

**MINUTES OF THE  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF BROUSSARD, LA HELD ON  
TUESDAY, September 27, 2022, AT 6:00 P.M.**

- Present:** Mayor Ray Bourque, 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), Allison Dickerson (Director of Communications), Millicent Norbert (Director of Tourism), Mel Bertrand (City Manager/Director of Public Works), Walter Comeaux (City Engineer), Ben Theriot (Code Enforcement Officer), Gerald deLaunay (City Attorney), Chief Vance Olivier (Police Chief), Tony Ashy (Assistant Police Chief) and Bryan Champagne (Fire Chief)
- Absent:** Councilwoman Angel Racca (District 1)

**1. OPENING**

- 1.1 Pledge of Allegiance
- 1.2 Invocation

**2. MINUTES**

- 2.1 Acceptance of Minutes of the September 13, 2022, Regular Meeting
  - Motion by Councilman Gary
  - Second by Councilman Higginbotham
  - Discussion: No public comments
  - Final Resolution: Motion Approved
  - YEAS: District 2 - David Bonin
  - District 3 - Jesse Regan
  - District 4 - Michael Rabon
  - District 5 - Kenny Higginbotham
  - District 6 - Ray Gary
  - At Large - Jeff Delahoussaye
  - ABSENT: District 1 - Angel Racca

### 3. KAREN FONTENOT, FINANCIAL OFFICER

#### 3.1 Approval of August 2022 Financial Report

Motion by Councilman Rabon

Second by Councilman Delahoussaye

Discussion: Karen stated we are 4% above the budget goal for Sales Tax Revenues. Every department is running under budget in expenditures which is good. She is monitoring the revenues and expenditures closely to make sure we stay in line in case of a recession.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS:                District 2 - David Bonin  
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                          At Large - Jeff Delahoussaye

ABSENT:            District 1 - Angel Racca

### 4. OTHER BUSINESS

#### 4.1 Mr. Blake Romero w/Legendary Contractors

Requesting a front setback variance for Lot 15, 113 Abercombie Way in Langlinais Estates from 20 feet to 15 feet

Motion by Councilman Regan

Second by Councilman Gary

Discussion: Councilman Higginbotham questioned if this would be a fire safety issue and would it compromise our utilities and drainage? Mel stated it will cause no harm to our utilities or the drainage Chief Champagne also advised there would be no problem. Walter stated the 20-foot setback was designed for vehicles parking in the driveway so they do not stick out. There would be no issue with the setback variance.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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ABSENT:            District 1 - Angel Racca

#### 4.2 Opioid Awareness: One Pill Can Kill

Stacy Conrad, Opioid Prevention Outreach Coordinator w/LDHH

Dr. Tina Stefanski, Region 4 Medical Director w/LDHH

Keith Talamo, Chief Investigator with Lafayette Parish Corner's Office

Dr. Odinet, Corner for Lafayette Parish

Dr. Stefanski addressed the council. She explained the concern for the overdose deaths in this community from fentanyl. Dr. Odinet also addressed the council. He stated everyone in this room has been affected by the death of someone who overdosed on fentanyl. In 2015 in Lafayette Parish there were 32 overdoses from fentanyl. In 2021 there were 137 overdoses and 101 were from fentanyl. As of July 2022, there were 181 overdoses. A small grain of fentanyl use cause a traumatic sometime deadly effect on someone. It is affecting everyone out there, not only drug addicts. Pills are currently being laced with fentanyl. Some actual look like candy like sweet tarts. Mrs. Conrad stated they are trying to develop a program with UL that would allow their students to go out and teach kids about fentanyl. The DEA recently seized enough fentanyl from the cartel to kill everyone. 80 – 90% of the illegal drugs are laced with fentanyl. People can purchase fentanyl online and have it delivered to their home or business via USPS. People are currently paying for it with bit coins. She explained how Narcan reverses the overdose effects of fentanyl. She has distributed to the police and fire department several doses of Narcan. Administering Narcan to someone who you believe has overdosed will not affect them. Mrs. Conrad went on to explain the use of Kratom. It is a plant that is grown in Thailand and Asia. In low doses it has a stimulant effect and in high doses it has a sedative effect. It is used in energy power boosters that are sold at gas stations even here in town. Dr. Stefanski stated the issue with fentanyl, it is 50 -100 times more powerful than any other drug. It is now being used in counterfeit pills. All of chain pharmacies carry the Narcan and insurances do cover it. Dr. Odinet stated for approximately 10 years we fought the effects of overdoses from Lortab, and this is no longer the case. The overdoses are not being caused by prescription medication anymore. Councilman Higginbotham requested feedback from the law enforcement about this in our area. Chief Olivier stated he has met with the Sheriff about this, and it is a really bad problem. Dr. Odinet stated he really doesn't think we can keep up with it. We are losing the battle now. Most of the drugs are coming from Texas. Mayor Bourque thanked all of them for all of the information they have provided tonight. It definitely has been an eye-opening experience.

#### 4.3 Tom Holleman w/TriCom Real Estate and Laura Carlisle w/Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell and Berkowitz

Variances request for cell tower on Albertson Parkway

- a) Variance allowing the tower to be built within 1,000 feet of a residential subdivision
- b) Variance allowing the tower to be built on a 65' x 75' lot instead of 100' x 100' lot per the ordinance

Motion by Councilman Bonin

Second by Councilman Higginbotham

Discussion: Tom Holleman addressed the council. He stated he was listed by AT&T to locate another site in this area for a cell tower location. They cannot keep up with the demand for services, so a tower is desperately needed in this area. They were first looking further north, and they had to move the location further south. The first variance requires them to be 1,000 feet from a house. That would mean they would have to put the tower outside of town or at least ¼ mile out of town. They had a meeting with the Mayor and their proposal was for a 195-foot pole on a commercial property, but now the tower will be a 150' max pine tree. They have gotten an approval from the planning commission for both aspects. Lauren Carlisle the attorney representing AT&T stated the proposed location is 636 Albertson Parkway. This tower will serve that area better. We are long gone from the days of analog service. They cannot serve in the capacity that is needed if they are not closer to in town area. Mr. Wendell Clark, an attorney for SBA addressed the council. He stated he previously went to the Planning Commission meeting and opposed this. They currently have an existing tower .8 miles from this site. Their tower has the capacity to reach this area. SBA can provide the same coverage and utilities , but AT&T has denied their offer to use this tower. Their tower is located at 137 East Robicheaux Road. Ms. Carlisle stated SBA is a tower company. They make their money by companies locating on their tower. Mr. Greenhouse with AT&T Governmental Affairs stated AT&T wanted to co-locate first. They just put up 2 cell towers in Carencro and Kinder. The simple fact is they want to invest in Broussard. After the opening of the PPE Plant, they knew Broussard was growing and it was his job to find the best location for a tower. Mayor Bourque questioned if he is saying the clarity would be better with this site? Mr. Greenhouse stated yes because the coverage needs to be shifted. Mr. Clark stated he wanted to clarify that SBA does not want to monopolize the market. They work with AT&T throughout the United States. This has nothing to do with that and this is not a last-minute offer. Mr. Greenhouse stated the SBA will not be sufficed. His engineers have confirmed that. There may be no room above the tower for them. Ms. Carlisle stated this will improve the coverage and the tower will relieve the capacity. She understands SBA has to protect their business, but this was a last-minute thing on SBA's part. This has been years in the making for AT&T, so for them to come in last minute and protest it and say they will match the rent is absurd. AT&T

and anyone else can get on an SBA tower, but SBA will regulate the rates that will be passed on to the consumer. The council approved the variance request.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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                     At Large - Jeff Delahoussaye  
ABSENT:        District 1 - Angel Racca

**5. ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION**

5.1 Ordinance #22-742

An ordinance annexing certain properties located in Section 30, Township 10 South Range 5 East, Lafayette Parish, Louisiana being known as the Gaspard Bertrand Bernard Annexation in Voting District 3

Motion by Councilman Regan

Second by Councilman Gary

Discussion: Gerald stated all the paperwork is in order to proceed with the introduction of this annexation.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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ABSENT:        District 1 - Angel Racca

**6. ORDINANCE TO BE ADOPTED**

6.1 Ordinance #22-741

An ordinance amending the FY 2022/2023 Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for Capital Outlay for \$50,000 for drainage

Motion by Councilman Bonin

Second by Councilman Regan

Discussion: No public comments

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS:            District 2 - David Bonin  
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District I - Angel Racca

ABSENT:

## 7. ADJOURNMENT

### 7.1 Adjourn Meeting

  
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MAYOR RAY BOURQUE

  
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TINA EMERT, CITY CLERK