

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF BROUSSARD, LA HELD ON
TUESDAY, October 25, 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:** 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), Oscar Reed (City Attorney), Chief Vance Olivier (Police Chief), Tony Ashy (Assistant Police Chief), Bryan Champagne (Fire Chief), and Jamison Abshire (Director of Parks and Recreation)
- Absent:** Callie Laviolette (Chief Administrative Officer) and Justin Denais (Deputy Fire Chief)

1. OPENING

- 1.1 Pledge of Allegiance
- 1.2 Invocation

2. MINUTES

- 2.1 Acceptance of Minutes of the October 11, 2022, Regular Meeting
 - Motion by Councilman Gary
 - Second by Councilman Rabon
 - Discussion: No public comments
 - Final Resolution: Motion Approved
 - YEAS:
 - District 1 - Angel Racca
 - District 2 - David Bonin
 - District 3 - Jesse Regan
 - District 4 - Michael Rabon
 - District 5 - Kenny Higginbotham
 - District 6 - Ray Gary
 - At Large - Jeff Delahoussaye

3. KAREN FONTENOT, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

3.1 Approval of September 2022 Financial Report

Motion by Councilwoman Racca

Second by Councilman Bonin

Discussion: Karen stated we are 25% into the 2022/2023 Budget. Police and Fire were slightly over for Sept. 2022 along with Streets due to repairs and maintenance. Water was over 2% and Sewer was over 3%. Sales Tax are 17% above last year's revenue and 7% ahead of this year's budget. We did receive \$2.3 million AARP money.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS:

- District 1 - Angel Racca
- District 2 - David Bonin
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- At Large - Jeff Delahoussaye

4. OTHER BUSINESS

4.1 Karen Cox

Introduction of New Business

Mrs. Cox introduced her business BY Local News (Broussard-Youngsville Local News). She is the creator of this website. In 2014 her and her husband chose to make Broussard their home. Her father was in the local nursing home here and complained there was no local newspaper, so that is when she created this website. She stated this is an independent and non-bias organization. It has all the local business and police news. It will soon have the obituaries for local veterans. It is free with low price advertising.

4.2 Travis Laurent & Brian Boudreaux

Variance request for Villa's on Jefferson Street for rear set-back

Motion by Councilman Delahoussaye

Second by Councilman Regan

Discussion: Mr. Boudreaux explained to the council that this variance is needed to put the a/c pads behind the home which will be within the public drainage easements. They are asking for a variance to allow the a/c units to be put there. There are 9 units. Mayor Bourque stated the rear drainage was a private drainage, then it was donated to the city. The issue is the a/c pads will incumber the public drainage access. Councilman Higginbotham questioned, what is the size of the a/c

pads, and will this impede on the drainage flow? Travis Laurent stated the size of the pads are 4 x5. The ditch is sub-surface, and they will add additional inlets which will be better. They also have storm water retention on Madison Street. Walter stated the a/c pads are in a drainage servitude. If for any reason we have to get in there, we will have to move the a/c units along with the pads. Councilman Delahoussaye, questioned why did we take over this drainage easement? Walter stated because the drainage runs into this area from other adjacent properties. Mel stated we can clean from Madison Street with the suction truck; but if it collapses then we can't do anything. Councilman Delahoussaye stated why did we accept it, in order to clean it? Is there no way to get to the rear of building to do the cleaning? Councilman Bonin stated we did this to watch what was being built. Councilman Delahoussaye stated we are not passing over the drainage easement with cars. Councilman Bonin stated it is our liability if we smash one of the a/c's; so why don't we give the drainage easement back to the developer or let's abandon the easement. Councilman Delahoussaye suggested we approve the variance. Council Bonin stated he is concerned about the cities liability if an a/c gets damaged. Councilman Higginbotham stated we have easements for a reason, that's why he doesn't agree with giving them the variance. Mr. Cliff Guidry, owner of the development approached the council and stated he is in favor of giving authority if the easement needs to be cleaned in the future. With the rains we have had in the past months, there hasn't been any issues there at all. Attorney Oscar Reed stated we can abandon the back right of way and have the owner give us a temporary easement along with a hold harmless. The council and developer agreed on this and Attorney Reed will prepare the act of abandonment and hold harmless for the next meeting. Original motion was changed as follows.

Moved by Councilman Delahoussaye

Second by Councilman Higginbotham

To table the variance request for Villa's on Jefferson Street for rear set-back

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS:

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

4.3 Authorize cancellation of the November 8, 2022, City Council Meeting due to Election Day

Motion by Councilman Gary

Second by Councilman Delahoussaye

Discussion: No public comments.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS: District 1 - Angel Racca
 District 2 - David Bonin
 District 3 - Jesse Regan
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5. RESOLUTIONS

5.1 Resolution #728-22

A resolution authorizing a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Lafayette Parish for Firefighting Services

Motion by Councilman Bonin

Second by Councilman Rabon

Discussion: Chief Champagne stated this contract is for fire fighting services in the un-incorporated areas of the parish. In return the parish pays us approximately \$72,000 (\$48,000 for the contract and \$24,000 for a position). Mayor Bourque stated we are one of the few cities that still has part-time firefighters, which go above and beyond servicing the citizens and the community.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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6. ORDINANCES FOR ADOPTION

6.1 Ordinance #22-743

An ordinance amending the 2022/2023 Operating Budget for FY2022/2023 for Capital Outlay in the amount of \$250,000 for an additional turn lane on St. Nazairre Road

Motion by Councilman Delahoussaye

Second by Councilman Bonin

Discussion: No public comments.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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6.2 Ordinance #22-744

An ordinance amending the 2022/2023 Operating Budget for FY2022/2023 for Capital Outlay in the amount of \$96,500 for Tennis Court Improvements at St. Julien Sports Complex

Motion by Councilman Regan

Second by Councilman Bonin

Discussion: No public comments

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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7. ADJOURNMENT

7.1 Adjourn Meeting



MAYOR RAY BOURQUE



TINA EMERT, CITY CLERK