

**MINUTES OF THE  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF BROUSSARD, LA HELD ON  
TUESDAY, August 23, 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 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), Allison Dickerson (Director of Communications), Millicent Norbert (Director of Tourism), Mel Bertrand (City Manager/Director of Public Works), Walter Comeaux (City Engineer), Daniel Hutchinson (City Engineer), Ben Theriot (Code Enforcement Officer), Oscar Reed (City Attorney), Chief Vance Olivier (Police Chief), Chief Bryan Champagne (Fire Chief)

**Absent:** Tony Ashy (Assistant Police Chief) and Councilman Michael Rabon (District 4)

**1. OPENING**

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance

1.2 Invocation

**2. MINUTES**

2.1 Acceptance of Minutes of the August 9, 2022, Regular Meeting

Motion by Councilman Gary

Second by Councilman Higginbotham

Discussion: No public comments.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS:           District 1 - Angel Racca  
                  District 2 - David Bonin  
                  District 3 - Jesse Regan  
                  District 5 - Kenny Higginbotham  
                  District 6 - Ray Gary  
                  At Large - Jeff Delahoussaye

AT LARGE:     District 4 - Michael Rabon

### **3. KAREN FONTENOT, FINANCIAL OFFICIER**

#### **3.1 Approval of July 2022 Financial Report**

Motion by Councilwoman Racca

Second by Councilman Regan

Discussion: Karen stated these are the July financials. The sales tax revenues is listed as \$0, because the sales tax revenues get recorded in the fiscal year 2022. The collections are 9% above last year and 32% above 2020. She stated in reference to the departmental expenses, July is lower because a lot of the expenses were for the month of June, so it is reduced due to the timing.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS:            District 1 - Angel Racca  
                     District 2 - David Bonin  
                     District 3 - Jesse Regan  
                     District 5 - Kenny Higginbotham  
                     District 6 - Ray Gary  
                     At Large - Jeff Delahoussaye  
ABSENT:        District 4 - Michael Rabon

### **4. OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **4.1 District 49 State Representative Blake Miguez/Legislative Report**

Representative Miguez gave a brief background about himself. He is from Loreauville. He is a businessman, a father and a World Champion competitive pistol shooter. He is Chairman of the House Republican Legislative Delegation, and he is also on the Appropriation Committee. In the past 4 Legislative Sessions they have addressed Re-Districting and also the Court Battle involving the Congressional Districts. In the regular sessions, first time ever they ended up with a budget surplus of 4.1 billion dollars extra revenue, which is helping with different projects. The biggest is for the 500,000 million allocated for the bridge and for Highway 90/I-49 which 203,000 million is allocated for. Right now, they have 170,000 million in the rainy-day savings and 500 million in the unemployment trust fund. There have been a lot of laws passed in congress: ROE vs Wade was overturned and military veterans in good standing are now allowed to conceal carry without approval. They do have a strong republican delegation.

#### **4.2 Coulee Fortune Report**

Walter did a presentation on the Coulee Fortune Project. Walter stated prior to the flood of 2016, Mayor Bourque was a Councilman at that time, and he formed Broussard's Council Drainage Committee. At that time Cypress Bayou Lateral was

the biggest drainage project done. Since 2016 we have done 3 million dollars of drainage improvements. Right now, we currently have 3 fulltime drainage crews. Ridgeview Outfall was completed last year, which was a huge drainage project. Coulee Fortune will be the biggest drainage project ever the city has undertaken. This project outfalls into the swamp at the Janin Farms. The biggest problem is to remove all the debris. It will be 21,500 linear feet and 4 miles of channel from the swamp to Morgan Street. It is within 1,110 residences that will be impacted, 200 businesses, 2,470 acres and 3.9 square miles and 10 crossings. They will start cleaning the channel and the areas to access it. It will model the entirety of the channel. Walter added that he doesn't ever remember the Janin Farms Channel ever being cleaned as long as he has lived here, which is 60 years. The Main Street structure downstream will be done in the Phase 3 Main Street project. Mel stated until recently the road was in the DOTD jurisdiction; it has since then been turned over to us. At the St. Des Porres bridge we will probably need a core permit for that area that also needs to be changed. The biggest part is cleaning out the vegetation. We allocated \$60,000 in the budget to rent equipment for this project. It should take approximately 6-8 months to get to Highway 90. We are setting the project up for the next steps. Mayor Bourque stated he feels the best way to handle this is for the city do this. The drainage problems we had in 2016 are because of lack of maintenance. Today Broussard is committed to improving drainage and we remain committed to improving drainage. Mayor Bourque stated he appreciates the councils supporting this project. Walter stated that maintenance need to be kept up. Mel stated we need to keep up with the maintenance each year, because that is what works well.

## 5. ADJOURNMENT

### 5.1 Adjourn Meeting

  
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MAYOR RAY BOURQUE

  
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TINA EMERT, CITY CLERK