tracks. We cannot let this continue. Mayor Bourque stated there are a lot of ordinances dealing with the development restrictions in subdivisions, but they do not apply to the older part of town. Walter stated we are trying to make this user friendly, which includes no machine shops next to homes. The size of the roads also have to be taken into account. Councilman Higginbotham stated he feels we should require or limit square footage. Walter stated you cannot put a number on it. They will also have to provide for ample parking.

5. RESOLUTIONS

5.1 Resolution #698-22

A resolution declaring certain items listed on Exhibit "A" and currently in the possession of the City of Broussard as salvage and no longer useful to the City of Broussard and authorizing the disposition of said items by the administration of the City of Broussard

Motion by Councilman Regan

Second by Councilman Bonin

Discussion: Chief Olivier stated these vehicles will be replaced with the new vehicles they ordered. Mel stated one of the items is a tractor from his department which needs about \$ 10,000 work and 2 printers from City Hall.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS: Angel Racca
David Bonin
Jesse Regan

Michael Rabon
Kenny Higginbotham
Ray Gary
Jeff Delahoussaye

5.2 Resolution #699-22

A resolution adopting the St. Martin Parish Mitigation Plan

Motion by Councilwoman Racca

Second by Councilman Gary

Discussion: Mel stated this mitigation has to be done yearly.

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 Ordinance #22-722

An ordinance amending the zoning ordinance to add Map E-11 changing the zoning of 425 Heart De Farm Road from Single Family Residential to Multi-Family Residential

Motion by Councilman Gary

Second by Councilman Higginbotham

Discussion: No public comments.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS: Angel Racca

David Bonin

Michael Rabon

Kenny Higginbotham

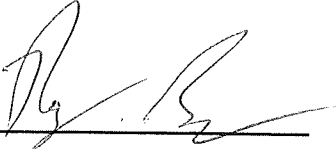
Ray Gary

Jeff Delahoussaye

Abstain: Jesse Regan

7. ADJOURNMENT

7.1 Adjourn Meeting



MAYOR RAY BOURQUE



TINA EMERT, CITY CLERK